



Ngā Tāpaetanga *Collated Submissions*



Framing Our Future: Long Term Plan 2021-31

Supplementary Collated Submissions – Attending Oral Hearing

Time	Sub #	Submitter	Organisation	Page #
12 May - Taihape				
11.05am	215	Elizabeth Mortland	Taihape Neighbourhood Support	3
13 May – Marton				
11.35am	217	Tony Booker & Brya Dixon	Boards of Trustees Rangitikei College & Marton School	7
1.00pm	213	Coralee Matena	Federated Farmers of New Zealand	12
1.30pm	211	Felicity Wallace and Simon Loudon	Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei	19
1.40pm	216	Tim Matthews	Rangitikei District Council Western Residents Group	22
2.15pm	221	Gretta Mills		26
2.25pm	214	Helen Worboys (TBC)	Manawatū District Council	29

**Long Term Plan 2021-31 Consultation Document****Puka Tāpaetanga Submission Form****He aha tō tirohanga whakamua mō Rangitikei?** Have your say on our Long Term Plan

Submissions close at 5pm Monday 10 May, 2021.

Your DetailsIngoa/Name: Elizabeth MortlandTōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable): Taihape Neighbourhood SupportKāinga noho/Address: 4- Police Station, 6 Tur Street, TaihapeĪmēra/Email: trselizabeth@gmail.comWaea/Phone: 021 0261 6002☒ Please tick this box if you would like to speak to your submission at the Council Hearings on 12 and 13 May. Someone will contact you to confirm this.**Optional Demographic Information** *This is kept confidential for analysis only.*

PLEASE NOTE: Submissions on this LTP are public information and your information and submission will be made available to the public as part of deliberations. Your submission will only be used for the purpose of the LTP process and will be held by Rangitikei District Council at 46 High St, Marton 4710. You may access the information and request its correction, if required.

Privacy Act 2020

Please note that submissions are public information. The content on this form including your personal information and submission will be made available to the media and public as part of the decision making process.

☐ Please tick here if you want your details to remain private.

We've proposed a change to our rating system. (See page 47 of our Consultation Document)

Let us know what you think: _____

It's easy to make a submission

Anyone can make a submission by filling out the form online at www.framingourfuture.nz or by completing this submission form.

Your submission can be emailed to: ltl@rangitikei.govt.nz **or delivered to:**

Freepost: Rangitikei District Council - 172050
Private Bag 1102, Marton, 4741


Marton Head Office: 46 High Street, Marton, 4710

Bulls Information Centre: Te Matapihi,
4 Criterion Street, Bulls, 4818

Taihape Information Centre: Taihape Town Hall,
90 Hautapu Street (SH1), Taihape, 4720

Do you agree with our preferred options?

* Council's preferred option

 **Should we set up free Wifi zones?** (see page 20 of our Consultation Document)

I prefer...

☒ Option 1* ☐ Option 2 ☐ Option 3 ☐ Something else

Comment: _____

 **Should we invest in the Taihape Grandstand?** (see page 22 of our Consultation Document)

I prefer...

☒ Option 1* ☐ Option 2 ☐ Option 3 ☐ Something else

Comment: _____

 **How should we fund Economic Development?** (see page 24 of our Consultation Document)

I prefer...

☒ Option 1* ☐ Option 2 ☐ Option 3 ☐ Something else

Comment: _____

 **Should we increase Event Sponsorship?** (see page 26 of our Consultation Document)

I prefer...

☒ Option 1* ☐ Option 2 ☐ Option 3 ☐ Something else

Comment: _____

 **Should we join the LGFA as a guaranteeing member?** (see page 31 of our Consultation Document)


I prefer...

☒ Option 1* ☐ Option 2 ☐ Option 3 ☐ Something else

Comment: _____

Anything else?

Taihape Neighbourhood Support Committee submits that RDC supports TNS by contributing financially each year towards the costs of running TNS - see attached two pages.

 Please include more pages if required.

Submission to RDC draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031

Framing Our Future

We respectfully submit that RDC supports Taihape Neighbourhood Support by contributing financially each year towards the costs of running TNS. Costs include wages for a part-time Coordinator (up to 10 hours per week), some mileage (to attend quarterly NS regional meetings and the Neighbourhood Support New Zealand national conference in Wellington), copier toner, copy paper, phone, some promotion (eg business cards, flyers). As partners in NSNZ Taihape Police provide an office, postage and some copying.

The aim of Neighbourhood Support is to make our homes, streets, neighbourhoods and communities safer and more resilient. This is primarily achieved through the establishment of small groups of households coming together, pooling their knowledge, resources and abilities for any situation that may arise.

We are a community led movement that works alongside the New Zealand Police and other partners including Fire and Emergency New Zealand, Civil Defence and Emergency Management groups as well as Rangitikei District Council. We work closely with these partners to equip neighbourhoods to improve safety, be prepared for emergencies and support one another so that our communities are great places to live and can remain functional and resilient at times of crisis. TNS is currently updating the Taihape Civil Defence Community Response Plan and was the lead agency of the Taihape Community Response Group during the COVID-19 lockdown. TNS is a member of the RDC emergency management/welfare response group.

Name	Signature	Organisation/Individual	Contact
M.J. Andrews	[Signature]	Taihape Neighbourhood	027 3785418
V. Mostland	[Signature]	"	
N. Wilson	[Signature]	TNS Member	06-2125545
Elizabeth Mostland	[Signature]	TNS Secretary/Treasurer	021 0261 6002
Wini Houghton	[Signature]	TNS Comm. Member	06-388 0071
Christine Smith	[Signature]	TNS Member	06-388 0556
C. Tierney	[Signature]	TNS Member	06 388 0978
A. Abernethy	[Signature]	TNS Committee member	06 388 9220
L. McKnight Wilson	[Signature]	TNS Committee Member	021 2656178
Robyn Wells	[Signature]	Individual	021-293-2792
Sally Wilson	[Signature]	Taihape Neighbourhood	0274464498
J. L. Martin	[Signature]	Individual	0277711618
Leah Dehaer	[Signature]	Individual	021 02935543
M. Bellamy	[Signature]	Individual	021 920053
Judy Aldington		TNS member	
Annemann		"	
Roger Farnin		"	
Elizabeth Riley		"	
Barrie Randall		"	
Karen Randall		"	
Helen Jones		"	
Sandra Speer		"	
Ken Donovan		"	
Beryl Donovan		"	

Happy to support if the Co-ord position is advertised to the public
M. Bellamy

**SUBMISSION TO THE
RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL
ON THE
DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2021-2031
ON BEHALF OF THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES
OF RANGITĪKEI COLLEGE AND MARTON SCHOOL
10 MAY 2021**

SUMMARY

1. Both schools share serious and immediate concerns for student pedestrian safety along Bredins Line and Hereford Street between the two schools.
2. Both schools submit that these concerns should be resolved urgently by:
 - a. the provision of **continuous pedestrian access** along the eastern side of Bredins Line and southern side of Hereford Street.

This would require additional paving for a footpath to connect between the new entrance to Hereford Heights, and across Tutaenui Stream to the path outside Marton School.

- b. A **pedestrian crossing** across the entrance to Hereford Heights, accompanied by traffic calmers.
 - c. The imposition of a permanent and uninterrupted **30 km/hour speed limit** outside and between the two schools.
3. **Please note that the submitters would like to present in person to the Council through their respective principals.**

This written submission has been prepared by the principals of the two impacted schools with the endorsement of their respective boards:

- Tony Booker, Principal Rangitīkei College (principal@rangitikeicollege.school.nz)
- Brya Dixon, Principal Marton School (principal@marton.school.nz)

1. Current student pedestrian behaviour: college students on Hereford Street

- a. College students heading to school via Hereford Street are forced to cross the road (to the swimming pool side) to get around the corner to Bredins Line, then cross the road once more to get to school (and vice versa after school).
- b. On Hereford Street they are expected to use the pedestrian crossing outside Marton School. Many choose not to comply with this, which is not atypical behaviour, even in larger urban centres. Many also come to school via the 'Lost Acre' which means they must walk 150 metres away from school to use the crossing, and then come back up the other side. This is not typical teenage behaviour!

This crossing point is adjacent to the Marton School Junior Carpark. When college students cross here, junior students see this behaviour and think it is an appropriate place to cross the road, putting them at great risk, especially as they are not as good at checking for traffic or judging the speed of vehicles.

- c. For those that do not comply, they invariably end up crossing close to the corner. Already this is high-risk, and has resulted in a number of near-misses as cars move around the corner from Bredins Line not expecting to see jaywalking pedestrians. With the development of Hereford Heights and resulting increased traffic flow, as well as the new road layout, the potential for a pedestrian being hit is significantly increased.
- d. Furthermore, students emerging from the 'Lost Acre' pathway are forced to cross the Marton School junior carpark which further slows traffic down and creates a hazard for vehicles entering (or leaving) that carpark.
- e. What is required is for those travelling up the southern side of Hereford Street to be able to continue all the way to school on that same side.

2. Current student pedestrian behaviour: college students on Bredins Line

- a. Heading towards the college, once they have rounded the corner, students will cross Bredins Line to get to the college side *anywhere* along the 250 metres between the corner and school. This can be disconcerting and hazardous for drivers driving into Bredins Line from Hereford Street, particularly at 3.00-3.15pm when approximately 150 students are leaving in that direction simultaneously.

Because there is no clear point of crossing, this behaviour is understandable. It also means that it is difficult for school staff to police, as compared to, for example, a pedestrian crossing which would be an obvious point of crossing.

- b. Safety for school pedestrians was raised by the Principal of the college to the council in 2016. Various options were looked at with the council Project Engineer, but these were deemed unacceptable for different reasons. However, the council agreed to shape a new footpath to encourage pedestrians coming from the Hammond St/ Bredins Line alleyway. This has had more effect on encouraging students emerging from the alleyway to cross at that point than the other way around.

3. Current driver behaviour: vehicles on Bredins Line

- a. There is an ongoing issue with the speed of traffic along Bredins Line. It is particularly noticeable at the start and end of the school day. Occasionally, cars do obviously speed along there, but even vehicles travelling at the speed limit create a hazard when people are crossing the road.

Unfortunately young people are oblivious to the risk involved in crossing outside the school and do not believe they could be hit. This is particularly the case when they are walking in social groups - as they tend to do - especially at the end of the day.

- b. Parents/caregivers dropping off their children at school at the start and picking them up at the end of the school day create additional challenges. Although we have now avoided vehicles driving in and out of school to transport students, outside the entrance we still have issues that the school struggles to control:
 - i. Congestion
 - ii. Vehicles making U-turns
 - iii. Momentary double-parking
 - iv. Students rushing across the road (especially on wet days)
 - v. Obscured visibility

4. Implications of Hereford Heights development on pedestrian safety

- a. Our schools believe this development will not only accentuate the risks concerns identified above but will add new ones. However, we also believe that these existing and new hazards can be satisfactorily addressed.
- b. The development will increase risks because:
 - i. Of increased vehicular traffic. We have been informed by the developer that an additional 800 vehicular movements will occur entering and exiting Hereford Heights.
 - ii. Of the extension of the footpath between Oakley Avenue and Hereford Heights. Pedestrians on Bredins Line heading south are likely to move even more closer to the corner before crossing. This gives drivers from Hereford Street even less time to react to jaywalkers.
 - iii. Students likely to now walk to the end of the new footpath by the existing bridge, and then walk the 10 metres or so along the road over the bridge to link up with the 'Lost Acre' or southern footpath.
 - iv. Vehicles exiting Hereford Heights travelling down Hereford Street likely to travel past Marton School at higher speeds than previously when they slowed for the corner.

5. Critical problems

- a. These hazards are the result of two factors:
 - i. Pedestrians being forced to cross Bredins Line/Hereford Street twice if walking to or from the college from the southern side of Hereford Street (or once if coming from the northern side).
 - ii. Driver speed.
- b. Therefore, to improve safety, we need to focus on making it more straightforward for pedestrians to get across to the southern side of Hereford Street, and to slow vehicle speed outside the schools.

6. Solving the problem: Pedestrians crossing the road

- a. By creating a continuous pathway between the college and the 'Lost Acre'/Marton School would avoid the need for college pedestrians to cross the road anywhere around the corner. This would require additional footpath, but the major implication is developing a pedestrian crossing over Tutaenui Stream.
- b. An appropriate traffic calmer or equivalent on the exit from Hereford Heights (and possibly Oakley Avenue) which would make a clearer crossing point for pedestrians, have the effect of slowing traffic down, and drawing attention to the likelihood of pedestrians.

7. Solving the problem: Driver speed

- a. The imposition of a 30 km/hour speed limit beginning at the boundary to the college through to the Marton School boundary (Wellington Road end). As well as reducing the impact of injury in the event of a collision, such a speed limit reinforces driver expectations of the presence of schoolchildren on the road.
- b. Speed limits around schools are already the subject of a Waka Kotahi/NZTA consultation document released in April 2021 [Setting of Speed Limits 2021 overview and summary of proposals for consultation April-June 2021](#). This document proposes that road controlling authorities be required to introduce safer speed limits around schools, with an initial 40% of changes to be completed by June 2024 and complete the remaining by 2029¹.

Speed limits will be reduced to 30 km/h (or 40 km/h in some circumstances) around urban schools and a maximum of 60 km/h around rural schools. These speed limits can either be permanent or variable.

Road controlling authorities will be encouraged to consider speed management treatments in the broader area around a school (e.g. road narrowing and raised platforms).

From various press releases, it is clear that this proposed rule change has strong political support.

¹ Refer [Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2021 consultation](#) for information regarding the consultation process.



Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Submission to the Rangitikei District Council on the Draft Long Term Plan 2021

10 May 2021

SUBMISSION ON RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL DRAFT LONG TERM PLAN 2021

To: Rangitikei District Council

Name of submitter: Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Mike Cranstone
Whanganui Province
President

Tim Matthews
Whanganui Province
Executive Member

Murray Holdaway
Manawatu/ Rangitikei Province
President

Contact person: Coralee Matena
Senior Regional Policy Advisor - Federated Farmers of New Zealand
PO Box 945, Palmerston North, 4340
cmatena@fedfarm.org.nz

-
1. The Manawatu-Rangitikei and Whanganui Province of Federated Farmers (Federated Farmers) welcome the opportunity to comment on the Rangitikei District Council Long Term Plan 2021. We acknowledge any submissions made by individual members of Federated Farmers.
 2. We wish to be heard in support of this submission.
-

SUBMISSION

2021 – Council position and impact on LTP

3. Federated Farmers appreciates that for Regional and District Councils alike, the 2021 LTP is heavily directed by external factors. Increasing costs to implement Central Government regulatory changes, coupled with the ongoing impact of COVID19 are untimely challenges for Councils. We appreciate that for many Councils, the pressure to invest in new and upgraded infrastructure while also maintaining existing infrastructure, is forcing tough conversations to be had about nice to have services compared to core services. For our members, this conversation is long overdue.
4. We therefore support the introductory comments from the Mayor with regard to the complexity of the current environment and the unknown future and the need to make tough decisions over the 10 years of the Plan. Aligned with Federated Farmers position, spending must be on core needs and services first. With this in mind, we consider that Council have not gone far enough to limit the number of new projects in order to reduce debt and position the District in a more viable space for the future. It is not economically prudent to progress all projects at this time.

5. With a small rating base, large geographical area and many kilometers of roads per ratepayer, there are many tensions and demands for expenses. It is unlikely the community will specifically identify, let alone agree on, specific areas of expenditure which should be cut back. We consider it is Council's responsibility to lead this discussion by assessing and prioritising current and planned expenditure and then discussing these options with the community. This means that nice-to-have projects may have to postponed or cancelled.

Rates – General comments

6. Rates are among the top ten operational expenses of a farming business. They are a source of considerable financial pressure for all farmers. Federated Farmers makes submissions on Annual and LTP's to ensure Council's exercise fiscal prudence, and consider affordability, fairness and equity issues when recovering rates (to the extent this is possible in land and capital value taxation systems).
7. Rates are a charge for services, and they are supposed to reflect the access to, and benefit derived by ratepayers from council services. This is a key principle, reinforced in 2019 by the Productivity Commission and a key provision in s.101 of the Local Government Act 2002 that sets out funding principles for local authorities. In practice though, Federated Farmers considers that the 'benefit principle' is often eroded by factoring in other considerations like 'affordability' or 'ability to pay', albeit without evidence about the real financial situations of individual ratepayers.

Revenue and Financing Policy – not consulted

8. Section 102(4) of the Local Government Act 2002 requires the Council to adopt a Revenue and Financing Policy, and clause 10 of Schedule 10 of that Act requires this adopted policy to be included in the Council's LTP. Council are required to complete a review of his Policy by 31 May 2021 and to provide it as part of the consultation package. Federated Farmers is disappointed this Policy has not been provided.
9. We note that there are also considerable gaps in the LTP document provided. Of particular concern are the omissions regarding the impact that the 2021 proposed changes will have on ratepayers. This is a huge oversight on Council's part, and limits the ability of the ratepayer to comment as appropriate on the proposals, for example the amendments to the Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC) and also Council's proposed differential changes. As discussed further in the submission, Federated Farmers does not support these proposed changes.
10. We therefore would have appreciated transparency in the LTP to show the detail of what has been proposed and also what impact this will have on example ratepayers. Part B of the Revenue and Financing Policy (example shown below), provides a useful breakdown of Council's activities along with the funding method and rationale. We are disappointed that this has not been reviewed aligning with the proposals Council has put forward and shared for comment.

Part B: Application of Policy Principles and Considerations

Activity	Funding split public: private	Public mechanism	Private mechanism	Rationale for funding mechanisms	Variation for new capital expenditure	Variation projected after 2020/21
Community Leadership						
Council Strategic planning and reporting Iwi liaison Community Committees,	100:0	General rate	Not applicable	There are benefits to the whole District of having effective strategy and governance	Not applicable	Not envisaged

Rates increases

11. When reviewing the rating examples, Federated Farmers is in particular concerned with the disproportionate increases across rating examples. Despite the differentials Council is proposing to introduce, for Commercial Industrial and Utilities properties, the rural property example is paying the largest comparable rates increase across rating categories. The proposed increase for the rural example is around \$1000, compared to commercial (\$200), utilities (\$700), and the residential examples (around \$200). We are concerned at the few rating samples provided, given the huge changes and variations in valuations as well as rating impacts. Federated Farmers wonders how many options and rating examples were explored in LTP workshops prior to adoption of the Draft LTP.
12. Federated Farmers is also concerned that the example properties Council have provided minimise the extent of the variation in rates increases. For example, a 857ha farm, which had rates set at \$16,362 in 2020, faces a proposed \$20,419.63 rates bill this year. An increase of 24.8%. We further understand that this increase may be a common across pastoral hill country farms in the District. As set out in the discussion below, Federated Farmers does not consider that Council has worked to ensure that rates have been fairly allocated across all ratepayer groups.

UAGC reduction and impact on General Rates

13. Federated Farmers considers the UAGC to be a fair way for Council's to rate for services that provide an indistinguishable amount of benefit across ratepayer groups. Higher use of uniform annual general charges also reduces reliance on the property value general rate as a funding mechanism and flattens the distribution of rates bills between high to low value properties. Federated Farmers therefore does not support the proposed reduction of the UAGC to \$500 (from \$610.13).
14. As mentioned earlier, we are also concerned about the lack of transparency in the financial information provided to be able to fully understand the impact of the UAGC reduction. No commentary is provided about what activities have been moved out of the UAGC and are now funded by the general rates. As the UAGC and general rate are grouped in the financial summaries that are provided, it is not possible to assess how far towards the 30% legislative limit for the UAGC, the new rate sits at. We are concerned that Council continues to move away from fully using this rating mechanism given that it attempts to reduce the inequity created by rates struck by property value. We note that in 2017 the UAGC sat at around 22%.
15. We also note that page 48 of the Consultation Document states "*we have worked to reduce this burden on residential ratepayers as much as we can...*". However we note that on page 47, the document states "*fundamentally Council believes the rates burden should be shared equitably across all rateable properties*", and further on page 47 "*2. Reducing the UAGC from \$610.13 to \$500 and increasing the General Rate. This means the burden on residential ratepayers will be eased, and more income will be collected from properties with higher valuations through the General Rate*". Federated Farmers proposes a number of questions to Council on these statements:
 - a. Why is the Council favouring residential ratepayers over others?
 - b. What information does it have that suggests the rates will be unaffordable for residential ratepayers, who may be able to use the Rates Rebate Scheme?
 - c. What information does it have that suggests the rates will be affordable for Commercial, Industrial or Farming ratepayers?
 - d. How does the Council assess "*The impact on the current and future social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the Community; and ...*"
 - e. Does the Council assess the relative access to libraries, halls, swim centres, Civil Defence, Promotions and Information Centres between its urban and rural ratepayers, or between its Commercial and Tourism operators and rural businesses

Differentials

16. Page 138 of the LTP states that Council “*will seek to avoid:*
- *Large increases in any rating category. Such increases can often arise where a particular rating category incurs a high increase in its capital values relative to other categories; and*
 - *Large ‘across the board’ annual rate increases.*
- Council will aim to apply a pattern of steady, constant rate increase as opposed to a series of alternating high increases and minor increases. Council may identify instances where some land uses receive more benefit from, or place more demands on, council services and/or may have a differing ability to pay rates. In such situations, where considered equitable, practicable and/or where this contributes to the predictability of rates, Council may elect to use rating differentials”*
17. Federated Farmers submits that the rating differentials proposed, along with the proposed amendments to the UAGC, do not appropriately smooth rates increases across properties, with farmers continuing to carry the can despite no additional/poorer access to Council services. Federated Farmers would like to work with Council to consider how the differentials can be further adjusted to smooth out these inequities, perhaps via a differential for roading.

Development Contributions

18. Federated Farmers notes that Council is proposing to introduce development contributions, to help offset debt for development. In general, alternative revenue sources like development contributions are viewed positively by the farming community. When applied appropriately, Development Contributions can reduce the reliance on rates and more fairly align with a user pays approach.
19. Federated Farmers also proposes that the Development Contributions Policy align with the approach taken by other Territorial Authorities for rural non inhabitable buildings. For example, Hastings District Council’s Development Contributions Policy exempts farm ancillary buildings from requiring a Development Contribution because of the minimal demand they place on the Council’s infrastructure.

KEY PROJECTS

20. Federated Farmers continues to advocate that Council needs to focus on providing infrastructure and core services to the community, and not be carried away with delivering nice to have projects. With vital core infrastructure in the Rangitikei to be maintained and upgraded, Council is not in a position to be spending large on nice to haves. As with earlier comments, we are concerned that some of the projects identified do not warrant funding at this time.
- a. **Free wifi** – Federated Farmers considers this a nice to do project and asks Council to explore trialling this provision using current commercially owned infrastructure. For example, Option 4 could involve working with commercial properties (e.g McDonalds), who have wifi provisions, to enable Council to gather further information about actual costs and benefits before any investment is made.
 - b. **Taihape Memorial Park Grandstand** – Federated Farmers supports Option 1 – investigate refurbishment. We however ask that Council hold any work on this project with a view to fully consulting on costs and options as part of the 2024 LTP. We also ask that Council use the time between LTP’s, to investigate and make use of possible Central Government investment, commercial sponsorship, and also explore cost sharing arrangements with identified users/beneficiaries of the space (e.g lease arrangements to cover fit out costs).
 - c. **Economic development increased spending** – Federated Farmers is unsure if this increased spending is part of the UAGC or the General Rate. As this is a benefit to all ratepayers, Federated Farmers considers it should form part of the UAGC. If this is the case, we support the increase, however if it is not, we would not support any increase.

- d. **Local Government Funding Agency** – Federated Farmers is unsure about the potential risks/liabilities to Council of this proposal. We ask that Council provide further information so that a more considered assessment can be made.

INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

Rural roads

21. Federated Farmers opposes the proposal to reduce and extend the reseal policy from 12-13 years to 16.7 years by Waka Kotahi. The increased loads on local roads generated by trucks meeting the HPV standards are causing premature seal failure, and the new policy will cause even greater deterioration in service capacity, which will be felt mostly by the RDC's rural residents. We ask the Council to push back on this issue, and advocate strongly for better rural roads that the ONRC policy discriminates against.
22. Federated Farmers also asks Council to instigate a 1.5 times roading differential for forestry rated properties for roading, to reflect and rehabilitate the negative impact that its operations have on rural roads. We do not accept that more information is needed to start charging in this manner, as Wairoa DC has led the way in 2021, and Whanganui and Ruapehu DC's have already charged a similar rate for several years.

Three waters

23. Federated Farmers supports developments to core infrastructure such as wastewater, solid waste and water. As farmer compliance with wastewater, waste, water and nutrient management is funded directly by the farmer, we therefore believe that Council should target rates for these developments to those who will be using the services. We consider that rating differentials or targeted rates for wastewater, solid waste and drinking water, more fairly require those who are benefiting or utilising the activity to provide the required rating contributions.
24. Federated Farmers has consistently opposed the Public Good rating for those 3 services, given that the public good benefit is very small and probably only applies to visitors to the towns. Each SUIP in the District contributes \$258 towards the 3 Waters and many farms have more than one SUIP. This Public Good rate provides a strong incentive for farmers to support divestment of the 3 Waters to a Regional Authority.
25. We also note that the rates are proposed to rise to a total of \$283 for the coming year. The ongoing increases are a reminder of the lack of historical funding from former municipalities which have subsequently formed this District. While this is not significantly different to many other local authorities, the Rangitikei District is unique in forcing non-beneficiaries of a service to pay what should be a targeted rate.
26. Federated Farmers is also concerned that centralization of the three waters may lead to less understanding about who are the local beneficiaries of current and past spending, and therefore require farms or those not connected to the service to nevertheless contribute to past and future costs.

Rural water schemes

27. Rangitikei District has benefitted from its primarily stock water driven rural water schemes, and Federated Farmers considers it would be a considerable loss to the District if these were lost. Federated Farmers considers that while the current Schemes maintain their affordability and value to the funders (and beneficiaries) they should be retained in their present form as long as possible. We ask that Council ensure that our members are engaged early in any future proposals to change the schemes, as these changes will have a significant impact to those who use them.

Wastewater

28. Federated Farmers also notes the reference in the Plan to the future need for land for the discharge of urban wastewater. Federated Farmers has recently submitted to the Palmerston North City Council (PNCC) Nature Calls project, noting concerns with large scale discharge to land wastewater provisions. Lessons from neighboring Districts are that these schemes can adversely impact adjacent waterways when managed poorly.
29. We therefore caution Council in taking any pre-determined position about their effectiveness, without first understanding all short and long term consequences, including the costs to the District/Region/Nation by way of loss of productive land. Federated Farmers will be asking PNCC to consider an approach to their treatment that supports the future needs of surrounding Districts and ask that Council also give thought to how a regional solution may address this Districts future wastewater issues.

Earthquake-prone Buildings

30. Federated Farmers notes that Council is required to undertake a structural engineering assessment to evaluate the integrity of the Council building. We note that if amendments are required to satisfy integrity issues, Council will have 7.5 years to remediate issues given it is a priority building.
31. Federated Farmers is concerned that although this will be a significant cost to ratepayers in the future, there is little commentary on the topic. We consider examples like this give support to Council taking a hard line on unnecessary expenditure to ensure it is placed to undertake this work in the future.

ABOUT FEDERATED FARMERS

Federated Farmers is a not-for-profit primary sector policy and advocacy organisation that represents the majority of farming businesses in New Zealand. Federated Farmers has a long and proud history of representing the interests of New Zealand's farmers.

The Federation aims to add value to its members' farming businesses. Our key strategic outcomes include the need for New Zealand to provide an economic and social environment within which:

- Our members may operate their business in a fair and flexible commercial environment;
- Our members' families and their staff have access to services essential to the needs of the rural community; and
- Our members adopt responsible management and environmental practices.

This submission is representative of member views and reflect the fact that local government rating and spending policies impact on our member's daily lives as farmers and members of local communities.

Manawatu/Rangitikei and Whanganui Federated Farmers thanks Rangitikei District Council for considering our submission.

Submission on the Rangitikei District Council Long Term Plan 2021-31

To: Rangitikei District Council
ltp@rangitikei.govt.nz

Submitter: Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei
c/- Anderson Lloyd
PO Box 201
Queenstown 9348
Email: maree.baker-galloway@al.nz; sarah.schulte@al.nz
Phone: 03 335 1213

Introduction

- 1 Interested Residents of Marton and Rangitikei (**IROMAR**) wish to be heard in support of its submission.
- 2 The members of IROMAR are residents and ratepayers of Marton, who wish to see our district grow and flourish but not at the cost of the amenity and environment that make this area a special place to live.
- 3 Firstly we wish to provide some feedback about the consultation process. The draft Long Term Plan (**LTP**) has been provided with little time (only 4 weeks) for ratepayers to consider it together with the numerous supporting documents. The information presented online in the consultation document chose select issues to highlight, presenting options for people to select in an overly simplistic, click box format.
- 4 We understood that further consultation was to be carried out after release of the draft LTP if there was interest. However, at a pre-consultation meeting we were told that there would be no time for this. IROMAR advises it would be interested in further consultation about the draft LTP. The overall impression given by Council is that it does not wish to know the views of the community it serves and to date it is not considered we have been consulted in the true sense of the word.

Summary

- 5 This submission is made in **support** of the proposed:
 - (a) Upgrade to community housing and increase in housing (but not at all costs);
 - (b) Marton to Bulls wastewater transfer; and
 - (c) Marton Civic Centre Development.
- 6 This submission is made in **opposition** to the:
 - (a) Ratepayers paying for 30% of road maintenance where roads are frequently used by heavy vehicles such as logging trucks;

- (b) Proposed Rates increase;
- (c) Council's continued management of Three Waters;
- (d) Community and leisure assets- proposed spend of \$41.5m;
- (e) Community well-being group of activities- lack of transparency.

Housing policy

- 7 IROMAR **supports** Council's proposal to upgrade community housing 2021/2022.
- 8 One of Council's key priorities for economic development is to expand and diversify housing stock. Council says in its draft LTP that it wants to facilitate and promote the increase of housing stock "however it can". This statement by Council is concerning. There are other considerations such as appropriate land use, soil quality and spatial planning. We are seeing a significant amount of development going on in our region and more is proposed. Large tracts of land around Marton are being sold and are in the process of being subdivided.
- 9 Land use is an important issue, especially with the quality soils (LUC1 and LUC2) around the Marton township. The Council appear to have no plan for the development of housing in the area. There needs to be a balance here. There could be better use of existing sites within the town, Marton could easily be more dense/and potentially this approach would benefit existing ratepayers, rather than landowners who surround the town/developers.

Proposed Marton Civic Centre Development

- 10 IROMAR **supports** the redevelopment of the Marton Civic Centre.
- 11 However it is important that the options and costings are fully disclosed to the public. We understand there is to be further consultation on this topic and IROMAR wishes to participate in that process. This project has been ongoing although little or no progress seems to have been made.

Wastewater transfer and Three Waters

- 12 IROMAR **supports** the Marton to Bulls wastewater transfer.
- 13 However we note that this alternative method of wastewater disposal is only required due to a lack of foresight on behalf of Rangitikei District Council and Horizons Regional Council in relation to its decision making around the Bonny Glen landfill.
- 14 The results of the Assessment of Water and Sanitary Services (2018), included in the draft LTP, show that the Marton wastewater treatment plant is non-compliant due to levels of ammoniacal nitrogen, largely due to acceptance of leachate from Bonny Glen landfill and the inability of the existing plant to treat it to the required standard.
- 15 We are aware that the Government has announced a Three Waters reform which could see local government's Three Waters move to another entity under public ownership. The draft LTP states that Council will be asking for the community's views in a separate process. It is our view that Three Waters has not been managed well by the Council and that the process has not been transparent. IROMAR wishes to be involved in that consultation process as it opposes Council continuing to manage this vital resource for the district.

Road maintenance

- 16 The Capital Works programme shows that \$122 million will be spent on roading upgrades. Where there is a need to upgrade roading due to development and it is clear that some businesses will benefit from these upgrades, for example new industrial developments or forestry operations, it seems logical and fair that those who benefit should pay a contribution for those upgrades.
- 17 IROMAR **opposes** a 30% contribution from ratepayers to roading upgrades they will not benefit directly from them.

Rates increase

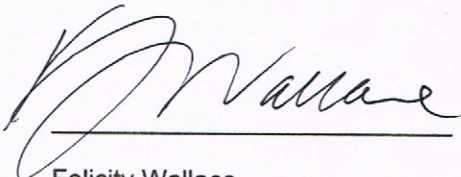
- 18 Rates increases are forecast to range between 6.95% and 8.75% over the next 5 years. Inflation is at 1.5% currently. Council appears to be overlooking that we have a small ratepayer base and there seems to be a disconnect between reality, affordability and fiscal management.
- 19 Five years ago Council had no debt. Now Council has signalled it wishes to raise the debt level bar to a maximum \$91 million with a forecast of \$75 million at year 2. Council should not be overspending and passing on excessive rates increases to its ratepayers.
- 20 IROMAR **opposes** any rates increase beyond 5%.

Community and Leisure assets

- 21 Council proposes to spend \$41.5m on community and leisure assets over the next ten years.
- 22 Council has a poor record of management and development of community leisure assets in recent years. We do not believe that the Council has the capacity to deliver on the proposed programme of works.

Community well-being activities

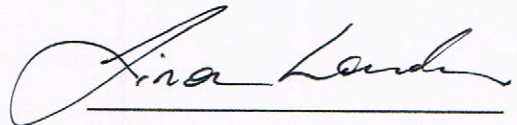
- 23 The Community well-being activities include collaborative partnerships with stakeholders, economic development (including leveraging off new commercial and industrial business) and district promotion. The lack of detail about these activities in the draft LTP, particularly around economic developments, is concerning.
- 24 We feel that large economic developments need to be clearly and separately identified, especially collaborations with other districts and businesses.



Felicity Wallace

On behalf of IROMAR

Dated: 10 May 2021



Simon Loudon

On behalf of IROMAR

Dated: 10 May 2021

Rangitikei District Council Western Residents Group

Kauangaroa-Okirae-Mangatipona-Turakina Valley

1. Background

This group comprises about 20 residents from about 40 different properties in the western Rangitikei, whose properties bound the Whangaehu and Turakina rivers. This area is notable for the fact that it is mainly serviced from Whanganui, which is 20-30 minutes away, rather than Marton or Hunterville. Following a meeting with Mayor Andy Watson late in 2020 and then a further meeting on 17 April 2021, where he updated us on the Long Term Plan and some of the challenges facing the District, the residents wanted to have their say on the Draft Plan.

This area is somewhat unique as it doesn't really identify with Marton, is generally absent in the community meetings for Hunterville and Marton, does not receive the weekly Marton newspaper and generally ignorant of central Rangitikei happenings. There is no local hall and neighbours generally catch up on the road or at school events. This means that we don't use the Marton library or swimming pool, or sports grounds, nor meet locals in supermarkets or businesses except on odd occasions. In fact many of the ratepayer services funded by us are unavailable except for dog registration, building services and roading, which for most of us is the most important service of all.

2. District Challenges

Andy Watson's summation of the issues facing the District were sobering. Apart from the Three Waters debacle and lack of detail, the proposed Community Redevelopments in Marton and Taihape costing \$31 million, plus the usual roading expenditure it looks like we are facing rate increases of 6.95%, 7.25% and 6.5% that are unacceptable.

Added to this are revaluations that are increasing our actual increases to a minimum of 20% for pastoral hill country, with most farms increasing by \$1000 to \$4000 extra on the current years rates. These increases are exacerbated by draft changes to the Revenue and Financing Policy, which drops the UAGC by \$110 and increases the General Rate per \$100 000 capital value, in an effort to make "Residential " rates more affordable. We wonder how these assumptions are made and on what basis, given that the Council doesn't know our income circumstances, other than Stats NZ meshblock statistics. According to the RDC material published, residential rates will increase around \$200, which is not significant when ratepayers not able to connect to the Three Waters will be paying \$283 each SUIP towards those water users costs.

All of these issues are compounded by the probable increase in debt, with around \$65 million being borrowed in the next five years – this from a Council that was largely debt-free a few years ago, and now owes \$3 million.

3. Roding Challenges

This western side of the District suffers from roading challenges mainly based on its geology. Most of the area comprises weakly consolidated sedimentary sands and papa layers with many springs, with steeply incised streams, and suitable road formation material is hard to find. The early roads used Whangaehu River metal which was not ideal, and meant the sub-foundations of many roads are inadequate, with the exception

of Kauangaroa Lower Turakina Valley and part Mangitipona Roads that have now been rehabilitated.

The initial forest harvest in Okirae Rd , plus Mangamahu and Mangahoe Rds have exposed the poor foundations of the original roads, which residents have suffered through because of the reactive nature of the roading administration, and the overnight removal of the Class I, II and III road classifications. Almost all logging trucks these days have HPV stickers, and the metalling trucks and trailers, which carry substantial quantities of aggregate into forests to enable year-round harvest seem to have a disproportional negative effect on corrugations and “soft” patches, as the history of Okirae and Kumiti Roads will attest. There is a good case to impose a 1.5 times roading rate differential for forestry enterprises, given their significant impact on lower-use roads.

The Council’s current roading contractor, Higgins, seems to have a different interpretation of the roading maintenance contract compared with its predecessors. While its metalling, grading and berm mowing operators are generally very competent, maintenance of drainage and water tables is non-existent and minor drop-outs or culvert failures are remediated by placing cones near the hole. While the water-tables have suffered from silt build-up from 4 previous dry years opening up the cracked “massive columnar” yellow-grey earth subsoils, there has been no water table maintenance since the 2015 flood repairs, and now rainflows regularly flow downwards along tire tracks before cascading over road embankments, causing small underslips. It is not clear whether this is a contract issue or contract management failure, but it will lead to expensive emergency repairs, loss of roading metal, and damage to land adjoining the road reserve. Presumably the contractor will benefit from a special contract to repair what was a small maintenance job.

Residents are also disappointed with the time and cost taken to repair the “McLeay dropout” just downstream of the Turakina river bridge on Mangitipona Road. Given that that section of road has highway traffic on it 2-4 times a year when serious accident diversions from SH 3 are required, we would expect more timely intervention, particularly from Waka Kotahi.

4. Rates and Valuations

The September 2020 revaluation has resulted in substantial increases in Capital Values, especially for northern and western farms, mainly for pastoral farms with CV’s in excess of \$500 000. Dairy and cropping/finishing farms have not moved as much, having lifted at the previous revaluation. While such movements occur from time to time, this one is substantial, both in terms of percentage lift, and proportion of the District. Like Residential increases in the southern towns, they may be indicative of national price movements driven primarily by increased demand and poor housing supply, although for farms the demand has been for forestry conversion/carbon credits and some bee-keeper demand.

Farmer profitability has not changed significantly and nor is there expectations of serious uplift in incomes, while expenses seem likely to increase, and interest rates may only move one way. Usually value increases of this sort are associated with beef or lamb prices increasing substantially, but Covid 19 supply and shipping issues are constraining processor supplies to overseas markets. Freshwater regulations and climate change initiatives are also leaving farmers hesitant about future costs.

So it is with some surprise that we find our Council wants to saddle farmers with substantial rates increases varying from 15 to 90%, in an effort to keep rates “affordable” for residential ratepayers. Council and its staff don’t specify on what basis rates for residents or farmers are considered affordable or unaffordable, but the Draft LTP alters

the UAGC and General Rate amounts so as to achieve a significant loading on higher valued properties. The Council's rate system shows that for many farms increases will be in \$1000 to \$4000 range for 2021/22. Unlike businesses and industries in town, farmers cannot pass these rate rises on to their customers, as they are "price-takers", and processors must compete with other countries to sell farm products overseas, where most of our product is sold. Any increase in farm costs comes off the bottom line, and is not available for reinvestment or spending within our community.

We urge to Council to rejig the Draft LTP by cutting proposed project expenditure and using the Revenue and Financing Policy to achieve a fairer outcome for all residents and ratepayers. The substantial borrowings anticipated will mean rates must surely increase out past the 10 year Plan horizon, and interest rates cannot be expected to continue at their present historically low rates.

Consideration should also be given to introducing a differential rate based on smoothing the three-yearly Rateable valuation cycle to ease these aberrations. Would it be possible to amend the Capital Values on a rolling 3 year basis to reduce the peaks and troughs that cause the angst in the community? So effectively there would be a gradual change through the 3 years much as the Equalised Capital Value that Horizons uses to smooth variations between its constituent TLA's. However there needs to be more finesse than that system uses which seems to use just total CV for the District.

Given that Quotable Value has all the information that is required already, it would require an algorithm that brings in value changes on a regular basis, and applies that to each category of valuation in time to strike rates for the 1 July year. Such a system is not impossible given the amount of information able to be processed these days.

5. Recommendations to Council

- 5.1** That Council reviews and amends its proposed project timetable to achieve rate increases consistent with the CPI inflation index and preferably less than 3%.
- 5.2** That Council increases the UAGC to \$700.00 per SUIP and makes consequential changes to the General Rate reflecting the increased UAGC contribution to General Rates.
- 5.3** That the Draft LTP (including the Revenue and Financing Policy) shows which activities or parts of activities will be funded by UAGC and which will be funded by General Rates. This implies that the UAGC will show dollar amounts for the activities funded by it.
- 5.4** That the Draft LTP includes a differential forestry roading rate set at 1.5 times the normal roading rate.
- 5.5** That the LTP specifies on what criteria the Council will assess "affordability" before it modifies any rates. This requires information in excess of what is currently shown in the Revenue and Financing Policy.
- 5.6** That Council provides more rating comparisons for each category of ratepayer, and prior to releasing the Draft Plan annually.
- 5.7** That Council pressures Waka Kotahi to amend its policies with respect to rural roading to achieve better road condition and safety on low use rural roads, and does not extend the reseal interval as proposed.
- 5.8** That the Council Roding managers review the performance of the contractors in relation to maintenance, particularly watertables and culverts, making changes to the Contract as necessary and improving its auditing of contractor performance.

- 5.9** That Council investigate alternative differentials to achieve less variation in the Capital Value basis for rating by smoothing or constantly updating valuation information to reduce extreme annual rate increases or decreases.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Draft Long Term Plan.

We would like to be heard at the Council Hearing please.

Tim Matthews

On behalf of the Kauangaroa-Okirae-Mangatipona-Turakina Valley residents.

Nick Tripe

Mike and Cath Cranstone

Murray and Jo Stewart

Robert Stewart

Jeremy Austin

Andy and Nicky Pearce

Duncan Matthews

Duncan and Christine Phinn

Raf and Teresa Somerville

Julie and Steve McLeay

Alistair McLeay

Ron and Marilyn Kerwin

Paul and Dianne Holloway

Tim Matthews



LTP 2021-2031 - Online Submission

Submitter Details:

Date submitted: **5/10/2021 5:04:52 AM**

Ingoa/Name: **Gretta Mills**

Tōpūtanga/Organisation (if applicable):

Kāinga noho/Address:

Īmēra/Email:

Waea/Phone:

Speak to your submission: **Please_tick_this_box_if_you_wou**

Key Choices:

Should we set up free Wifi zones? **Option_3**

Do you have a comment about free Wifi Zones?

Comment:

Providing additional free wifi zones are an inappropriate use of ratepayer funds.

Most basic phone plans these days provide sufficient access for everyday use. There is already free wifi access available in local libraries, computer hubs and information centres. Some local cafes, restaurants and businesses also provide free wifi for 'guests'.

I strongly object to providing free internet access at the Memorial Hall site. Parents and supervisors should be playing with and supervising children at the new playground- not playing with their phones!

Should we invest in the Taihape Grandstand? **Option_1***

Do you have a comment about investing in the Taihape Grandstand?

Comment:

The Taihape Community has been messed about enough already by council decisions that involved deciding to build a new 'stand alone' amenities building but ignored the plight and future use of the Taihape Grandstand

How should we fund Economic Development? **Option_2**

Do you have a comment on how we should fund Economic Development?

Comment:

The economic development fund should not be increased!



LTP 2021-2031 - Online Submission

Why does the Council not have up-to date information about local businesses, town centres and primary producers? This information (most of it readily available online) should be a crucial data set of Council and be available to ratepayers, new residents and/or businesses who wish to meet local needs, establish new enterprises and/or innovation in our communities.

Why hasn't this information already been compiled by Project Marton or Council staff. I'm sure that the ratepayer has paid many times over the years for this information to be collated, analysed and reported. How has the Council staff and elected members been making fully informed decisions without this crucial data?

If the work has never been compiled then existing funding should be used to develop this baseline. Once the basic data set has been established then it should be regularly updated as new statistics and other information become available.

Should we increase Event Sponsorship? **Option_1***

Do you have a comment on increasing Event Sponsorship?

Comment:

Events sponsorship in the Rangitikei used to be funded at a much higher level than \$25,000. Unfortunately, a previous CEO many years ago decided to severely reduce this funding (from approx \$60,000?) and deprived multiple community event groups from accessing this vital financial support!

Should we join the LGFA as a guaranteeing member? **Option_2**

Do you have a comment about joining the LGFA?

Comment:

The risk of being a Guarantor for all the other 60 Councils of the LGFA greatly outweighs the Councils' wish to borrow more than \$20,000!

The Rangitikei District Council should learn to live within its ratepayer's means i.e. not in-debt us with more than \$20 million. This is especially true when the Council has failed to proceed with large proportions of funded, agreed works in the previous financial year 1 July 2019- 30 June 2020. The Covid 19 emergency and lockdown only impacted on the last 3-4 months of that financial year!

The risk of our Council/other irresponsible Councils defaulting on LGFA loans is high so we should not become a Guarantor for this scheme. It is too risky a burden for Rangitikei approximately 7800 ratepayers.

We've proposed a change to our rating system.



LTP 2021-2031 - Online Submission

The Council's rationale is really unclear/unstated as to how they decided that Commercial, Industrial and Utilities rateable properties will pay more?

Is it because Commercial, Industrial and Utilities ratepayers can claim the GST component of their rates while Residential ratepayers can't or, is it something else?

Anything else?

1. Development Contributions- the lack of (mentioned in Draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2021

2. Three water funding & opposed to the excessive borrowing proposed (mentioned in the Draft Revenue and Financing Policy 2021)

Privacy Act 2020

Please_tick_here_if_you_want_yo



6 May 2021

Mayor Andy Watson
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Private Bag 1102
Marton 4741

Emailed to: ltp@rangitikei.govt.nz

Dear Andy

Submission from the Manawatū District Council to the Rangitikei District Council's Draft Long Term Plan 2021-2031

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Rangitikei District Council's (RDC's) Draft Long Term Plan (Draft LTP) 2021-2031. This submission is generally in support of the Draft LTP but includes some matters of particular interest to the Manawatū District Council (MDC) and wider Manawatū community.

Shared Services Arrangement

As noted in the Draft LTP, RDC has a Shared Services agreement with MDC for the provision of Infrastructure Services, including capital project delivery, water and wastewater treatment, network maintenance and operations and new development engineering. This Shared Services agreement is in place for the mutual benefit of both Councils through greater efficiencies and sharing of skilled staff.

In light of the uncertainty associated with the Three Waters Reform, there is an even greater need for RDC and MDC to work together in a cooperative and open manner. This will ensure that this Shared Services agreement continues to meet the needs of both Councils in a fair and transparent way.

Decision sought:

- That RDC work with MDC to ensure that the Shared Services agreement for the provision of Infrastructure Services continues to achieve mutual benefits and efficiencies.

Centralised Wastewater Treatment

MDC wishes to reiterate its support for the Marton to Bulls centralisation project. Our submission on the Draft LTP 2018-2028 included support for the proposed piping of Marton's wastewater to Bulls. This support was on the basis of this being the most cost-effective solution for the management of Marton and Bull's wastewater, as well as the water quality benefits of ending wastewater discharges to the Tutaenui Stream. Based on the Infrastructure Strategy, we understand that Council is yet to consider a detailed business case for the Marton to Bulls wastewater transfer pipeline project, but this project is still considered to be the most likely scenario for the disposal of wastewater from Marton and Bulls.

Decision sought:

- That RDC progress the development of the detailed business case for the Marton to Bulls wastewater transfer pipeline project to ensure the economic and environmental benefits of this project are realised.

Increased Funding for Economic Development and Events

MDC supports the RDC's preferred option of increasing economic development funding by \$172,000 in Year 1 and \$122,500 per year from Year 2 onwards; and for increasing event sponsorship by a further \$25,000 per year. Increased economic development in the Rangitikei District will have spin-off benefits for the economic prosperity of the Manawātū District and wider region. Likewise, MDC agrees that increased funding for events is important for ensuring their long term sustainability. As well as contributing to the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the Rangitikei community, events benefit the wider region by boosting tourism and economic development.

Decisions sought:

- That the preferred option of increasing RDC's economic development funding by \$172,000 in Year 1 and \$122,500 per year from Year 2 onwards is supported and retained in the LTP as drafted (key choice 3, option 1).
- That the preferred option of increasing the annual Event Sponsorship Fund from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year be supported and retained in the LTP as drafted (key choice 4, option 1).

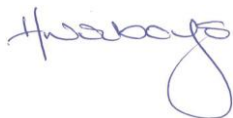
Local Government Funding Agency Membership

MDC supports RDC's preferred option of joining the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) as a guaranteeing local authority (key choice 5, option 1). As noted in the consultation document, membership with the LGFA would increase RDC's borrowing options for the funding of future projects. MDC benefits from membership with the LGFA for the funding of its capital projects.

Decision sought:

- That the preferred option of becoming a guaranteeing member of the LGFA is supported and retained in the LTP as drafted.

Yours sincerely



Helen Worboys
Mayor

On behalf of the Manawātū District Council