

Community Connection

Horowhenua
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Issue 105 August 2016



Message from the Chief Executive

We are still seeking community observations, ideas and inspiration for what a new Levin town centre could be like.

Our Growing Levin project will identify opportunities to make improvements to public spaces, streets, buildings and activities.

Significant population and economic growth has been forecast for Horowhenua due to the state highway upgrades between Wellington and Levin. So, we need to decide what sort of place we want Levin, as our largest town, to be. The town centre development strategy will be the guide to support this positive change over the next 20 years.

Thank you to everyone who attended one of our Growing Levin community input sessions and who have contributed feedback, observations, suggestions and ideas so far. Keep them coming. We're delighted with the positive response to this project and it's encouraging that people are keen to get on board in support.

It is important we get community input to help shape the strategy and future of the town centre. Turn to pages two and three for more info and how you can contribute.

DM Clapperton

Inside this issue:

→ Growing Levin Town Centre Development Strategy

→ What's happening



Time running out for local candidates to step forward

Residents and ratepayers are reminded that they have only until midday on Friday 12 August to get their nominations in for the local government elections.

Horowhenua Deputy Electoral Officer Ian Tate says if you are a New Zealand citizen, over 18 years of age and on the electoral roll, then you can stand as a candidate.

"All you need is the desire to represent your community and make a positive contribution to Horowhenua," he said.

"We need a range of elected members of different ages, ethnicities and backgrounds to represent the diversity of our community."

Anyone wishing to stand as an elected member must be nominated by two people enrolled in the District or Ward you

intend to stand, and pay a deposit of \$200. Nominations close at noon on Friday 12 August.

Mr Tate urges potential candidates to submit their nominations early. "Early nominations give us time to ensure candidates have included everything on their application, as we aren't able to provide an extension."

Horowhenua District Council has produced a Pre-Election Report, available to candidates and anyone else who is interested in what Council does. The report is available from Council's customer service centres and www.horowhenua.govt.nz

For further information visit the Elections-Nominations page on Council's website www.horowhenua.govt.nz

Growing Levin

Town Centre Development Strategy

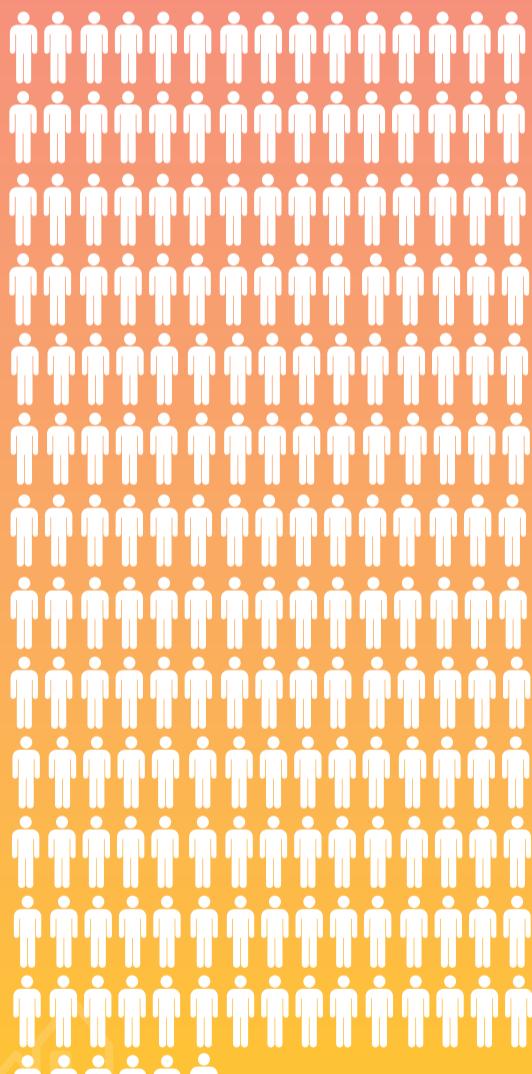
By 2036 it is forecast that there will be in Horowhenua:



+ 4,000 new houses



+ 1,000 new jobs



Why do we need a Levin Town Centre Strategy?

Levin and the Horowhenua are changing. New people are moving here. New businesses are establishing here. New houses, offices and industries are being built here and this is only the beginning.

Investment in the road network between Horowhenua and Wellington means Levin will be within an hour's travel of the capital city and all places in-between. This means more people can choose to live in the Horowhenua and work either locally or elsewhere and vice versa. Equally, more businesses can choose to locate in the Horowhenua, with better access to surrounding markets.

This investment and growth means change. Change means new opportunities for our communities, for our towns and for our district. Important to this change is the role Levin town centre will play in the future of our district, as our largest town and as the central location for employment, retail and community facilities.

As a community we need to decide what sort of place we want Levin to be and how it should change and grow over the next 20 years.

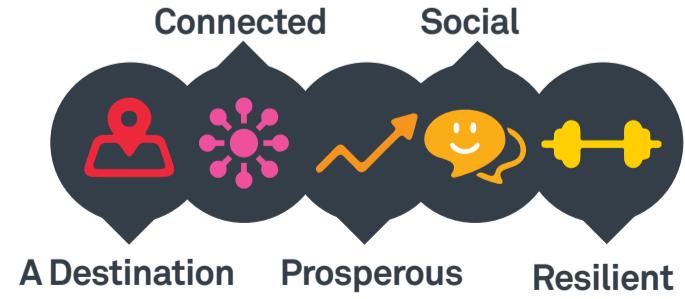
Horowhenua District Council is preparing a development strategy to guide the future of Levin's town centre. We need your knowledge, ideas and input so that the development strategy represents the future you want for Levin.

"We need your knowledge, ideas and input"

The development strategy will:

- Identify what's working well and what could be improved and explore what changes can be made so that as the town centre grows it evolves into the sort of place we all want for the future
- Look at how the town centre can change over the next 20 years, by when Horowhenua is expected to have grown by a third more people (nearly 10,000 new residents) – many who are likely to live in Levin.
- Identify actions for Council, businesses, building owners, community organisations and other organisations that work in Levin
- Identify projects and investment for Council to undertake on your behalf. This will then be taken through the Long Term and Annual Plan processes, for projects to be funded and prioritised.

There are five qualities we think should inform all future decisions - we want Levin's town centre to be...



A few concepts to spark your imaginations and inspire your ideas!

Please note that these are only conceptual visualisations of what's possible, not what's actually planned.

But, what do you think?



Imagine a pleasant green space in front of Te Takere, reflecting Levin's rural setting. There could be new shops, cafes and places to sit, away from busy traffic. A social place, with space for markets and other events.



Imagine in central Oxford Street a new pedestrian lane connecting east and west, with new shops and cafes along its edges, landscaping, planting and seating.



Imagine a vibrant green space on a corner by the town clock, with cafes opening out onto it and with a moving sculpture - the sort of area that makes you want to stop and explore. Maybe Queen Street could offer more trees, planting, cycleways and amenities, showing Levin to be an environmentally-aware town and a pleasant place to walk and cycle.

We want to know what your vision for Levin's town centre is.

- What would you like it to be like in the future?
- What words describe what you want the town centre to be like in the future?
- What are the things about Levin's town centre character that we should value, protect and celebrate?
- Which other New Zealand town centres do you like? Why do you like these towns – what elements of their character do you enjoy?

How you can contribute:

- ☞ Share your thoughts via our online questionnaire at www.horowhenua.govt.nz/growinglevin
- ✉ Email your feedback, ideas and aspirations to growinglevin@horowhenua.govt.nz
- ✉ Write down your ideas and post or deliver to Council at 126 Oxford Street, Levin 5510. Attn: Growing Levin.
- 👤 Pop into Council's Levin office foyer or Te Takere and you'll find Growing Levin display panels, where you can jot down your ideas on post-it notes. These panels will be on display until Friday 12 August.
- 📸 Contribute photos and comments about Levin's towncentre to our Facebook page or Instagram account [horowhenua_nz \(#growinglevin\)](#)

How much will this cost?

Regarding budget and funding; no costs have been identified and no funding has been allocated, as we are only at the 'ideas-generation' stage. As for where the money would come from; we anticipate that the sort of initiatives the development strategy will contain are typically-funded by a range of sources, including Council budgets, private development and private-public partnerships. But first-things-first, let's develop a plan of action.

So, what next?

All your feedback and ideas will be reviewed. We'll also work with building owners, businesses and other stakeholders to discuss how they can be involved. Later this year we'll prepare a development strategy, with projects to go through the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes for prioritisation and funding, and then continue working to turn ideas into reality!



The inaugural Thursday night Street Feast last month was a huge success and drew the crowds, make sure you come along this month.



What's happening

For further details and events visit www.horowhenua.govt.nz/events

6 Saturday 6 August

Levin Monthly Market

8am - 11:30am at the Levin Uniting Church Hall, 87 Oxford Street next to the Adventure Park

Held on the first Saturday of each month, this is Levin's original monthly market and includes a selection of crafts, jams, books, paintings, clothing and more. Stalls cost only \$10 and tables are provided.

For more info contact Rosemary on 06 368 6977.



18 Thursday 18 August

Levin Thursday Night Street Feast

5:00pm - 9:00pm in the Levin Mall carpark in front of Te Takere.

Head along to the monthly gourmet street food event, supported by Council. The Thursday Night Street Feast will highlight the quality of street food available from New Zealand's growing fleet of high-end food trucks, creating a global food village on the second-to-last Thursday of each month. The event will demonstrate the power of food to bring a community together, and will include local entertainment. All welcome.

19 Friday 19 August

Horowhenua Youth Health and Wellbeing Expo

10:00am - 4:00pm in Youth Space at Te Takere, Levin.

An expo to promote youth wellbeing by showcasing activities and services that focus on good health, fun and support for youth in Horowhenua. Free entry.

20 Saturday 20 August

Ohau Monthly Market

9am - 1pm at the Ohau Hall, Muhunoa Road West, Ohau

More than 40 stalls including art, craft, baby knits, baking, giftware, plants, pickles, jams and locally-grown vegetables. If you are a musician, craftsperson, fundraising for a cause, have a certified food or coffee truck and looking to trade, contact the market manager Nadia Watson on 022 068 7861 or oliveapple@gmail.com

19 Friday 19 August

Quiz night Fundraiser for Levin North School

7pm - 8:30pm at the Levin Amateur Athletics Club, Playford Park, Bartholomew Road, Levin

Help Levin North School year 5 and 6 pupils get to camp later this year. Head along and take part in the school's fundraising Quiz Night. There will also be a mystery bottle auction, raffles and bar facilities. Nibbles provided. Add to the fun by dressing-up as campers. Entry is \$5 per person, with teams to be 4 – 6 people. Tickets available from the school office.

Council Meetings

Horowhenua District Council

3 The next meeting is on

Wednesday 3 August at 4.00pm in the Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin. All welcome.

Foxton Community Board

15 The next meeting is on

Monday 15 August at 6.30pm in the library at Manawatu College, 18 Ladys Mile, Foxton. All welcome.

Finance, Audit and Risk Subcommittee

31 Wednesday 31 August at 4:00pm in

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin. All welcome.

Horowhenua District Councillors



Brendan Duffy
(Mayor)



Garry Good
(Deputy Mayor)



Wayne Bishop



Ross Brannigan



Ross Campbell



Michael Feyen



Victoria Kaye-Simmons



Jo Mason



Christine Mitchell



Tony Rush



Piri-Hira Tukapua

Foxton Community Board



Janine Smart
(Chair)



David Roache
(Deputy Chair)



Tricia Metcalf



Amanda Street



Basil Vertongen