

Community Connection

Issue 194 MARCH 2024



Bernie Wanden

Message from the Mayor

Kia ora Horowhenua,

On Friday 15 March consultation for our Long Term Plan 2024-2044 (LTP) will open. The LTP sets our direction for the next

20 years, outlining our activities and providing a long term focus for decision making. Challenging times call for challenging choices. The cost of living continues to rise, and like many households, Council have some tough decisions to make.

In this difficult economic climate, maintaining status quo would see a 23.6% rates increase. After months of workshops, meetings and exploring options, Council have endorsed a draft LTP budget that proposes a rates increase of 17.4%. Council's increased interest costs, depreciation, insurance and utilities alone, account for 14% of this proposed rates increase.

Our key financial goal is to manage growth while living within our means. The big questions we'll explore is what services do we need for our community? How should we fund kerbside recycling? How should we share costs - who pays for what? Consultation will close on 15 April 2024 and we are keen for your feedback. There will be lots of different ways that you can provide your feedback, so keep an eye out for ways to learn more about these topics and how you can have your say on the future of our district.

To build a stronger and more vibrant community, we're also reaching out for valuable feedback through resident satisfaction surveys. They help us understand what we're doing well and what needs to improve, so we can focus on our community aspirations and so we can better plan for the future.

Thank you to everyone who have already participated in our infrastructure surveys. We're also interested

in your thoughts on our Leadership & Engagement, and our Parks & Spaces. Links to the online surveys can be found in this Community Connection, and a large number of you will receive an email with more information. Each short survey only takes 1 to 2 minutes to complete and you have until Monday 11 March 2024 to complete them and be in the draw.

It's been my honour to acknowledge special members of our community in the past two weeks. On Tuesday we welcomed 28 new friends in becoming New Zealanders during a Citizenship Ceremony in Council Chambers, and last Saturday I paid respect to the animals who, in both wartime and times of peace, have provided service, comfort and support to so many, during a Purple Poppy Day ceremony.

I'd also like to acknowledge the young people and their whānau who participated in Let's Move Together triathlon series last weekend. Not only was it a great way to be healthy and active and make new friends, it was a lot of fun.

I also congratulate the Shannon Progressive Association for another very successful Car Show two weekends ago. It was great to see so many people enjoying the array of different vehicles and supporting the Shannon Community.

It was also good to meet with a number of people at 'Catch Up with Mayor Bernie' last week. I am in Foxton today and will be at Shannon Library on Friday 8 March at 10.30am and there will be more held later in the year. Please come and have a chat with me.

Until next time.

Mayor Bernie Wanden

CUPPA WITH A COUNCILLOR



Thursday 14 March

- Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō
- Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom
- Shannon Library

Time: 10:30am to 12:30pm

Council Meetings



Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Public Forum

Monday 4 March, 5.30pm to 6pm

Ngārongo Iwikātea Room, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, 92 Main Street, Foxton



Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Meeting

Monday 4 March 2024, 6pm to 8pm

Ngārongo Iwikātea Room, Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, 92 Main Street, Foxton



Council Public Forum

Wednesday 6 March 2024, 12.15pm to 12.45pm

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



Council Meeting

Wednesday 6 March 2024, 1pm

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



Council Public Forum

Wednesday 20 March 2024, 12.15pm to 12.45pm

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



Council Meeting

Wednesday 20 March 2024, 1pm

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



Community Wellbeing Committee

Wednesday 27 March 2024, 10am to 12pm

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin



Community Funding & Recognition Committee

Wednesday 27 March 2024, 1pm to 3pm

Council Chambers, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Please refer to horowhenua.govt.nz/Council/Council-Meetings for the full meeting schedule, minutes and agendas.

Levin's Information Kiosk refreshed



Renowned artist Joe McMenamin has breathed new life into the Information Kiosk in North Levin with a captivating mural, infusing it with his signature style that celebrates the rich fauna of our district.

Spanning from the forest floor to the sky, McMenamin's mural showcases the diverse wildlife that is significant to Horowhenua, including the Kererū, Hōkioi, Kuaka and Huia. The white patterns adorning the top of the structure symbolise the melodious bird songs, creating a dynamic interplay between art and nature.

HOW ARE WE REALLY DOING?

Scan the QR codes to complete surveys about our Infrastructure, Leadership & Reputation and Parks & Spaces.

For every survey completed by Monday 11 March 2024 (please only complete each survey once) you will go in the draw to win one of two \$250 grocery vouchers! Prizes will be drawn 10am Friday 22 March 2024, and the winners will be notified by email. Please visit our website for the full terms and conditions.

LEADERSHIP & ENGAGEMENT



Leadership
& Reputation



Communications
& Engagement



Customer
Service



Quality of Life

PLACES & SPACES



Community
Centres &
Libraries



Parks &
Reserves



Aquatics
Horowhenua

INFRASTRUCTURE



Water
Services



Rubbish &
Recycling



Land
Transport



Avoid the hose.

Use a bucket of water and a mop or sponge instead of a hose for outdoor cleaning jobs.

For more water saving tips visit:
horowhenua.govt.nz/WaterSavingTips

Water Conservation and Restrictions

Council draws water from rivers and groundwater under resource consents. The conditions of these consents and the demand for water set the trigger levels for Council to issue water restrictions.

To ensure water demand does not exceed the available supply, restrictions may be put in place.

- 2 Levin and Ōhau are in Water Conservation Level 2 until further notice.
- 3 Level 3 Water Restrictions are in place for Foxton and Foxton Beach further notice.

For more information visit:
horowhenua.govt.nz/WaterConservation

Thank you for doing your bit to conserve water in Horowhenua.

Grants closing

Don't miss out on funding for your community group, project or event! Round two of the Community Development and Vibrant Communities grants close at 11.59pm on Sunday 3 March and applications for the Creative Communities Fund close at 11.59pm on Sunday 10 March. Visit horowhenua.govt.nz/grants for more information, or contact one of our team on:

@ community@horowhenua.govt.nz
06 366 0999

In the Works

Waitārere Beach carpark

The Waitārere Beach carpark at the end of Waitārere Beach Road is looking revitalised after an upgrade, made possible thanks to a \$500,000 grant from Better Off Funding. Completed ahead of schedule, the upgrade consists of new public toilet facilities with outdoor showers, a picnic area, new concrete footpath, carpark resurfacing and new line markings.

Hōkio Beach Road, Levin

A large area of Hōkio Beach Road, Levin has been upgraded to repair a number of pot holes.

Bush Street/Totara Street, Levin intersection

The road surface on the Bush Street/Totara Street, Levin intersection has been improved.

Winchester Street, Levin

Trees on Winchester Street, Levin were removed late last year because they had caused a large amount of damage to footpaths, kerbs and the road. Our contractors are repairing these damaged assets and most of the footpath renewal work is finished. A sub-contractor will undertake the kerb and channel renewal.



Place items loose in your recycling bin.

Items placed inside bags or coverings (such as plastic) cannot be accepted.

To learn more about rubbish and recycling visit:
horowhenua.govt.nz/WhatGoesWhere

Catch Up With MAYOR BERNIE

An informal opportunity to chat with the Mayor.

Friday 1 March
10:30am to 12:30pm
Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom

Friday 8 March
10:30am to 12:30pm
Shannon Library



Download free app Antenno to report issues, as well as receive alerts and notifications.

www.horowhenua.govt.nz/Antenno

