



Mānawatia
a Matariki

*Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki, Mānawa maiea te ariki o te rangi, Mānawa maiea te Mātahi o te Tau.
Whano, whano, Haramai te toki ata huakirangi, Haumi e, Hui e, Tāiki e!*

*Celebrate the rising of Matariki, Celebrate the lord of the skies, Celebrate the new year
Unite, unite, And bring forth the dawn, Together In union, We are one!*

FROM THE Mayor's Desk

Kia ora koutou, I would like to acknowledge the recent passing of past Councillor Jim Howard QSM. It is appropriate that we recognise his involvement with Council over two terms spread between 1998 and 2004 as well as his wider community involvement. Jim was also a recipient of a QSM for services to conservation and the community.

Ngā mihi, Andy Watson, Mayor of Rangitikei.



Rangitikei District Council adopts 2024 - 2034 Long-term Plan



At its Council meeting held on Thursday, 27 June, Rangitikei District Council adopted its Where's it @ Rangitikei Long-term Plan for 2024 - 2035, which secures the capital works programme for the next ten years. Assuming 1% growth in rateable properties for the next three years, the average rates increase will be 10.5% for the 2024/25 year, followed by 8.9% for Year 2, and 9.75% for Year 3 of the LTP.

During the consultation period, Rangitikei residents were asked to consider options on three key issues, the potential opening of Marton Pool all year round, how recycling services would be introduced starting in 2027, and upgrades to the Marton's CBD. When it came to the deliberations, Council decided to keep the Marton Pool to its seasonal opening, stagger the introduction of recycling services, and committed to upgrading Marton's CBD with an approved budget of \$2.1 million.

Audit New Zealand have given Rangitikei District Council's Long-term Plan an unmodified opinion.

Mayor Andy Watson thanked the 454 residents who submitted on the Long-term Plan, and also passed on thanks to staff for their work in putting the plan together.

The Long-term Plan came into effect on Monday, 1 July.



Newest New Zealanders welcomed

We officially welcomed our eight newest New Zealanders in a Citizenship Ceremony held at Te Matapihi, last month.

Many of these faces might be familiar to you, as they've integrated into our community over a number of years. Today was a special occasion for them to receive their citizenship from Mayor Andy, who reminded them to continue to embrace their culture and heritage in their new(ish) home of the Rangitikei! Congratulations to you all.

Rangitikei District Council bring roading and water services in house

As of 1 July 2024, Rangitikei District Council will bring roading and three waters back in house, and the Shared Services Agreement with Manawātū District Council will end for these services.

Both Rangitikei District Council and Manawātū District Council undertook a review of the agreement that has been in place since 2008. It has been agreed that Rangitikei is now in a position where it could deliver these services to its residents, although some aspects may be contracted out where needed.

Rangitikei District Council and Manawātū District Council have worked to ensure that staff transferring to RDC have a smooth transition, including all the equipment and documentation that they need for their new roles.

All but three staff who were employed by MDC have been offered transfers to RDC, and we're pleased that all of these have accepted positions.

Project work that has been planned whilst roading and three waters services were being managed by MDC will carry on unaffected by the changes.

Council has extended the road maintenance contract with Higgins as our roading contractor for the next 12 months to allow time to complete the procurement process for a new contract starting on 1 July 2025. This contract extension will ensure that there is continuity for the roading projects that are currently underway.

Bringing these services in house is not expected to cost ratepayers any more money than has been budgeted as part of the Long-term Plan and may result in some savings.

Rangitikei District Council will continue to provide Animal Control Services for both districts.



Otara Bridge Repairs

Work to strengthen the Otara Bridge continues with the replacement of 22 vertical hangers. The hangers are currently being manufactured and will be installed between 15 July and 16 August, weather permitting.

During this period the bridge will be closed to all traffic from 9:00am to 3:00pm, Monday through to Friday.

Outside these times the bridge is restricted to vehicles with a weight limit of 6 tonnes, at a speed of 10 km per hour, with one vehicle crossing at a time travelling central to the bridge.

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