

What's Our Plan?

2019/2020 Annual Plan



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Welcome to What's Our Plan 2019/2020.



Around this time last year, Council undertook extensive consultation throughout the District on its Long Term Plan 2018-2038.

The Long Term Plan is one of Council's key strategic documents. It sets out the services we will provide, the projects we will undertake, and how much we believe it will all cost.

Some of the key matters the community were consulted on as part of developing this Long Term Plan included the future of our community halls, the season length for the Foxton Pool, and provision of reticulated water and wastewater to growing settlements that do not currently have these services.

We received some great feedback on what we had planned for the next 20 years and this helped us shape the final version of the Long Term Plan 2018-2038.

What's covered in this document?

This document focuses on Year Two (2019/2020) of the Long Term Plan 2018-2038. Annual Plans sometimes differ from what was anticipated in the Long Term Plan.

This is because new challenges or opportunities emerge that we need to respond to. However, for this year Council is able to stick to what we planned in the Long Term Plan and has not made any significant or material changes. Therefore, we do not have any specific or new issues to consult the community on. However, we have summarised key information and important projects for 2019/2020 that we think you will be interested in. We have also identified whom you should talk to about particular projects or topics.

We will be holding 'drop-in sessions' in Levin, Foxton, and Shannon where you can talk with Council staff and get more information on these projects.

Although Council does not have any specific questions for the community as part of this Annual Plan, we invite you to take this opportunity to comment on Council projects and services so this can shape our priorities going forward. You can do so by filling in the attached feedback form.

Please note that not all of Council's services or projects for 2019/2020 are included in this document, but you can find this information in our draft Annual Plan 2019/2020 which can be viewed online at www.horowhenua.govt.nz.



Our Vision and Community Outcomes

In 2018, we reviewed our vision statement. After seeking feedback from our community and other agencies we work with, we developed a new vision which focuses on growing neighbourhoods and building stronger communities together.



The new vision is:

“With many hands the threads which weave our neighbourhoods and communities together will be strengthened from the Tararua Ranges to the sea

He rau ringa e pakari ai nga taura whiri i o tatou kainga noho me o tatou haponi – mai i te pae maunga o Tararua ki te moana”

Community Outcomes

In addition to the vision, Council has six Community Outcomes (the icons below) that outline what Council aims to achieve in meeting the current and future needs of our communities. More information on the Community Outcomes, including what each outcome aims to achieve, is available in the Long Term Plan which can be viewed online at www.horowhenua.govt.nz/LTP

In this document we talk about a number of key projects. Every project Council undertakes contributes towards it achieving these Community Outcomes. Throughout this document we have identified which Community Outcomes are relevant for each project.



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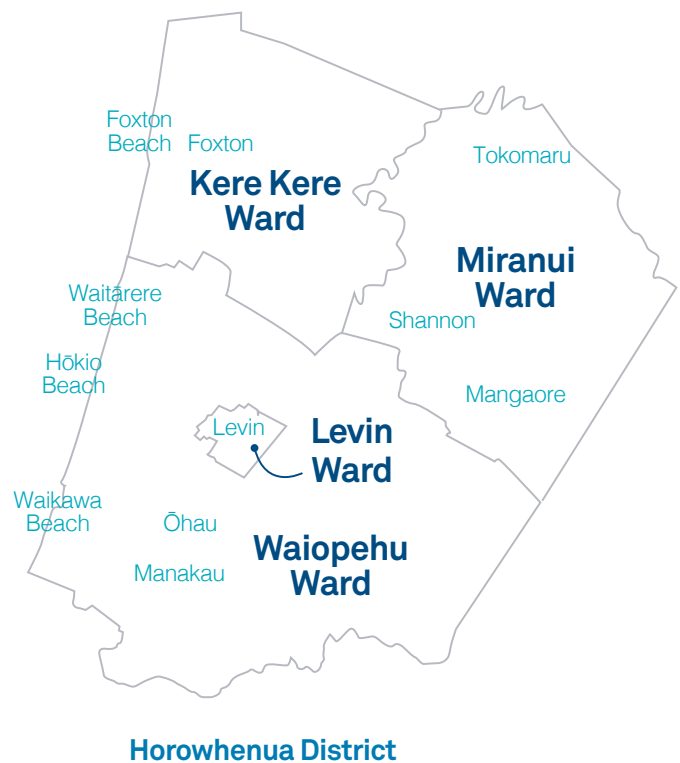
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Our District is Growing

Population growth is a key challenge and opportunity for the Horowhenua.

We estimate that an extra 587 people per year called the Horowhenua home between 2013 and 2018. We anticipate similar growth in the District's population every year for the near future. Many of the projects outlined in this document reflect Council's desire to manage and plan for growth, so that it contributes positively to our District.

Given the high level of growth this District is currently experiencing and the need to provide new (or upgrade existing) infrastructure, Council will need to carefully consider the best way to fund this. During consultation on the Long Term Plan 2018-2038, a number of submitters raised the need for Council to re-introduce development contributions. In 2019/2020 Council will be investigating options for funding the provision of new infrastructure required to support growth.



Rates



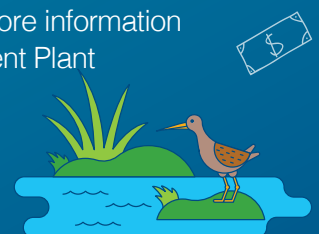
The proposed rates income increase for 2019/2020 will be 5.98%, which is in line with what we said it would be in the Long Term Plan for this year (5.96%).

The 0.02% increase is due to some minor changes to budgets to ensure we are delivering services and projects as promised. Please note that properties will receive a lower or higher increase to their rates than the rate income increase. Refer to the draft Annual Plan 2019/2020 to view the indicative rates tables.

The proposed 5.98% rates income increase is due to a number of factors such as costs of borrowing for new infrastructure, increased depreciation costs, growth response projects, the new solid waste contract, and increases in costs associated

with delivering some activities (e.g. Regulatory Services) as a result of growth.

Council's gross debt (borrowings) is predicted to be \$109m by 30 June 2020 compared to the LTP 2018-2038 prediction of \$105m. This is mainly due to delays in some capital projects, most notably the Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements. Work on the improvements for this Wastewater Treatment Plant was due to commence in 2018/2019 but this was delayed due the resource consent process taking longer to complete than expected. Work will now start in 2019/2020 (refer to page 10 for more information on the Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant project).



We're Improving Horowhenua as a Destination

We are promoting and improving the reputation of the Horowhenua as a great place to live, work and visit. Council currently provides some information and basic destination marketing such as pamphlets for visitors or signs welcoming people to the District.

Council has invested in facilities, such as Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō and Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, and we are working with our partners to increase visitor experiences, tourism ventures, recreation options and cultural experiences through these fantastic facilities.

Going forward, we want to develop an overarching destination management strategy for the District.

This will also look at how we can shape and create an identity for each settlement to better showcase what they have to offer visitors or people interested in moving here. This will provide a blueprint to guide Council's future decision-making around growing the District's visitor sector, including developing cost-efficient visitor and community infrastructure.

Council will be utilising the Community Plan process (these plans are discussed on page 8) to help define what we want to achieve together for each settlement.



We're developing Master Plans

It is projected that an additional 5,377 dwellings will be required throughout the Horowhenua by 2040.

To accommodate these additional dwellings in a way that complements existing communities and helps to transform the Horowhenua for the better, Council has started developing several Master Plans for some of the District's growth areas. We are preparing Master Plans for Gladstone Green, which is located on the east side of Levin; the growth area for Foxton Beach; and the eastern area of Waitāreere Beach.

Master Plans guide future development and can include the location of new parks, schools, shops, street design, property sizes, and housing types. Master Plans help ensure that new development in an area is well designed, connects with adjacent existing urban areas, and provides for a variety of different markets/needs.

The Gladstone Green area is expected to provide at least 1500 new sections, which will become available over the next 20+ years as landowners develop their properties. This Master Plan will be finalised shortly and a Plan Change will follow which will update the District Plan to enable development in line with the Master Plan.

Work on Master Plans for the Foxton Beach and Waitāreere Beach growth areas commenced at the end of 2018. Ongoing discussions are taking place with affected landowners and Iwi. These Plans will likely be finalised by the end of June 2019 and Plan Changes will begin in 2019/2020.

The community will have the opportunity to have their say on each of these Master Plans in the coming months.



What's happening in 2019/2020?

Master Plans - Finalise the Master Plans and undertake District Plan Changes to incorporate the Master Plans into the District Plan.

Need more information?

If you have any questions about Master Plans, contact Council and ask to speak with **Daniel Haigh**, Growth Response Manager.



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We're working with communities to create Community Plans

Council has been having conversations with you about your neighbourhoods and you've told us how important they are to you.

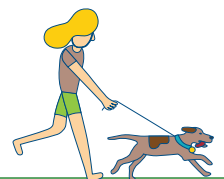
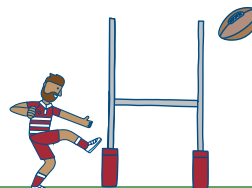
Our communities are growing and changing. Council will work closely with communities to develop Community Plans. These plans will provide each community with the best opportunity to grow, develop and meet their aspirations.

A Community Plan will set out the vision and key goals of that community and prioritise a list of actions that contribute to reaching these. Community Plans seek to support community-led initiatives, enhance

communication between Council and the community, and provide inputs into Council's planning processes (such as the Long Term Plan).

Community Plans will soon be developed for Levin South-East, Manakau, Ōhau and Waitāreere Beach.

Community Plans will also be prepared for Foxton, Foxton Beach, Tokomaru/Opiki, other parts of Levin, Waikawa Beach, and Hōkio Beach. The exact timeframe for the development of these Plans is yet to be confirmed, but will likely commence in the next 12-18 months. Council will advertise locally when Community Plans are being prepared in each area, so anyone from that community can be involved.



What's happening in 2019/2020?

Finalise Community Plans – Levin South-East, Manakau, Ōhau, and Waitāreere Beach.

Begin developing Community Plans - for further settlements in the district.

Need more information?

If you have any questions about this topic, contact Council and ask to speak with **Ashley Cotter-Hope**, Projects Coordinator – Strategy and Development.



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Levin Town Centre Development

The Levin Town Centre is facing a number of opportunities and challenges including population growth, the new Otaki to North of Levin highway, potentially earthquake prone buildings, and changing retail behaviours. In response to this, Council has developed the Transforming Taitoko/Levin – Town Centre Strategy to guide future planning of the Town Centre.

This Strategy includes guiding principles that will be used to inform the detail of future development as the town centre evolves. The Strategy identifies a number of short, medium and long term projects that will help achieve its vision and objectives.



What's happening in 2019/2020?

In 2019/2020, Council will work on the following short term projects (next 1-3 years) identified in Transforming Taitoko/Levin – Town Centre Strategy:

Laneway/Town Square development – investigate sites for creating a central 'place' in town and improving connections from Oxford Street to existing facilities to the east and west.

Redevelopment of Levin Memorial Hall – investigate the feasibility and potential delivery for the redevelopment of the Levin Memorial Hall as a 'co-work' space, with supporting café.

Oxford Street Cosmetic Project – implement a project to improve the appearance of buildings, including building frontages, verandas, and signs in the town centre. This may include a pilot project that could see Council supporting business/building owners to improve the appearance of their buildings.

Placemaking – support the community to undertake placemaking in the town centre. Placemaking is a way of activating space, providing a reason to stop, and improving opportunities for people to interact with each other through a series of low-cost and/or temporary activities.

Need more information?

Transforming Taitoko/Levin – Town Centre Strategy is available on Council's website.

If you have any questions about this topic, contact Council and ask to speak with **Lauren Baddock**, Strategic Planner.



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Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant Move to land-based disposal

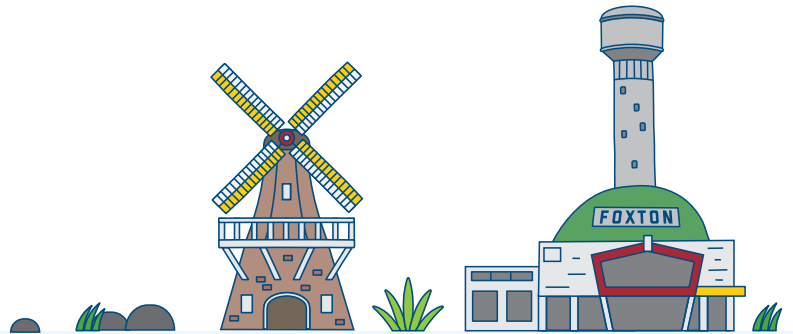
In recent years, Council has been working hard to shift the discharge of treated wastewater from rivers and streams to land based disposal for all of its wastewater treatment plants.

This is an important achievement that will result in better environmental and cultural outcomes.

Following the decision by the Environment Court, treated wastewater from the Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant will be irrigated onto a local farm, rather than continuing to be discharged into the Manawatū River Loop at Foxton.

The diagram on the next page provides an overview of the consent application process Council went through in order to move Foxton's treated wastewater discharge to land. Council's ongoing engagement with the Focus Group and iwi was a key part to the success of the consent application.

With the consents granted for the proposal, Council can now commence implementing the programme of works. This will take about three years. Once complete, it will reduce the amount of nutrients entering the Manawatū River, which will in turn improve the water quality of the river and the estuary downstream. The Horowhenua is progressing to become one of the first Councils in the country to have all wastewater treatment plants discharging to land and not our waterways.



What's happening in 2019/2020?

De-sludge (clean out) the existing wastewater ponds to ensure they operate optimally.

Install an irrigation pump station and an irrigation system. This system will distribute the treated effluent onto nearby farming land.

Install a storage pond for treated effluent. This pond will provide extra storage for times of high rainfall to ensure the volume to be irrigated each day will remain consistent.

Need more information?

If you have any questions about this topic, contact Council and ask to speak with **Maurice McGunnigle**, Water Services Engineer.



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Consent process



December 2014

Discharge to surface water and groundwater consent for Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant expired.

A short term renewal for this consent was granted on the basis that Horowhenua District Council was working towards developing a long term, sustainable solution for the discharge of Foxton's treated wastewater.



2017

The Environment Court Hearing took place in two parts during 27-30 March 2017 and 18-19 December 2017.



2018

An interim decision was issued by the Environment Council in August 2018. Discussions with stakeholders took place and the final resolution of conditions was confirmed in February 2019.



2019

Consents granted by the Environment Court. Start implementing the resource consent.



2014/15

Council worked with a Focus Group

Made up of statutory agencies, non-statutory agencies, Iwi, representatives of the community, and other key stakeholders, to understand and explore the values, issues and options for the sustainable discharge of Foxton's treated wastewater. During this process, more than 20 sites were considered. Council ultimately selected land at Matararapa Island as its preferred and best practicable option.



2015

Applications for resource consent lodged with Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council (Horizons Regional Council) on 30 October 2015 and Horowhenua District Council on 5 November 2015.



2016

The resource consent applications were jointly publicly notified in January 2016 and 65 submissions were received.

The applications were then directly referred to the Environment Court, meaning the Environment Court were responsible for deciding the outcome of the applications rather than Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council and Horowhenua District Council.



Lake Horowhenua

Council recognises how important Lake Horowhenua is for Iwi and the community.

Council will continue to work alongside key partners to implement plans to improve the water quality and recreation opportunities associated with the Lake.

Key Council projects for the Lake will include feasibility studies for stormwater treatment before it enters the Lake and a wider development plan for the Lake.

Need more information?

If you have any questions about this project, contact Council and ask to speak with **Rob Green**, Acting Group Manager Infrastructure Services.



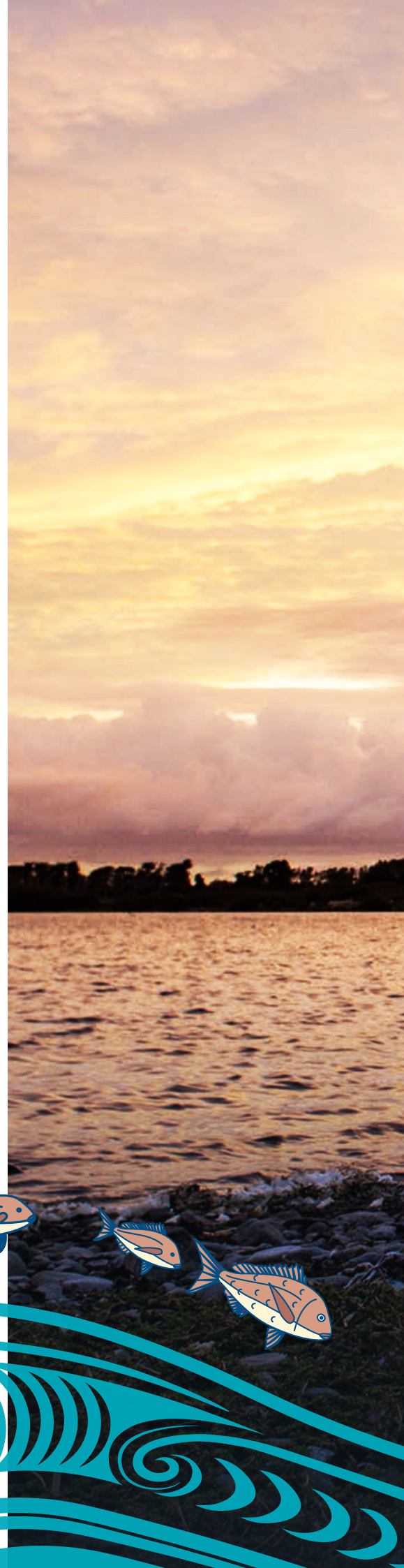
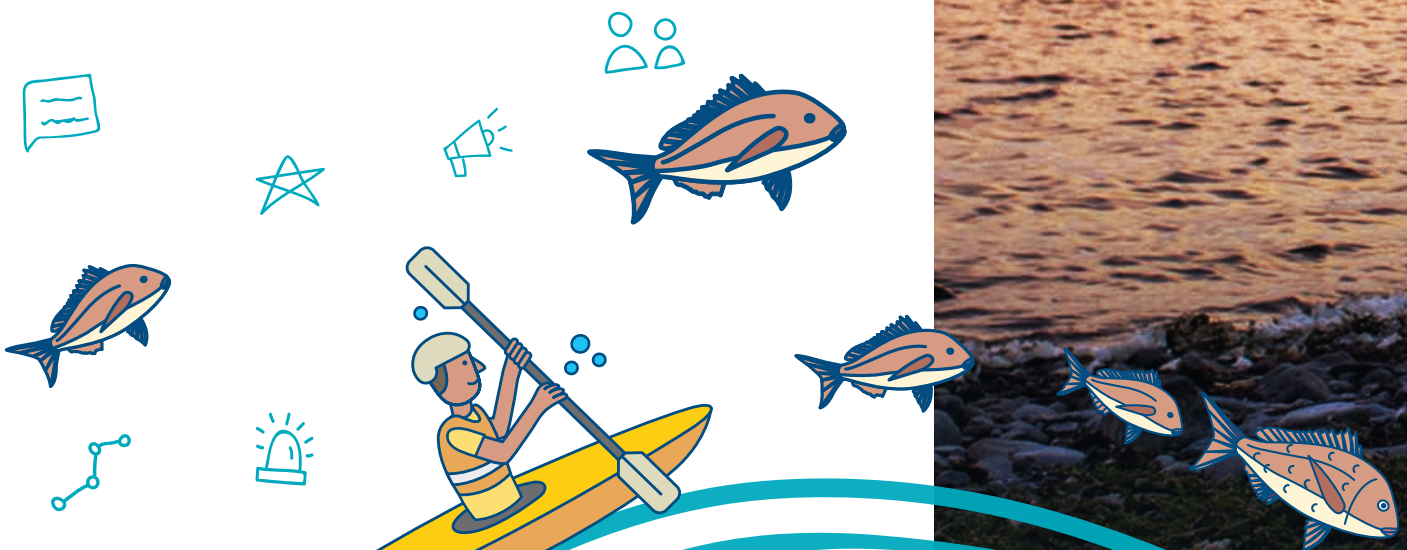
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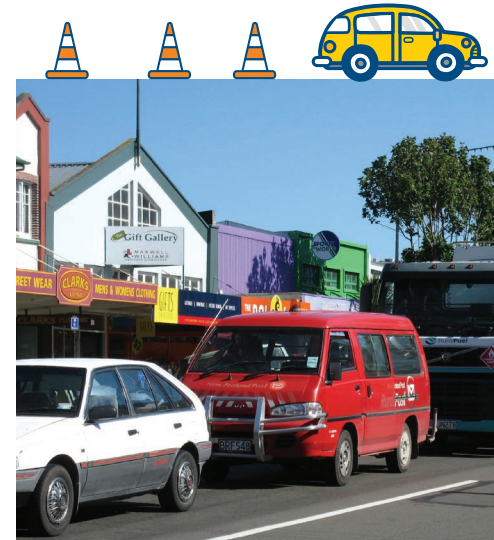


Transport Planning

The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) confirmed that the Ōtaki to North of Levin (O2NL) expressway will go ahead and announced the preferred corridor route at the end of 2018.

A bypass of Manakau, Ōhau, and Levin will make Foxton the first town north of Wellington on State Highway 1 and Shannon the first on State Highway 57.

The O2NL project will create significant changes to how the District's roading network functions. Council is planning ahead by developing an Integrated Transport Strategy to make sure these changes have the best possible outcomes for our communities.



What's happening in 2019/2020?

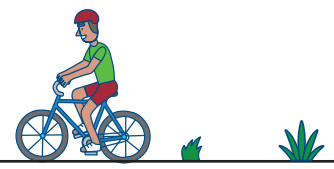
Development of Horowhenua Integrated Transport Strategy – Council will investigate the District's roading network and transport needs. This planning includes setting a vision and principles for the future operation of the transport network. We will engage with the community and key stakeholders who represent different transport modes (e.g. public transport, walking, cycling, rail) to develop a series of Transport Action Plans. We will also prepare implementation plans to deliver specific improvements to the District's transport network in the medium and longer term.

We will work alongside NZTA to inform the detailed design for the O2NL project. Of particular relevance to the community will be determining the location of interchanges and creating a revocation plan for when the O2NL bypass is constructed and the existing State Highway becomes a local road.

Need more information?

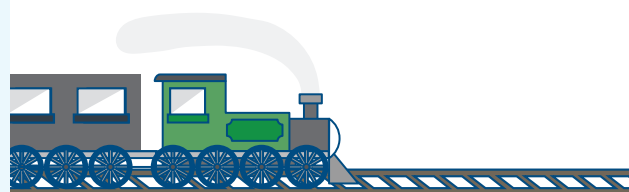
Information is available on Council's website at www.horowhenua.govt.nz

If you have any questions about this topic, contact Council and ask to speak with **Daniel Haigh**, Growth Response Manager.



Gladstone Road Update:

Council is investigating long term options to address the risk associated with a section of unstable hillside that is located along Gladstone Road. Gladstone Road is a rural access road, located to the east of Levin. Approximately 1.2km of Gladstone Road is cut into a steep hillside and within this section of the road is an active landslip which caused this road to close for several days in February 2017. This section of the road has required ongoing monitoring and management since then. One of the options Council is considering would involve realigning this part of the road away from the unstable hillside and onto a stable river terrace. The costs and feasibility of the options are currently being investigated.



Changes to Recycling (as of 1 July 2019)

In 2018, Council consulted the community on the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

The feedback we received identified that the community was supportive of making it easier for people to recycle. The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan indicated that Council would undertake procurement for a new recycling collection contract focused on reducing health and safety risks, increasing the volume of material recycled, and reducing waste to landfill.

Council has secured a new contractor and as a result, the kerbside recycling service will change from 1 July 2019. You will be provided with a 240 litre wheelie bin for paper, cardboard, plastics and cans, and your existing green crate can be used for glass. You will put out both the wheelie bin and green crate every second week for collection.

More information, such as what will be collected and when, will be provided to residents before the change to this service is implemented.

General rubbish collection services will not change.



What's happening in 2019/2020?

- Recycling changes from 1 July 2019.
- Recycling collection will be fortnightly (put both the wheelie bin and crate out for collection every second week).
- The 240L wheelie bin can be used for paper, cardboard, plastics, and cans.
- Existing green crate can be used for glass.

Note: Properties eligible for/entitled to the current service will receive the 240L wheelie bin prior to 1 July 2019.

Need more information?

If you have any questions about this topic, contact Council and ask to speak with **Ryan Hughes**, Environmental Engineer.



Water and Wastewater Feasibility Studies – Ōhau and Waitārere Beach

Not all of the villages in the Horowhenua have a Council provided reticulated water supply and/or wastewater disposal service.

As part of consultation for the Long Term Plan 2018-2038, Council sought feedback from growing communities that did not have access to reticulated water and/or wastewater about whether they wanted Council to investigate supplying these services. Some communities said they were interested in having these services in the future and others said they were not.

Council listened and decided to undertake feasibility assessments for those communities that expressed an interest, starting with Ōhau (water and wastewater) and Waitārere Beach (water).

If these studies show that it is feasible to provide water and/or wastewater services, Council will seek further feedback from the community about whether to implement these services. Some important considerations will be how much they will cost and what it will mean for properties serviced by on-site systems (e.g. septic tanks).



What's happening in 2019/2020?

Ōhau – undertake a feasibility study for water and wastewater.

Waitārere Beach – undertake a feasibility study for water.

Need more information?

If you have any questions about this topic, contact Council and ask to speak with **Rob Green**, Acting Group Manager Infrastructure Services.



Shannon Community Centre Feasibility Study

Community centres play a key role in developing and supporting strong communities.

As part of consultation on its Long Term Plan 2018-2038, Council sought feedback on whether or not there is support from the community to develop a Community Centre in Shannon.

Feedback indicated that there is enough support from the community to undertake a feasibility study for the potential development of a Shannon Community Centre. Key aspects of the feasibility study will include:

- Community demand.
- Potential use.
- Consideration of whether Shannon Memorial Hall could be an appropriate site.
- Further engagement with the Shannon community, including Iwi and Hapu to understand needs and aspirations.



What's happening in 2019/2020?

Feasibility study - investigation of the need, use, cost and potential scope of a Community Centre for Shannon.

Need more information?

If you have any questions about this topic, contact Council and ask to speak with **Brent Harvey**, Community Facilities & Events Manager.



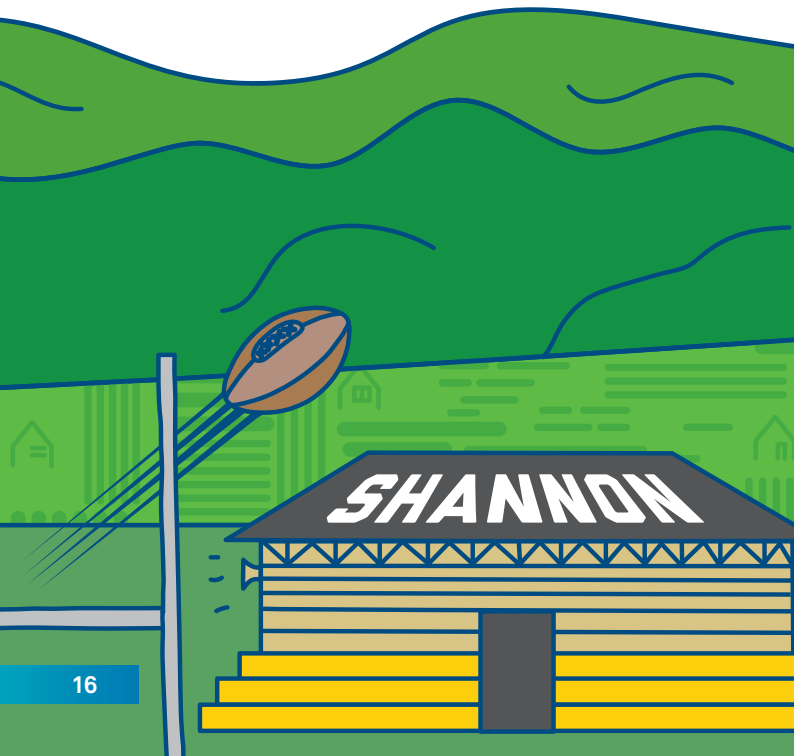
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Engagement Timeframes:



Engagement starts on 8 March 2019

Drop in sessions will be held in:



Levin Mall on Friday 22 March from 12-2pm



Shannon at Shannon Library on 25 March from 12-2pm



Foxton at Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom on Wednesday 3 April from 12-2pm



Engagement will close on 8 April 2019 – all feedback must be received by this date



A Hearing will be held on 8 May 2019 (and 9 May if required) to give people an opportunity to speak about their feedback with Council



Council will deliberate on feedback on 29 May 2019 (and 30 May if required)



Council will adopt the Annual Plan 2019/2020 on 26 June 2019

Elected Members' Contact Information

Mayor Michael Feyen

027 4419 923
 mayor@horowhenua.govt.nz

Deputy Mayor Wayne Bishop – Waiopehu Ward

027 447 4611
 cr.wayne.bishop@horowhenua.govt.nz

Christine Mitchell – Waiopehu Ward

027 318 7703
 cr.christine.mitchell@horowhenua.govt.nz

Ross Brannigan – Kere Kere Ward

021 247 7338
 cr.ross.brannigan@horowhenua.govt.nz

Neville Gimblett – Kere Kere Ward

021 121 2214
 cr.neville.gimblett@horowhenua.govt.nz

Ross Campbell – Miranui Ward

027 253 3956
 cr.ross.campbell@horowhenua.govt.nz

Barry Judd – Levin Ward

027 367 2030
 cr.barry.judd@horowhenua.govt.nz

Bernie Wanden – Levin Ward

027 291 5546
 cr.bernie.wanden@horowhenua.govt.nz

Jo Mason – Levin Ward

06 368 8369
 cr.jo.mason@horowhenua.govt.nz

Piri-Hira Tukapua – Levin Ward

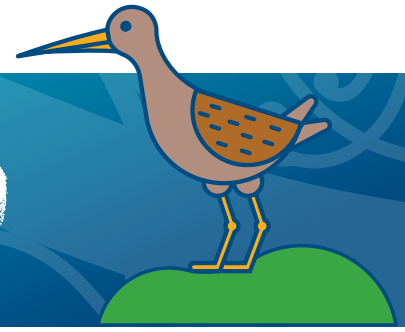
027 5294 883
 cr.piri-hira.tukapua@horowhenua.govt.nz

Victoria Kaye-Simmons – Levin Ward

027 601 1014
 cr.victoria.kaye-simmons@horowhenua.govt.nz



Annual Plan Feedback Form



What's Our Plan 2019/2020

We've told you what's planned for 2019/2020.
Now's the time to give Council any thoughts you might have on the projects.

All feedback must be provided to Council by midday on 8 April 2019.

Contact Details

Full Name: _____

Organisation: _____

Postal Address: _____

Post code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Do you want to present your feedback at the hearing?

yes no

Privacy Act 1993

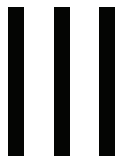
Please note that feedback is public information. Information on this form including your name and feedback will be made available to the media and public as part of the decision making process. Your feedback will only be used for the purpose of What's Our Plan 2019/2020. The information will be held by the Horowhenua District Council, 126 Oxford Street, Levin. You have the right to access the information and request its correction.

Please tick this box if you want to keep your contact details private.

What are your thoughts on the projects Council has outlined in 'What's Our Plan 2019/2020'.

Please attach additional pages if necessary.

Horowhenua District Council
Private Bag 4002
Levin 5540



FreePost 108609

Thank you for your feedback

Just fold this form and send back to us using the
FreePost that's already included.

