

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Tēnā koe, There are several project milestones to update this week. On 1 December the Marton to Bulls Wastewater pipeline construction will start. This is a \$10m project. While most of the pipeline will be put over private land, there will also be work done within the road and town corridors. Council have selected a contractor who should minimise disruption with the use of water vac and drilling processes.

There is a lot of activity down at Te Matapihi with the Bus Lane/Town Square work being done. Completion date is 25 February 2022 with bus exits planned to ease traffic management problems. This project includes the art-work in the town square which will make it a stunning public space - something that I absolutely welcome.

Council has also endorsed an approach by the Bulls Community Committee to look at using artwork to beautify the Bulls Reservoir and Bulls Water Tower.

And we are in the final stages of awarding a build contract for the new Amenities Block in Taihape. This has been a project years in the making and it's great to see construction nearly ready to start.

Council also spent time discussing the various options for strengthening the Grandstand and are now looking to do a high level costing evaluation. Council is committed to progressing this work early in the new year. It involves a whole lot of the tidy-up work associated with bringing the building up to spec such as painting and redoing stairways etc, reroofing and upgrading power and fire protection.

The Mangaweka Bridge replacement construction is near completion and we are expecting the project to be finished in July next year. The good news is that we are on target for dates and operating within budget. There is still work needing to be done around how the old bridge is to be managed as part of the retention.

Elected members spent quite some time debating how we best convey our concerns to Central Government around Three Waters and how the new mandated entity will be managed/governed and what degree of local voice will be heard. We have written to the Minister wanting answers and we will continue to push Government on this issue. We, like many other Councils, have endorsed the letter to the Prime Minister seeking changes and delay.

Our Senior Strategic Planner, Katrina Gray, and I have started early engagement around Spatial Planning and the review of the District Plan. We have held meetings in Taihape, Scotts Ferry and Koitiata and in the new year there will be widespread community meetings held throughout the district. This is a chance to shape the Rangitikei for the future. Please, when you get the opportunity, take every chance to be part of the process.

My congratulations go out to the many organisations that have recently received grants from either Council or from the JBS Dudding Trust for their projects. I am looking forward to supporting these initiatives, which for instance include upgrades to parks in Taihape and Rātana in the new year.

Ngā manaakitanga, **Andy Watson**, Mayor of Rangitikei District.



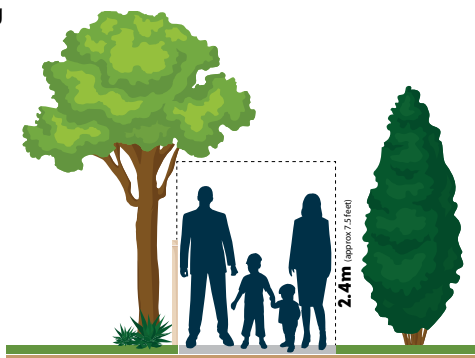
Trees and flowers are great, but footpaths are for people.

Summer is time to trim your overhanging vegetation. Please check your property and keep trees, shrubs and plants within your boundary. Any overhanging the road or footpath need to be cleared so that pedestrians can use the path safely.

The area above the footpath (to a height of 2.4m) needs to be kept clear from trees, low shrubs, vines and hedges.

Council inspects footpaths annually for overgrowth. In extreme cases Council can serve notice on offending property owners or remove the vegetation and recover costs.

For more information please contact our Customer Experience team on 0800 422 522, info@rangitikei.govt.nz or fill in our Report It - Request for Service form on our website.



This graphic illustrates the area that needs to be maintained.

Project Updates

Bulls Bus Lane and Town Square

You may have noticed that construction has commenced next to Te Matapihi in Bulls for the new bus lane and town square. Work is due to be completed at the end of February 2022, and will provide an improved outdoor space in the heart of Bulls.

Mangaweka Ablutions Block

Construction has commenced on the new permanent toilet and shower block at Mangaweka Campground, and will be completed in early 2022.

Marton to Bulls Wastewater Pipeline

The contract for the construction of the Marton to Bulls Wastewater Pipeline has been awarded to Fulton Hogan, who will begin construction in December 2021. This significant project is part of the Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation programme of works, which will futureproof wastewater disposal from the two towns.

Marton Rail Hub

The Comprehensive Development Plan Framework has been completed and is there to facilitate establishment of the Marton Rail Hub.

The framework report, as well as information on other projects, can be found here: www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/projects

Kōrero Mai Have YOUR say!

Current Consultations Representation Review



Council is consulting on its "Final Proposal" for representation for the 2022 Local Government elections.

Any objections/appeals must be in by 12pm Monday 6 December.

www.rangitikei.govt.nz/representationreview

Upcoming Meeting



Council Meeting

Thursday 23 December 9.30am

This meeting is an addition to current December meetings.

All Council meetings are held in the Council Chambers - 46 High Street, Marton and live streamed on Facebook.

Need help getting your Vaccine Pass?

Our Digital Engagement Officer can help request your Vaccine Pass and install on your smart device.

Available on the following days during library hours:

Every Tuesday	Taihape Library
Every Wednesday	Marton Library
Every Thursday	Te Matapihi - Bulls
Every Friday	Rātana ICT Hub

For more information contact Rashmi: 027 2182 248 or rashmi.natarajan@rangitikei.govt.nz



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