



Community aspirations of Rangitikei sought to influence planning

The Rangitikei District Council is carrying out a pre-engagement process to determine topics to be consulted on during the Draft 2021-31 Long Term Plan Consultation next year.

Mayor Andy Watson said we're framing our future and we want to hear about the type of community you want to live in so that we can include community aspirations in the Long Term Plan consultation.

"2020 has been a stressful year, but that doesn't mean we don't plan for the future," said Mayor Watson. "Soon, Council will be deciding on the form of the new Marton Civic Centre and discuss what to do with the redundant Bulls water tower. We'll consider the design of the Taihape Community Centre amenities block and think about new residential areas and smaller residential section sizes to accommodate our growing population."

"Our district faces many challenges including ageing infrastructure, the Putorino Landfill, access to health services, the feasibility of rural water schemes, increasing road damage from forestry trucks, as well as climate change."

Mayor Watson said the big-ticket items will draw a lot of comment during the consultation next year. But for now, we want to hear about the aspirations of individuals, cultural and community groups.

Rangitikei District Council Chief Executive Peter Beggs said pre-engagement is a new approach for Council and is designed to make it easier for everyone to have a voice. "We want to hear from everyone in our community to ensure our LTP represents the aspirations of our people."

"We've created a fun activity that makes it easy for everyone to have their say and will run competitions, use polaroid pictures and carry out an online survey. We've called in the Youth Council to help out, and we'll be attending community events across the District."

LTP Project Manager Carol Gordon said the Framing Our Future pre-engagement process will start at the open day for the new Bulls Community Centre on Saturday 26 September and run through until the end of November.

"The Framing Our Future Team will be at the Shemozzle in Hunterville, visiting Te Kura o Ratana, and hosting open-days in our Towns," she said. "We'll be coming to most communities across the district in the next few months – let us know if you have a community day planned and we'll do our best to be there."

Carol said pre-engagement community activities will occur only if Level 1 Covid-19 restrictions are in place, however, if the Level is higher then we'll continue to engage online.

To find out more visit: rangitikei.govt.nz

Tirohanga Whakamua - Look to the future.



Local iwi sing a waiata (song) commemorating the beginning of construction.



Community come together to mark start of construction

Cold weather and rain did not dampen the spirits of those who attended the Ground Breaking ceremony of the new Mangaweka Bridge.

A karakia and blessing by local iwi Ngāti Hauiti began proceedings for the new bridge that will cross the

Rangitikei river connecting the Rangitikei District to Manawātū.

Rangitikei District Mayor Andy Watson and Manawātū District Mayor Helen Worboys together dug the first sod marking the beginning of construction. Both mayors spoke, acknowledging local iwi, the community, council staff and all those involved in working towards the new bridge. The new structure will be a vital link between both districts, offering greater tourism and economic benefits.

The existing Mangaweka bridge was built in 1904 and was going to be demolished after the new bridge was opened. However, there was a strong push to keep the historic bridge and both Councils have agreed to keep the bridge for pedestrians and cyclists to use. On-going maintenance of the old bridge will be funded by the Mangaweka Heritage Trust.

The new bridge is aimed to be completed in 2021.

Bulls Library and Information Centre Update

Bulls Library

The Bulls Library will remain closed until the new Bulls Community Centre opens on Monday, 28 September 2020 at 9am. The new opening hours will be 9am-5pm, 7 days per week.

Until this time, if you would like our team to arrange books for you to collect from Bulls Information Centre please ring 0800 422 522 and ask to speak to a member of the Library team.

Bulls Information Centre

The Information Centre will close permanently at 5pm on Wednesday, 23 September 2020 and re-open in the new Bulls Community Centre on Monday, 28 September 2020 at 9am.

Bookings for bus and other services can continue to be made during this time by phoning 0800 422 522 and asking to speak to an Information Centre Officer.

Public Toilets

Public toilets at the Bulls Information Centre will close permanently at 5pm on Sunday, 27 September 2020 and re-open in the new Bulls Community Centre on Monday, 28 September 2020 at 9am.

We apologise for any inconvenience these may cause.

Upcoming Meetings



Community Grants Sub-Committee	Tuesday 22 September	10am
Audit Risk Committee	Thursday 24 September	9am
Finance/Performance Committee	Thursday 24 September	10.30am
Council	Thursday 24 September	1pm

All meetings are open to the public, unless there are specific items which Council resolves to consider 'public excluded'. Meeting papers are available online, at least two working days before any scheduled meeting, through the Council website or in hard copy at the libraries in Taihape, Marton and Bulls and the Marton Council office.

Any queries, please phone 06 327 0099 or 0800 422 522.

All meetings, unless otherwise specified, will be held in the Council Chamber, 46 High Street, Marton. Council meetings, where possible, will be live-streamed on Facebook.

Climate change for our district and region

In conjunction with Horizons Regional Council, we are keen to get your thoughts on what community values you consider to be at risk due to climate change.

Climate change risk is not limited to extreme events. More gradual changes can also affect the exposure of human and natural systems to hazards – and some things are more vulnerable to harm than others.

You can get involved by sharing your thoughts at www.rangitikei.govt.nz/climatechange

There is an interactive map of our region which gives you the opportunity to drop markers to identify what you care about, as well as interact with others who have also identified areas of concern. There is also a survey to fill out if you would like to further express your views. We would like you to consider hazards (e.g. floods, droughts and storms) and potential consequences in terms of community values and wellbeing to help us determine what is at risk.

The information you contribute will be used alongside scientific reports and data, mātauranga Māori and expert knowledge. We have also begun conversations with iwi representatives, as their values and local knowledge will be important considerations You have until the 4 October to have your say.

