



**ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL**
Te Kaunihera o ngā Roto o Rotorua

Kaupapataka Agenda

NOTICE OF A MEETING OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Date: Wednesday 4 September 2024

Time: 9:30 am

Venue: Council Chamber

MEMBERSHIP

Chair

Cr Barker

Members

Cr Wang (Deputy Chair)

Cr Kai Fong

Cr O'Brien

Cr Paterson

Cr Brown

Mayor Tapsell

Cr Maxwell

Cr Kereopa

Cr Lee

Cr Waru

Quorum

6

**Andrew Moraes
Chief Executive**

**NGĀ TUKUNGA HAEPAPA A TE KAUNIHERA
INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT DELEGATIONS**

Type of Committee	Whole of Council Committee
Subordinate to	N/A
Subordinate Committees	N/A
Legislative Basis	Schedule 7, clause 30 (1) (a), Local Government Act 2002.
Purpose	To develop, implement, monitor and review strategies, policies, plans and functions associated with Infrastructure and environment activities.
Membership	Mayor Deputy Mayor All councillors
Quorum	6
Meeting frequency	Monthly
Delegations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee the management of council’s infrastructure assets, utility services and public facilities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation • Three waters • Land drainage • Laboratory services • Waste collection, landfill, recycling • Sports, Reserves and Recreation • Cemetery • Civil Defence Emergency Management • Accountable for the development and implementation of the Infrastructure Strategy, Asset Management Plan and inputs on infrastructure related projects associated with Development Contributions Policy • Oversight of progress of design and build projects such as, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Waste water treatment plant ○ Sewerage schemes (Rotoiti/Rotoma/Rotoehu, Tarawera) ○ Development of major facilities for example Museum, Aquatic Centre, Libraries ○ Water storage and drainage for growth ○ Infrastructure provision for growth ○ Major transport projects, cycleways ○ Reticulation of water supplies • Undertake master planning of strategic facilities and spaces • Encourage engagement with organisations within the sector to consider environmental matters including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Climate change response, both mitigation and adaptation ○ Biodiversity ○ Waste Minimisation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environmentally sustainable practices ○ Environmental aspects of energy, transport and water ○ Monitoring and reporting against action within the Climate Action Plan ○ Monitor Council’s contribution to the Te Arawa Vision (specifically in relation to Infrastructure and Environment outcomes) ○ The provision and maintenance of facilities and space for the general use of the public for recreation of all kinds including sporting activities, passive enjoyment, open spaces, play areas, toilets and changing sheds, flower beds, trees and shrubs, and display areas ○ The production of Management Plans and the general management of reserves in compliance with the Reserves Act 1977 and the general administration of the Reserves Act 1977 with the exception of the Hearings of Objections to the Classification of Reserves and Management Plans ○ The leasing of recreational land for commercial recreational purposes ○ The beautification of public gardens and parks ○ Street trees ● Council controlled organisations (CCO’s) - advising on the content of the annual Statement of Expectations, agreement on Statement of Intent, monitoring against the Statement of Intent the financial and non-financial performance of CCO’s ● Make appointments and authority to remove appointments to Council-Controlled Organisations (CCO’s).
<p>Relevant Statutes</p>	<p>All the duties and responsibilities listed above must be carried out in accordance with the relevant legislation.</p>

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1 KARAKIA WHAKAPUAKI – OPENING KARAKIA

Tūtawa Mai

Tūtawa mai i runga

Tūtawa mai i raro

Tūtawa mai i roto

Tūtawa mai i waho

Kia tau ai te mauri tū

Te mauri ora, ki te katoa

Hāumi e. Hui e. Tāiki e!

Tūtawa Mai

I summon from above

I summon from below

I summon from within

I summon the surrounding environment

The universal vitality and energy to infuse and enrich all present

Enriched, unified and blessed

2 NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA – APOLOGIES

The Chair invites notice from members of:

1. Leave of absence for future meetings of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee; or
2. Apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting, where leave of absence has not previously been granted.

3 WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

4 NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE - URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Items of business not on the agenda which cannot be delayed

The Chair will give notice of items not on the agenda as follows:

Matters Requiring Urgent Attention as Determined by Resolution of Rotorua Lakes Council

The Chair shall state to the meeting.

1. The reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
2. The reason why discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

The item may be allowed onto the agenda by resolution of the Rotorua Lakes Council.

s.46A (7), LGOIMA

Discussion of minor matters not on the agenda.

Minor Matters relating to the General Business of the Rotorua Lakes Council.

The Chair shall state to the meeting that the item will be discussed, but no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of the item except to refer it to a subsequent meeting of the Rotorua Lakes Council for further discussion

s.46A (7), LGOIMA

5 TE WHAKAŪ I NGĀ MENETI - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

5.1 MINUTES OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 AUGUST 2024

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee Meeting held 7 August 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

Minutes

Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting
held Wednesday 7 August 2024 at 9:30 am
Council Chamber, Rotorua Lakes Council

- MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Barker (Chair)
Cr Wang (Deputy Chair), Cr Kai Fong, Mayor Tapsell, Cr O'Brien,
Cr Brown (via Zoom), Cr Paterson, Cr Kereopa, Cr Lee, Cr Waru.
- APOLOGIES: Cr Maxwell, Cr Kereopa (lateness).
- IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Bird, Petitioner;
Sarah Dewes, Petitioner.
- STAFF PRESENT: A Moraes, Chief Executive;
J-P Gaston, Group Manager, Community and District Development;
S Michael, Group Manager, Infrastructure and Environmental Solutions;
T Collé, Group Manager, Corporate Services;
O Hopkins, Executive Director, Corporate Planning and Governance;
G Kieck, Manager - Corporate Strategy and Planning;
N Michael, Senior Communications Advisor;
R Griffith, Governance Support Advisor;
S Main, Communications Advisor;
D Cossar, Governance & Democracy Manager;
S Rowley, Property Manager;
S Brown, Manager, Events, Culture, heritage and Mahi Toi.

The meeting opened at 9.30am.

The Chairperson welcomed elected members, media, staff and members of the public.

1 KARAKIA WHAKAPUAKI – OPENING KARAKIA

Cr Kai Fong opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 NGĀ WHAKAPĀHA – APOLOGIES

RESOLVED IE 24/08-018

Moved: Cr Waru

Seconded: Cr O'Brien

1. That the apologies from Cr Trevor Maxwell, and Cr Lani Kereopa for lateness be accepted.

CARRIED

3 WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Wang noted a precieved non-financial conflict of interest for item 8.2.

4 NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE – URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

5 TE WHAKAŪ I NGĀ MENETI - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**5.1 MINUTES OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3 JULY 2024****RESOLVED IE 24/08-019**

Moved: Cr Wang

Seconded: Cr Waru

- 1. That the minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee Meeting held 3 July 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

CARRIED

6 HE PUKA INOI TŪMATAWHĀNUI – PUBLIC PETITIONS**6.1 TE ATAWHAI AROHA PETITION**

Richard Bird and Sarah Dewes tabled and spoke to the petition (attachment 1).

The Chair thanked the petitioners.

At 9:37 am, Cr Kereopa joined the meeting.

7 PŪRONGO KAIMAHI – STAFF REPORTS**7.1 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRESS REPORT****RESOLVED IE 24/08-020**

Moved: Cr Kai Fong

Seconded: Cr O'Brien

- 1. That the report 'Infrastructure and Environment Progress Report' be received.**

CARRIED

Stavros Michael and Rob Pitkethley overviewed the report.

Action Point:

- Cr Paterson and Cr Lee requested that a map showing water supply areas proposed for flouridation be circulated to Councillors.

7.2 MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE
<p>RESOLVED IE 24/08-021</p> <p>Moved: Cr O'Brien Seconded: Cr Wang</p> <p>1. That the report 'Major Capital Projects Update' be received.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>

Thomas Collé and Stewart Brown overviewed the report.

Action Point:

- Following a question from Cr Paterson, the Chief Executive will extend an invitation to the New Zealand Transport Agency for Councillors to provide feedback on State Highway funding in the district.

8 HE WHAKATAUNGA KIA HOKI ATU TE ARONGA O TE HUI HAI HUI TŪMATAWHĀNUI – RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED (TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS)

<p>RESOLVED IE 24/08-022</p> <p>Moved: Cr Waru Seconded: Cr Kai Fong</p> <p>1. That Infrastructure and Environment Committee resolves to exclude the public on the grounds contained in Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act:</p>		
General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
8.1 - Confidential Minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee Meeting held on 3 July 2024	Please refer to the relevant clause/s in the open meeting minutes.	Good reason for withholding exists under Section 48(1)(a).
8.2 - Tender approval for Contract 24-006 Geothermal Bores 2024 Rotorua Lakes Council (Separable Portion 1 & 2)	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
CARRIED		

9 TE KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Kereopa closed the meeting with a karakia.

The Meeting closed at 11.44am.

To be confirmed at the Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on 4 September 2024.

Note:-Rotorua Lakes Council is the operating name of Rotorua District Council

ATTACHMENT 1 – Te Atawhai Aroha Petition and Pamphlet



Te Atawhai Aroha

Compassionate Communities Rotorua Trust
Supporting whānau led end-of-life and death care

PETITION: We, the undersigned request that the Rotorua Lakes Council establish a natural burial cemetery for the public of Rotorua.		
Name	Email address	Signature
Tina Grant	[REDACTED]	
Gillian Trout	[REDACTED]	
Lynette David	[REDACTED]	
Stephanie Hutchins	[REDACTED]	
Rebecca Letto	[REDACTED]	
Stella Kihari	[REDACTED]	
Kristal Heta	[REDACTED]	
Hera Preece	[REDACTED]	
Katawaina Wihongi	[REDACTED]	
Sarah Trenwith	[REDACTED]	
Shene Sullivan	[REDACTED]	
Pippa van Paanen	[REDACTED]	
Carol Wales	[REDACTED]	
Sarah Carberry	[REDACTED]	

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Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Tony Wilkopi	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
PELURUKA WAKIRIKI		[Signature]
Tini Peri		[Signature]
Pariata Kohurangi		[Signature]
Jellmaia Whare		[Signature]
Rupia Tamura		[Signature]
Reina Engelen		[Signature]
Te Pora Ashmore		[Signature]
MAREWA WHIRI		[Signature]
Hakana Clayton-Evans		[Signature]
Emma Hawira		[Signature]
Honor Vercoe		[Signature]
JOHANNE WHILLIS		[Signature]

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Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Joe Curtis		
Reese Walker		
Tuini Walker		
Atamira Walker		
Titoki Shelford		
CREA Gillies		
JONE Lesi		
Atawhai Gillies		
YVONNE LIKI		
Kahu Ehou		
Glenys Courtney-Strachan		
Douglas Courtney		
Kathleen Whiripo		

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Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Sheena		
Iti Pou		
Linda Tait		
Stacey Grey		
Loxley McGregor		
Rherra Tait		
Tracy Naha		
Andre Naha Andre Naha		
Hone Messis		
Margaret Coutney		
Maxine Court		
Raika Ratapu		
Abaka-May Daniels		
Rivay O'Donnell		
Keratuani		

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Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Jane Matua		
Mahora Messy		
Danny Matua		Danny Matua
Brian Mastell		
JUSTINE ESPOSITO Māmāhī - ESPOSITO		
Tina Carlson		Tina Carlson
Karen Trevithick		Karen
Ann Ester		Ann Ester
LEONIE NICHOLLS		
Bibi Clarke		
DENISE AITKEN		
Kate Ryan		Kate Ryan
Karina Redford		
Mattie Lynn		
Rachel White		



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Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Chloe Bangs		
MARIA MARIOTTI		
Rosemary Kibbikihite		
Landy Simmons		
Lynne Luke		
Steve Chadwick		
Geoff Rice		
Ali Rice		
Ana May		
Hera Pierce		
CAROL M ^o ALLUM		
Mary-Anne Crompton		
Eva Tait - Kaitapu		
Nancy Kawhimate Tait		
John TAPIATA		

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Petition: We, the undersigned request that the Rotorua Lakes Council establish a natural burial cemetery for the public of Rotorua.		
Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Helen Harris	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Lynette Walmsley	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Sarah Jones	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Lynette David	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Garth Wright	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Joanne Dillon	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Pania Rogg	[Redacted]	[Signature]
John Armstrong	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Richard Bird	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Blair Gilbert	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Amy Spaidle	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Milla Bruce	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Yvonne Langridge	[Redacted]	[Signature]
Alfred Hoyle	[Redacted]	[Signature]

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Compassionate Communities Rotorua Trust
Supporting whānau led end-of-life and death care

Petition: We, the undersigned request that the Rotorua Lakes Council establish a natural burial cemetery for the public of Rotorua.

Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Manaaki Vercoe	[REDACTED]	
Tamaki Courtney	[REDACTED]	
Vanessa Coles-Wiki	[REDACTED]	
Denise Aitken	[REDACTED]	

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Petition: We, the undersigned request that the Rotorua Lakes Council establish a natural burial cemetery for the public of Rotorua.

Name	Rotorua address	Signature
Freddy-Ray Collier	[REDACTED]	
Shianne Kobi		
Cyrus Hingston		

ATTACHMENT 1 – Te Atawhai Aroha Petition and Pamphlet



The pamphlet features a light-colored woven texture background. At the top left is a circular portrait of a man in a blue shirt with a logo. Below it is a quote from Alamein Tawa. To the right is a circular portrait of a woman, with a quote from Bella Moke below it. Further right is a circular portrait of a man, with a quote from Oliver Bruce below it. The bottom section has a dark background with a large circular logo, contact information, and the Rotorua Trust logo.

“Networking with her allowed me to understand the Kopaki process”
- Alamein Tawa

“Really appreciative of the opportunity to hear and to discuss this once taboo subject.”
- Bella Moke

“Learning how to bring Dad home was empowering and made all the difference to our family as we grieved.”
- Oliver Bruce

Te Atawhai Aroha
Compassionate Communities Rotorua Trust

We want to live in a world where every person, every whānau and community has the capacity and knowledge to uphold the mana of people who are losing their independence, dying or grieving.

Enabling Family/Whānau led affordable, eco-friendly funeral/tangihanga

Follow us on  **ComComRotorua**

Contact us
E. comcomrotorua@gmail.com

Thanks to: 
Rotorua Trust
MO TAU KATOA

ATTACHMENT 1 – Te Atawhai Aroha Petition and Pamphlet



Our Trustees (left to right): Lyall Thurston, Cathy Cooney, Richard Bird, Denise Aitken, Steve Chadwick, Nancy Tait, Maria Oliver, Lynette Wainmsley, Ngamaru Roerino, Missing: Rev. Tom Poata.

Who are we?

A not-for-profit group of volunteers working together to build whānau and community preparedness for death, loss and grief.



Our Values:

- Kia mauri tau: Be present with compassion and empathy
- Kia atawhai: Be of service to our community
- Kia tu rangatira: Act with integrity and treat others with dignity
- Kia tupurua: Develop through research, education and reflection
- Kia tūtuhongia: Connect and collaborate

Why is this needed?

- Loss of knowledge and Tikanga
- Loss of choice
- Low levels of death literacy (the knowledge and skills that people need to make it possible to gain access to, understand, and make informed choices about end of life and deathcare options)
- Funeral poverty "people can't afford to die" - Katie, founder of The Coffin Club, Rotorua

We want everyone to:

Tino Rangātrātanga

- plan ahead
- be confident to care
- know what to do
- be able to access support and equipment
- reclaim knowledge/tikanga
- know about natural burial options

TO ENABLE FAMILY LED AFFORDABLE, ECO-FRIENDLY FUNERAL/TANGIHANGA

Supporting whānau led end-of-life and death care

What are we doing

- Promoting advance care planning
- Collaborating with community groups, health agencies and hospice, local NGO's and government agencies
- Networking with similar groups regionally and nationally
- Facilitating workshops and seminars
- Establishing grief and loss groups
- Providing resources and education to support Whānau before, during and after death and burials
- Advocating for a local natural burial site and people's right to choose
- Making submissions

6 NGĀ TĀPAETANGA - PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

7 PŪRONGO KAIMAHI – STAFF REPORTS

7.1 LOCAL WATER DONE WELL

Prepared by: Russell George, Director, Infrastructure & Environmental Solutions

Approved by: Stavros Michael, Group Manager, Infrastructure and Environmental Solutions

Attachments: Nil

1. TE PŪTAKE PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the status of the Government's 'Local Water Done Well' reform programme and seek Council's agreement on the direction to be taken in formulating the "Draft Water Services Delivery Plan" required by anticipated legislation.

The report seeks elected member endorsement of the intention to advise the Government (in due course) that Rotorua Lakes Council proposes to respond to the proposed requirements of the "Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill" by formulating its own Water Services Delivery Plan.

HE TŪTOHUNGA

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report 'Local Water Done Well' be received.

2. That the Committee notes that Rotorua Lakes Council are proceeding on the basis that the Draft Water Services Delivery Plan be prepared based on retaining in-house delivery as its preferred service delivery model.

2. TE TĀHUHU BACKGROUND

Local Water Done Well is the Government's plan to address New Zealand's identified water infrastructure challenges. The key principles of Local Water Done Well are:

- Greater central government oversight, economic and quality regulation.
- Fit-for-purpose service delivery models and financing tools, such as improving the current council-controlled organisation model and developing a new class of financially separate council-owned organisation.

- Setting rules for water services and infrastructure investment.
- Ensuring water services are financially sustainable. Financial sustainability means revenue sufficiency, balance sheet separation, ring-fencing and funding for growth.

The new framework for water services delivery comprises 3 pieces of legislation.

1. The *Water Services Acts Repeal Act 2024* which repealed the proposed 10 water services entities and confirmed that Council's will continue to own and be responsible for water services.
2. The *Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill* (introduced in early June 2024) which "sets out the preliminary arrangements to put water services infrastructure on the path to long-term financial sustainability", and requires Council to:
 - Provide transparent information about the current state of water services
 - Set out proposals to achieve financially sustainable water services that meet regulatory standards

This Bill will require Council to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan within 12 months of the Bill's enactment. The overarching purpose of the Plans is for councils, (individually or jointly) to publicly demonstrate their intention and commitment to deliver water services in ways that are financially sustainable, meet regulatory quality standards for water network infrastructure and water quality, and unlock housing growth.

Territorial Local Authorities (TLA's) will also have to show how they will fund and finance long-term investment in water infrastructure, including renewals and operating costs.

Through the development of these Plans, councils will provide an assessment of their water infrastructure, how much they need to invest, and how they plan to finance and deliver it through their preferred service delivery model. The Plan includes the ringfencing of water services and revenue from other council activities. The Plans can also be prepared jointly, and so provide an opportunity for councils to have conversations with other councils about joint arrangements for water services delivery.

This Bill will also provide for streamlined consultation and decision-making processes for setting up council-controlled organisations that deliver water services.

3. The *Local Government Water Services (Transitional Provisions) Bill* will make available to councils a range of structural and financing tools to use for water services including a new class of financially independent council owned organisations and service delivery models and provide for the necessary economic regulation. The Bill will also contain a bespoke set of consultation and decision-making arrangements. Policy decisions were announced by the Minister in August 2024 and the Bill is expected to be introduced in December 2024 and passed in mid-2025.

The pertinent changes of the proposed legislation are:

- An expanded range of water services delivery models including new water organisations that can be owned by councils and/or consumer trusts. They are intended to be financially independent from their council owners from a credit rating perspective. Councils may design their own alternative arrangements, as long as the arrangements meet minimum requirements. These include meeting regulatory standards, financial sustainability requirements such as ringfencing of water services, and restrictions against privatisation. There will be additional requirements for water organisations to ensure they are operated and governed effectively.
- New financing options for councils. The New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) will provide financing to support water council-controlled organisations (CCO's) that are financially supported by their parent council/s. The LGFA will support leverage for water organisations up to a level equivalent to 500% of operating revenues (around twice that of existing councils), subject to water organisations meeting prudent credit criteria. The LGFA will treat borrowing by water organisations separate from borrowing by their supporting parent council/s.
- There will be a new economic regulation regime for local government water service providers, implemented by the Commerce Commission. The regime will ensure that revenue collected by local government water service providers through rates or water charges is being spent on the level of water infrastructure needed.

The following timeline sets out the reform programme.

	Next 6 months (Jul-Dec 2024)	Jan-Jun 2025	Jul-Dec 2025		Jan-Jun 2026	Jul-Sep 2026
Water service delivery arrangements	Councils can establish new water organisations allowed under existing legislation		Councils can establish new water models through legislation			
			Minimum requirements for local government water services providers in effect			
Water Services Delivery Plans (WSDPs)	Councils develop WSDPs		Submit WSDPs to DIA for review and acceptance (Aug-Nov 2025)	Councils publish accepted WSDPs (Nov 2025)		
					DIA shares accepted WSDPs with Commerce Commission and Taumatua Arowai	
					DIA monitor WSDPs Implementation Plan (Nov 2025 until complete)	

Figure 1: Local Water Done Well Timeline

The timeframe for developing a Water Services Delivery Plan is set out in the following table.

Activity	Indicative timing / milestone
DIA releases Plan guidance	August 2024 Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill enacted
DIA/council check-in(s) to monitor progress	Throughout the 12-month timeframe for preparing the Plan (following Bill enactment)
Councils submit final Plan to DIA	Within 12 months (of Bill enactment)
DIA accepts the Plan meets statutory requirements or refers back to council(s) for further work	Following submission of Plan
Council publishes Plan on council website	Once Plan is accepted by DIA

**3. TE MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA
DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS**

The Local Water Done Well reform confirms that Council’s will continue to own and be responsible for water services. Council retains its ability to decide on its appropriate service delivery model and the choices available to councils include:

- Whether to deliver water services in-house or establish a water organisation
- Whether to deliver services on a stand-alone basis or establish a joint arrangement with other councils
- How to structure ownership and governance arrangements for any water organisation, and
- How to set up water organisations to facilitate access to long-term borrowing for water infrastructure.

Overview of options for service delivery models

<p>1. Internal business unit or division</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status quo for many councils • Minimum requirements for water service providers will apply • New financial sustainability, ringfencing rules, and economic regulation will apply
<p>2. Single council-owned water organisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New company established, 100% owned by the council • Financial sustainability rules will apply, but retains a financial link to the council • Councils with existing water council-controlled organisations will be required to meet minimum requirements
<p>3. Multi-council owned water organisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New company established with multi-council ownership • Appointment of a Board through shareholder council (or similar body) is advisable but not a statutory requirement • Option to access Local Government Funding Agency finance with the provision of parent support or to create a more financially independent organisation
<p>4. Mixed council/consumer trust owned</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumer trust established to own majority of shares • Mixed ownership, with one or more councils owning minority of shares • Structure enables financially independent organisation to be established while retaining minority council ownership
<p>5. Consumer Trust owned</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council transfers assets to consumer trust owned organisation • Consumers elect trustees to represent their interests in the organisation • Most financially independent of the available models

The following analysis assesses the service delivery options against the following criteria:

- The ability of Council to control the service delivery
- Maintaining strong links to other Council planning such as District Planning and Spatial Planning (Future Development Strategy)
- The link to mana whenua and community
- The ability to fund the activity (including the ability to raise debt)
- Economies of scale

All of the options, in effect, ring-fence the delivery of water services and revenue from other council activities.

Current Financial Situation

The following financial data is taken from Council’s 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan. This illustrates the effect of ring fencing the three waters activities from the rest of council operations. The level of debt to income for the three waters activities is significantly higher than for the rest of council activities.

Year 1 2024/25	Total Council (Status quo) \$million	3 Waters only (within council) \$million	Non 3 Waters (within council) \$million
Debt	\$479	\$180	\$299
Income	\$211	\$53	\$158
Expenses	\$190	\$39	\$152
Asset Value	\$2,051	\$953	\$1,098
Debt to income ratio	227%	340%	189%
Debt to asset value ratio	23%	19%	27%

Year 10 2033/34	Total Council (Status quo) \$million	3 Waters only (within council) \$million	Non 3 Waters (within council) \$million
Debt	\$560	\$227	\$333
Income	\$276	\$82	\$194
Expenses	\$268	\$54	\$214
Asset Value	\$2,803	\$1,190	\$1,614
Debt to income ratio	203%	278%	171%
Debt to asset value ratio	20%	19%	21%

The 2024-2034 Long Term Plan includes estimated forward capital expenditure, and associated funding, of \$48.3 million. There is significantly higher expenditure in the early years of the plan which includes the upgrade of the wastewater treatment plant, conveyance and disposal, the extension of sewer networks and systems to service unreticulated lakeside communities, stormwater reticulation capacity and quality enhancements to address local flooding as well as environmental impacts and the expansion of water supply networks for growth in urban areas.

The water supply network is also anticipated to be expanded to cover the requirements for currently unreticulated zones over the life of the 30-year Infrastructure Strategy.

The level of capital expenditure required from 2034-2054 (i.e. the balance of the 30-year infrastructure strategy) averages \$16.8 million p.a (uninflated).

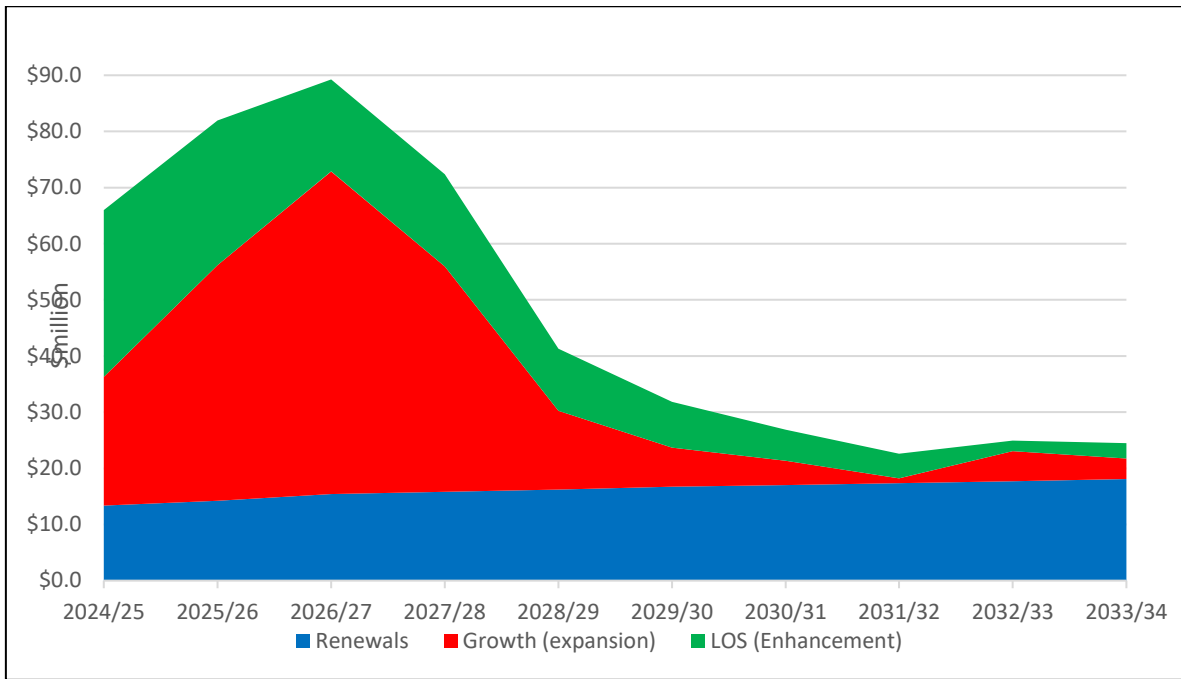


Figure 2: Estimated Capital Expenditure 2024-2054

Operating expenses (payments to staff, suppliers), interest expense, depreciation and overhead increase from \$53 million in 2025 to \$77 million in 2034 (a 46% increase). Interest Expense has the highest level of growth, increasing 78% from \$8 million to \$14 million.

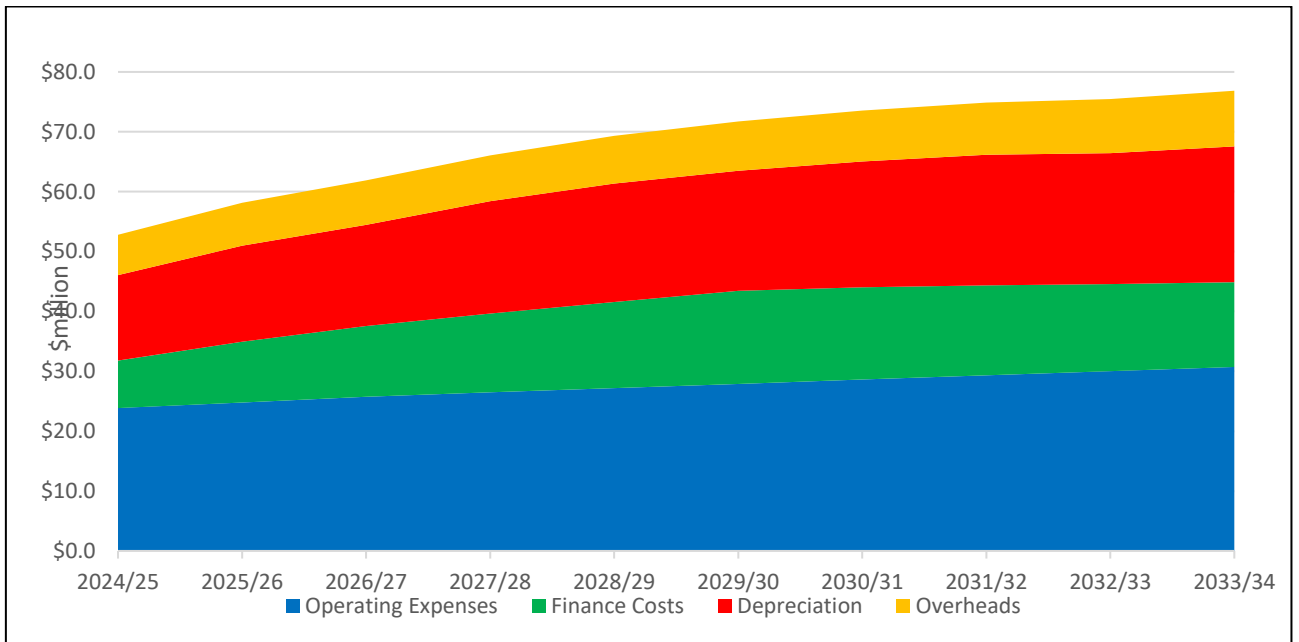


Figure 3: Estimated Expenditure 2024-2034

The 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan includes depreciation expense of \$193 million. This exceeds the estimated capital renewals provision by \$31 million over the 10 years of the plan. The Essential Services Benchmark¹ is calculated on Council’s capital expenditure on network services as a proportion of depreciation on network services. Council meets this benchmark if its capital expenditure on network services equals or is greater than depreciation on network services. This benchmark would not be met by the three water activities once the three water activities are ring-fenced. There is a risk that future regulation to ensure that Council delivers water services in ways that are financially sustainable, meet regulatory quality standards for water network infrastructure and water quality, and unlock housing growth may oblige an increase in renewals.

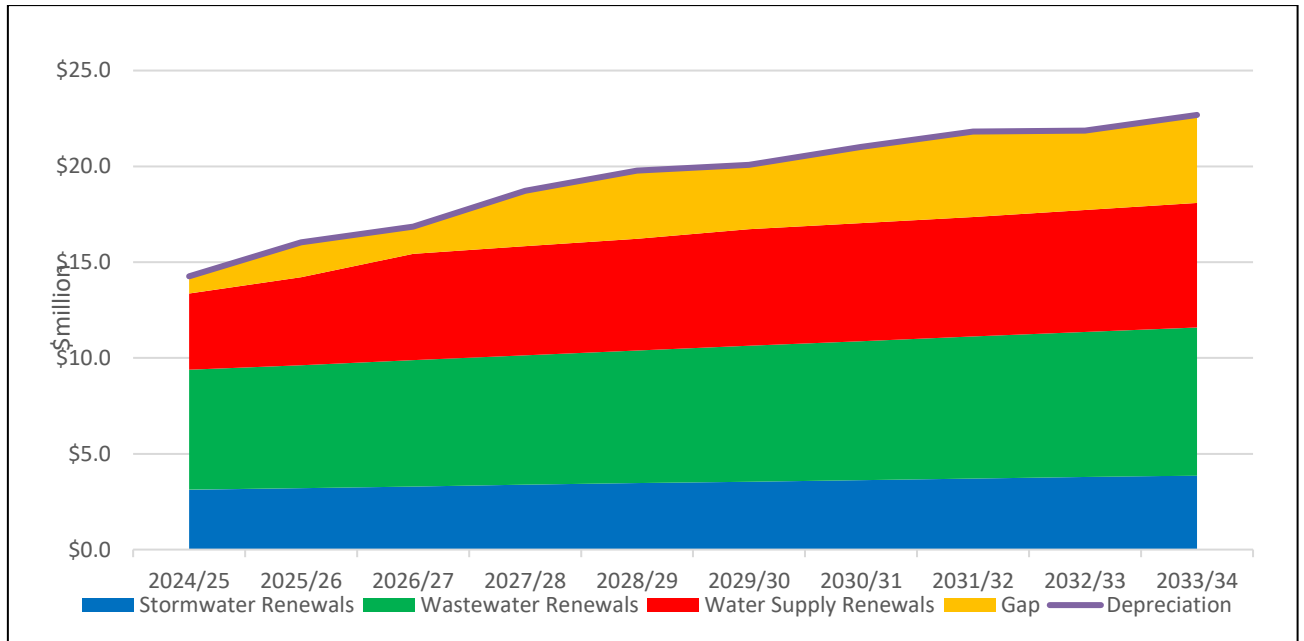


Figure 3: Estimated Renewals 2024-2034

Assessment of Options

Option 1: Internal Business Unit or Division (Modified Status Quo)

This is the least disruptive of the options. While there would be some change to reporting due to the requirement to ring fence the three waters activities from the rest of Council’s operations, this option of in-house delivery affords Council the greatest level of control. Under this model, there is a greater ability to ensure integrated decision-making with other Council planning.

This option also benefits from Council’s existing relationships with mana whenua and the wider community. An independent water organisation would need to develop those relationships over time.

¹ Mandatory reporting benchmark set by the Department of Internal Affairs

While a multi-council owned water organisation is proffered as having a greater ability to raise debt and incur lower borrowing costs, Council does not forecast an issue with its debt ceiling in the 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan. The LTP does not forecast Council exceeding either its self-imposed limit of 250% Debt to Revenue Ratio, or the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) limit of 280% Debt to Revenue Ratio.

The financial data from the Long-Term Plan illustrate that Council could viably retain in-house delivery of three waters, although the impact of economic regulations to be introduced in the Local Government Water Services (Transitional Provisions) Bill are unknown at this stage.

Option 2: Single Council-Owned Water Organisation

There are a number of considerations to be taken into account when determining whether a separate water organisation is the appropriate proposed delivery model:

- What it is that it is trying to be achieved and is a separate organisation the best method of achieving it
- Capability to govern, monitor and effectively influence
- Additional ongoing costs – the costs incurred by the local authority in monitoring the performance of the water organisation, and the water organisation's own costs, can increase overall service delivery costs
- Reduced ability to manage risk – arm's-length delivery can make managing risks to the reputation of the local authority more difficult

Although setting up a separate organisation to manage a local authority service may have some potential cost efficiencies, there will be additional overhead costs associated with its establishment and oversight. The organisation will have its own overhead costs. It will have a management and administration structure separate from the local authority, will incur costs in preparing a statement of expectations and in reporting against it, and will also incur audit fees.

A benefit that a separate organisation has over in-house service delivery is the increased ability to raise debt, up to a level equivalent to 500% of operating revenues (around twice that of existing councils) subject to it meeting prudent credit criteria. The level of increased debt that this allows equates to between \$117M and \$180M during the 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan. However, the following graph illustrates that Council does not forecast the need for debt above its self-imposed limit of 250% during this period.

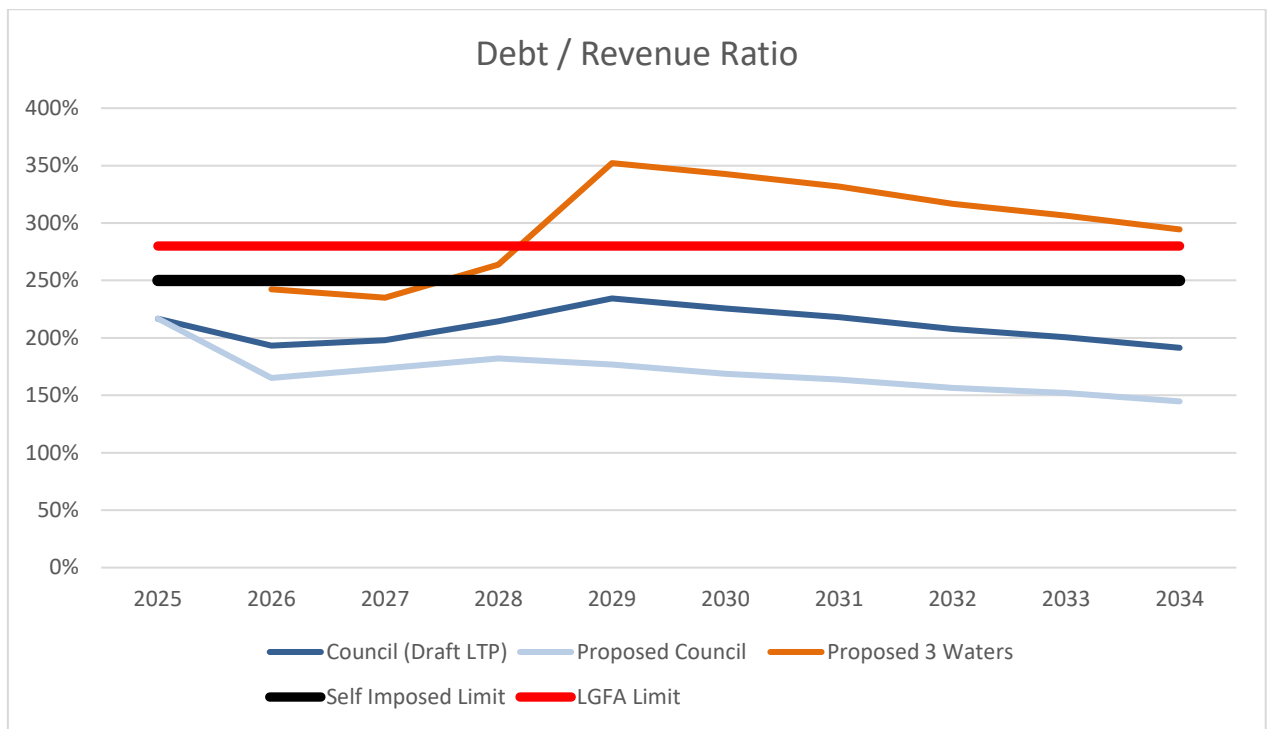


Figure 4: Debt to Revenue Ratios 2024-2034

Option 3: Multi-Council Owned Water Organisation

The assumed benefits of scale are cost savings, improved efficiency and affordability. The majority of these could also be achieved through agreed joint procurement across Councils using local authority shared service organisations in a manner similar to insurance cover procurement through BOPLASS. Another benefit of scale is the attraction and retention of skilled staff and the ability to develop skills and competence. A larger, specialised organisation offers greater career paths for staff. This is not currently an issue but is a recognised risk.

Option 4: Mixed Council/Consumer Trust Owned Water Organisation

The benefit of a Consumer Trust is its connection with water consumers. Under this model households and businesses with water connections would elect trustees who would in turn appoint Board members. Council already has a direct connection with water consumers.

Option 5: Consumer Trust Owned Water Organisation

This is the most financially independent water services delivery model. As with option 4, the benefit of a connection with water consumers is also achieved with the in-house delivery model.

Summary

The financial data in Council’s 2024-2034 Long Term Plan and 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy illustrate that Council has the ability and capacity to retain in-house delivery of the three waters as its preferred service delivery model.

There are assumed advantages of scale through efficiencies, purchasing power and a greater ability to attract staff. These benefits are offset by a potential loss of control and a disconnection from other Council planning.

Moving to a regional (or larger) entity is a big step both politically and operationally. Ring-fencing 3 waters into a separate business unit could provide a transition step and would make any future move to a to a CCO or Joint CCO easier.

Option		Pros	Cons
Go it alone	Internal business unit or division of council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain control. Better links to other Council planning i.e. district development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May not achieve benefits of scale.
Go it alone	Single council owned water organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased debt leverage Retain control. Better links to other Council planning i.e. district development 	
Regional Entity	Multi-council owned water organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scale advantage Procurement Staff recruitment and retention Increased debt leverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of control Further removed from mana whenua and community Disconnection from other council planning
Consumer Trust	Mixed council/consumer trust owned water organisation		
Consumer Trust	Consumer trust owned water organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most financially independent 	

4. NGĀ KŌRERA O TE HAPORI ME TE WHAKATAIRANGA COMMUNITY INPUT/ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLICITY

The Local Government Water Services (Transitional Provisions) Bill will contain a bespoke set of consultation and decision-making arrangements that will enable councils to streamline this process, while continuing to provide the opportunity for community input. These streamlined arrangements are voluntary for councils to choose to use, as an alternative to some of the standard requirements in the Local Government Act.

The arrangements include provisions that:

- Clarify that councils can set up joint committees that can consult on a proposal across multiple districts (instead of each council carrying out separate consultation), and to make recommendations to participating councils
- Set minimum consultation and information requirements – so one round of consultation is required, and information only needs to be provided on the analysis of two options (status quo + preferred option)
- Enable councils to consider the collective benefits/impacts of a proposal (across multiple districts), in addition to the interests of their individual districts – and to factor in the view of other participating councils

5. HE WHAIWHAKAARO CONSIDERATIONS

5.1. Mahere Pūtea Financial/Budget Considerations

The preparation of a Water Services Delivery Plan can be funded from three waters transition funding received from the Department of Internal Affairs.

5.2. Kaupapa Here Me Ngā Hiraunga Whakariterite Policy and Planning Implications

The assumption in Council's 2024-2034 Long-Term Plan is that "Council anticipates maintaining overall ownership, setting strategic direction, applying services stewardship and discharging appropriate asset management practice in its three waters assets.

5.3. Tūraru Risks

There are a number of matters yet to be clarified by Central Government such as the details of the economic regulation. There is a risk that the economic regulation will require increased three waters revenue and/or increased investment in asset renewals. These matters will be considered during the development of the Water Services Delivery Plan.

5.4. Te Whaimana Authority

The Committee has the authority to adopt the recommendations. It has the delegated authority to oversee the management of council's infrastructure assets including three waters.

7.2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRESS REPORT

Prepared by: Stavros Michael, Group Manager, Infrastructure and Environment

Approved by: Andrew Moraes, Chief Executive

Attachments: 1. Infrastructure and Environment Progress Report

**HE TŪTOHUNGA
RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the report 'Infrastructure and Environment Progress Report' be received.

Progress Report



To:	Mayor, Chair and Members – Infrastructure and Environment Committee
Meeting Date:	4 September 2024
Group:	Infrastructure and Environment Committee
Group Manager:	Stavros Michael
Report approved by:	Andrew Moraes, Chief Executive
Components:	Network performance – Transport; Network performance – Waters; Environmental Performance; Emergency Management; Active and Engaged Communities

Stats and Facts

JULY
2024

Connection applications in July 2024:

	No of applications	New dwellings connected
Water	11	18
Stormwater	1	1
Wastewater	10	15
Totals	22	34

Morey Street detention dams

Earth embankments for both stormwater detention dams are complete.

Remaining work is the completion of the spillways.

CIP claim has been lodged for \$13million.

Stormwater



Goldie Street



Puketawhero Park

Bollard installations to protect stormwater inlets from vehicle damage so flood control remains effective.

Wastewater schemes progress

East Rotoiti: 80% Biolytix units installed
Tarawera: 96% of Stage 1 mains and 353 of 427 boundary connections installed

Vaughan Road (Shared Path Crossing)



Before



After

Ohu: Waka | Network Performance - Transport

Transport Capital Projects

Programme	Projects	Progress
Subsidised renewals	Resurfacing (critical for maintaining integrity of road foundations)	2024/25 reseal programme being finalised to align with indicative budgets. Target is reseal 6-8% of total network. Average lifespan of seals is 15 years.
Subsidised renewals	Pavement rehabilitation (about 0.3% of network targeted per year)	Matahi Rd pavement rehabilitation out to tender.
Subsidised renewals	Footpaths (approx. 600km of footpaths in total in Rotorua)	2024/25 indicative NZTA budget for walking and cycling means there will be insufficient subsidised funding for footpath renewals for 3 years. Focus on safety repairs until funding options explored.
Subsidised Cycleways (LOS)	About 60km of cycleways constructed since 2018	No funding in LTP years 1-3 for cycleways/shared paths. No new cycleways are planned.
Subsidised Minor Improvements (LOS)	Local road improvements and	NZTA funding allocation won't be known until September so 2024/25 programme will be prioritised once we have funding certainty. Speed Management Plan on hold pending new national policy direction and funding availability is known.
Subsidised Emergency Works	Emergency storm damage repairs to restore level of service (LOS).	Emergency works from the May 2024 storm event 90% complete with Linton Park Link shared path remaining to reinstate in August-September 2024.
Unsubsidised Renewals	Parks road renewals to maintain integrity of road condition	Sites programmed for 2024-25 resealing programme being finalised and embedded into contractual schedules for Q 3 and 4.
Unsubsidised Street Improvements (LOS)	Improvements to enhance LOS to rural and urban areas	No provision in LTP years 1-3 for urban/rural street improvements. No plans for this activity.
Unsubsidised Rural Seal Extension (LOS)	Lichenstein Rd	Lichenstein Rd in design and prioritised for seal extension this year, pending funding constrains. Tawhero St West design complete but unlikely to fit within approved budget limits.
Unsubsidised Growth (LOS)	Upgrades to support growth	Porikapa Rd Shared Path (CIP) expected to be fully completed September 2024. East Gate intersection improvements in detailed design, awaiting NZTA planning approval. Once approval granted works will be tendered and we will seek NZTA financial support.
CERF-funded Transport Choices	Shared paths and zebra crossing upgrades (various) BOPRC Enhancing Public Transport in Rotorua	No funding available to implement CERF-designs (shared paths). Refresh Project on hold, subject to funding. Proposed new bus stops/shelters Amohau St to accommodate new bus routes. Government funding for these works subject to Final National Land Transport Programme 2024-2027.

Transport Operations

- Programmed seal maintenance proactive/cyclical and reactive works are ongoing and no material defects or service disruptions have occurred.
- Unsealed road metalling programme up to the level allowed by available budget but ready to respond to weather impacts if/as needed.
- Storm damage works: General reactive clean-up and reinstatement from weather events ongoing and are adaptive to the risk created by new weather events.
- Environmental maintenance: seasonal mowing planned to start in spring.
- Traffic services maintenance: New road marking contract out to tender and street light maintenance ongoing. An extension of streetlights contract is recommended.
- Network and Asset Management: 2024/25 annual condition surveys will now be carried out nationally by NZTA. Future funding levels likely to be allocated on basis of identified road condition which will inform forward work programme development, treatments and activity management planning going forward.

NZTA/Waka Kotahi State Highways

Regional Land Transport Programme 2024-2034 has been endorsed by the Regional Transport Committee and adopted. Key outcomes as they relate to Rotorua Lakes Council are:

10-year Transport Priorities

- State Highway roading improvement projects along key corridors - SH5 and SH30, Rotorua.
- High-frequency urban bus networks in Rotorua.
- More frequent regional bus services between Tauranga, Rotorua and Whakatāne, and inter-regional bus services with the Waikato.
- Car parking supply management and charging in Tauranga and Rotorua to manage demand and promote mode choice.

Prioritised Regionally Significant Activities – awaiting funding advice from NZTA

- CIP SH30 Eastern Corridor Stage 2 of upgrade of SH30/Te Ngae Road from Iles Road to Rotorua Airport.
- Malfroy/Old Taupo roads (SH5) Intersection Upgrade - Intersection capacity upgrade and safety improvements due to housing growth projections- \$5m (*total cost*).
- SH30A Urban Revitalisation, Connect Rotorua - Urbanisation of SH30A including Amohau Street and consequential local road and SH corridor changes - \$36.6m (*total cost*).

Unprioritised and Unfunded Activities – Subject to discussion with NZTA

- SH5/SH30 Intersection Improvements: Intersection improvements providing safety and freight access benefits for the new Peka Industrial area, Red Stag Mill and Waipa Valley tourist area.
- Sala Street Corridor Improvements: Improvements to Sala Street/SH30A between Hemo roundabout and Sala Street/Te Ngae Road intersection, to accommodate more traffic resulting from SH30A Urban Revitalisation project.
- SH5 Corridor 4-laning, Fairy Springs – Ngongotahā: Improved safety and increased capacity for this key freight route. Also supports future residential development around Ngongotahā.
- SH30/Rotorua Airport Intersection: New intersection providing safer, more efficient access to Rotorua Airport, proposed industrial development by Rotorua Airport and Eastgate Industrial Park.
- Inner City Revitalisation and Improved Accessibility: CBD safety and accessibility improvements.

We are awaiting decisions to be made via the Government Policy Statement and funding allocations of the National Land Transport Programme.

Ohu: Wai | Network Performance - Water

Main Water Capital Projects


Water Main Renewals

Background	Progress
<p>Renewal and upgrade of water mains is essential to ensure asset sustainability, resilience of the water supply network and to reduce water loss from ageing pipelines.</p> <p>On average, approx. 1.5% of the 800km network is renewed per year. Average life expectancy is 75 years.</p>	<p>Following delivery of the 2023/24 FY package of water renewal work, within time and budget, a 2024/25 package of work is currently out for tender, with the aim to have a tender recommendation for the I&E Committee in September 2024.</p> <p>This package will target leakage, old, galvanised iron service pipes will be replaced, and the existing delivery main left in service, due to galvanised iron pipe having a significantly lower expected lifespan.</p> <p>Streets and roads targeted for renewal: Tudor, Nihokiri, Tatai, Tiwha, Taharangi, Huratai, Russell, Westlock, Frank, Mill, Ian, Bellvue, Koutu, Haumoana, Karenga and Raukura</p>

Water Main Upgrades

Background	Progress
<p>The Reporoa water network as two sources, Wharepapa and Deep Creek.</p> <p>New water take consent conditions mean less water can be taken from the Wharepapa Spring. To offset this more water will need to be pumped from the Deep Creek Spring supply. Deep Creek and Wharepapa are on opposite sides of the Reporoa network. Upgrades of key distribution mains are required to ensure Deep Creek can pump water through the network.</p> <p>The Reporoa water main upgrade is to be delivered in 3 stages.</p>	<p>Stage 1 was successfully completed in FY 2023/24 when the watermain on SH5 between Handcock Road and Reporoa Road was upgraded.</p> <p>Stage 2 involves water main upgrade on Broadlands Road from Homestead Road to Reporoa Road. This is planned for FY 2024/25, and is currently out to tender, with the aim to have a tender recommendation for the I&E Committee in September 2024.</p> <p>Stage 3 is planned for FY 2025/26.</p>

Morey Street Stormwater Detention Dams

Background	Progress
<p>Two detention dams under construction to reduce potential occurrence/impacts of flooding in lower catchment and provide for the upstream growth in Ngāti Whakaeu Tribal Lands (NWTLS) 1100 houses. A \$15m funding agreement with Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP) was agreed to assist with the funding of the dams.</p>	<p>After I&E Committee approval to expand project scope and contract value to meet Regulatory Authority’s building consent conditions. The necessary contract adjustments have been made and practical completion of the earth dam embankments and the primary spillways has now been granted. A final claim has been submitted to release the remaining Shovel Ready Funding (\$13m.) The full project is scheduled to be completed in November.</p>
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Photo above: Morey West Dam</i></p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><i>Photo above: Morey East Dam</i></p> </div>

Linton Park Dam

Background	Progress
<p>The existing detention dam was below current safety standards and at risk of failure. This project will enhance capacity in line with the western stormwater management plan and mitigate against flooding in Mangakakahi/Utuhina catchments.</p> <p>Funding contribution of \$6.8m from Department of Internal Affairs. Balance from RLC and IAF funds.</p> <p>Works critical part of western catchment stormwater master plan to enable future housing.</p>	<p>Construction of embankment portion of dam is now complete and construction of lusiit wall on top of dam is planned for completion in August.</p> <p>Planning actions are in progress to secure consents for an enhanced spillway to offset the need to construct another dam at Linton Park West.</p> <p>Applications being submitted to IAF programme to transfer those funds to this project to cover the additional works required. IAF has signalled preliminary support for this reallocation.</p>


Victoria Street to Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Sewer Main Upgrade

Background	Progress
<p>Trunk sewer main between Victoria St and the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) conveys sewage from western areas. Capacity is under-sized for increasing demand, sometimes resulting in overflows during rain events. A duplicate main will increase capacity and allow rehabilitation of the existing main.</p>	<p>Iwi considered proposed sewer alignment through Sanatorium Reserve incompatible with the reserve purpose. Section one from Victoria Street to Marist Rugby Park will be progressed now and new alignment options for the second section from Marist Park to WWTP are being evaluated and will be discussed with Pukeroa Oruawhata Trust and Ngāti Whakaue iwi. Agreed route will then be taken to detailed design.</p>



Peka Block Development Enabling - Water and Wastewater

Background	Progress
<p>RLC is providing enabling infrastructure for water supply and wastewater services for Peka Block land development with delivery planned in two stages:</p> <p>Stage 1 – Install new water main from Hemo Reservoir to Peka Block along SH5 and install new pressure wastewater main along SH5 from just north of intersection of SH30 to Peka.</p> <p>Stage 2 - Construction of wastewater pump station.</p>	<p>Stage 1 – Contract for water and wastewater pipelines installation awarded. Construction started and expected to be completed by November 24.</p> <p>Stage 2 – Design of wastewater pump station is finalised and a contract is out for tender. Target completion is June 2025.</p>

East Rotoiti/Rotomā Sewerage Scheme

Background	Progress
<p>Scheme aims to remove adverse environmental effects of septic tanks and improve health of the lakes and communities. Biolytix pre-treatment units are being installed on properties, connecting to underground network leading to Rotoiti Wastewater Treatment Plant.</p>  <p>De-watering and trench shield set up along Wharetoroa Dr</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wastewater treatment plant operating in compliance with resource consent conditions. • Māori whenua and marae installations yet to progress as trustee consensus and Māori Land Court decisions are required. • Marae Committees to be advised Council has made final funding allocation in line with scope of the tenders and no additional funding will be provided for high-capacity systems installation. • 51 Whenua Māori properties will be addressed as legal matters are concluded. • Council has decided final net capital targeted rate for properties as part of 2024-2034 LTP. • Future growth properties will be addressed as they occur and installations will be made once building consents have been issued. • MfE Minister initiated a project review to assist him signing off the reallocation of \$10M to the project. Information on the review TORs is currently exchanged with the Ministry.

Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade

Background	Progress
<p>Upgrade to enhance treatment capacity and quality to meet new consent requirements and growth comprises membrane bioreactor (MBR) with full UV disinfection. Completion planned for end of 2025 followed by a one-year 'proving period'. Forest irrigation remains in place pending completion of Sustainable Forest Approach (SFA) project.</p>  <p><i>Above: Civil construction of the MBR</i></p>  <p><i>Above: Flooded Inlet Pump Station excavation</i></p>	<p>Civil construction and foundations for the new Inlet Works and Lift Pump stations are progressing and on track for completion January 2026.</p> <p>Excavation for new Inlet Pump Station progressed until geothermally heated groundwater flooded the site. TRILITY is working on a solution for RLC's approval and work is progressing to understand the cause to establish RLC's contractual position. Initial evidence suggests the issue sits with TRILITY but it intends to claim a contract variation based on unforeseeable ground conditions. The matter may ultimately require a determination by an independent expert.</p> <p>Extending Mott MacDonald's tenure as subject matter experts is being sought through a new contract and procurement plan to extend their services to complete the design review programme and oversight of ongoing construction, commissioning and acceptance testing.</p> <p>Work has started on establishing a new reference group to explore options for final discharge of recovered water once the upgrade has been completed. Currently mana whenua state they do not wish the discharge point to be in the forest.</p>

Water Planning Projects

Resource consent renewal of four water supply takes

Background	Progress
<p>Resource consents for 5 of Council's urban water supplies will expire in 2026: Karamū Tākina (Central), Waipā and Hemo (Eastern), Rewarewa (Hamurana/Kaharoa) and Wai-iti (Rotoiti), Rotomā (Lake Rotomā).</p> <p>Technical assessments and iwi/hapu engagement are required to support new resource consent applications and enable cultural impact assessments.</p>	<p>Technical assessments completed and scoping underway. Application for Waipā/Hemo consents renewal accepted by BoPRC and existing use rights granted until a new consent is approved.</p> <p>Cultural Values and Impacts Assessments for Karamū Tākina and Rewarewa (Hamurana) consent applications underway. RLC working with mana whenua on the Karamū/Tākina water source (about 40% of our central supplies) to progress joint consent application. Proposed relationship agreement to be presented to Council by iwi but expected future costs of MoU not included in LTP.</p>

Rotorua Urban Area – Comprehensive Stormwater Resource Consents

Background	Progress
<p>BoPRC requires RLC to consolidate its 39 stormwater discharge resource consents for urban Rotorua and apply for a single comprehensive consent to cover the whole urban catchment. This will be managed through a comprehensive catchment management plan for streamlined, consistent management of stormwater discharge and associated works.</p> <p>Iwi/hapu engagement is necessary for the cultural impact assessment.</p>	<p>This consent has numerous complexities that are currently being considered and worked through and RLC pursuing an MoU with BoPRC for stormwater quality management.</p> <p>RLC granted extension of time with hearing scheduled for 12 November. RLC confident of meeting that deadline but achieving best possible outcome is reliant on both RLC and BoPRC continuing to work together.</p> <p>A new risk assessment approach for managing industrial sites and trade activities is nearing completion for review.</p>

Tarawera Sewerage Scheme

Background	Progress
<p>Approved implementation: Stage 1 - street mains, trunk mains, pump station, including connection to Ōkāreka scheme. Stage 1 is programmed to align with \$6.5m MfE Deed Funding commitments.</p> <p>Stage 2 will be construction of 430 individual LPGP units to connect properties to the reticulation system.</p>	<p>Pump stations construction underway. These are being modified to allow for gradual connections with extra costs managed within contingencies.</p> <p>Application to the District Court for an injunction to prevent future interference with works necessary for completion of Stage 1 was lodged and publicly notified in May. The judge adjourned RLC’s application “sine die” (indefinitely), meaning RLC can renew application on short notice if there is further interference with the works.</p> <p>Works on the 1.3km mains to continue 19 August 2024. Meeting with Police was also held for additional support. The objection to these works caused delays, legal and security costs and contract variations, estimated at a total of about \$150k+.</p> <p>Progress: 20.9km of pressure mains installed, 14.9km pressure testing completed, 353 of 427 boundary assemblies installed.</p> <p>DDL Contracting awarded Stage 2 and arrangements being made to obtain Locality Plans and Building Consents before physical start of the scheme in October 2024.</p> <p>Ongoing communications and updates between RLC staff and residents’ association and the collective working group established for Tarawera.</p>



Photo above: Cliff Road Pumping Station

Background	Progress
	<p>Project updates are emailed to more than 350 addresses and quarterly updates to all stakeholders, including progress against budgets and anticipated risks.</p> <p>The flow of agreements to establish locality plans and obtain building consents is much more than required and likely to result in contract extensions of time and additional costs to the project.</p> <p>Staff expect to provide Council with a status update about October, including any recommended actions arising from property owners' frustrating the Stage 2 process.</p> <p>The Tarawera Community Group wish Council to make a commitment to more equitable funding support than the current capital funding plan. The Group was advised Council is not in a position to make such decisions without wider community consultation at the appropriate planning stage.</p>

Water Operations

Three Waters Reforms

The new framework for water services delivery comprises three pieces of legislation, the second of which, the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill, was introduced in early June 2024 and requires council to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan within 12 months of the Bill's enactment. The overarching purpose of the Plans is for councils, (individually or jointly), to publicly demonstrate their intention and commitment to delivering water services in ways that are financially sustainable, meet regulatory quality standards for water network infrastructure and water quality, and unlock housing growth.

Through development of these Plans, Councils will provide an assessment of their water infrastructure, how much they need to invest, and how they plan to finance and deliver it through their preferred service delivery model. Ringfencing of water services and revenue from other Council activities is a key feature of the Plans. The Plans can also be prepared jointly, and so provide an opportunity for Councils to have conversations with other Councils about joint arrangements for water services delivery.

To demonstrate financial sustainability, Councils will have to show what needs to be invested to deliver water services to regulated standards and to provide for growth. They will also have to show how they will fund and finance long-term investment in water infrastructure, including renewals and operating costs.

Stormwater:

Routine maintenance and operations are proceeding at a steady rate across the district.



Mamaku township



Hamurana Road



Edmund Road

Above: Drain clearances are being carried out where necessary to ensure efficient drainage in rain events



Kawaha Point drain



Sunrise Avenue drain

Above: Rubbish removal as a part of routine maintenance on our open drain network



Above: Culvert replacement of an old root-bound concrete pipe at Wrights Park. Reinstatement with grass seed and hay mulch ensures rapid stabilisation and grass strike in the colder season.

Water Supplies:

- Routine maintenance and operations are continuing while final procurement plans are being developed and approved for this year's work.
- A focus has been on valve and hydrant maintenance, and also backflow prevention repairs following on from the backflow inspection programme.

Wastewater:

- The second Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) tank at the Rotorua wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) has had a full mechanical overhaul. This is a key process in sludge removal and one of the existing process systems that will remain after the current upgrade is complete.
- Forest pond desludging is almost complete.
- New control system installed at WWTP entrance to monitor septic tank truck disposals for fee calculation purposes and to control the input of substances that could be harmful to treatment processes.

Ohu: Taio | Environmental Performance & Climate Change**Climate Change**

Climate Commission first annual monitoring report measuring progress against Government emissions reduction plan released July 2024. First National Adaption Plan Report due August. These reports can be accessed via the [Climate Commission's Website](#).

Emissions Reductions

We are undertaking various mitigation actions like enabling and encouraging active modes of transport and waste reduction to reduce emissions and energy consumption. We are monitoring our corporate emissions.

Adaptation

Climate change effects cause significant cumulative impacts on infrastructure and core services. The focus of current efforts is on climate adaptation in predicting impacts and designing improvements to networks that would, as far as possible, help reduce risk to properties and our receiving environment.

Framework and performance measures

To ensure RLC meets its responsibilities and achieves targets, starting later this year, we will evaluate the Rotorua Climate Change Action Plan, national guidelines, targets and legislation, and climate preparedness guidelines to identify action required and within our sphere of influence, and any gaps in our current work programme.

Safe and Sustainable Journeys

- Bike Ready safety skills at Sunset Primary and Westbrook School.
- Driver Directions (practical driver education programme for young drivers).
- Road Safety Education Programme at Tarewa Marae (for recidivist drink drivers and other at-risk drivers).
- 'Slow down around schools' billboards installed outside schools.
- Latest edition of the Rotorua Urban Biking Guide published.
- 'Either way is 20kph' mini billboards installed on some rural school bus shelters (not finished yet).



Above: Billboard, Whakarewarewa School, Sala Street



Above: Rural school bus shelter, Oturoa Road

Waste Management

Landfill

Investigation of existing leachate system under stage 4 of the older part of the landfill continues. This part of the landfill was constructed more than 30 years ago and is being checked to ensure it is in good working order.

Findings to date: Recent overflows in the leachate line of stage 4 and the subsequent investigation found the majority of stormwater from the dog pound was entering the sewer network via an old septic tank and then the landfill leachate line, causing blockages and capacity exceedances during intense storms. A plan to divert this to the stormwater network is being developed.

The leachate drains which receives the wastewater from the pound has been jetted and CCTV'd for 62 metres of its 140-metre length. An estimate to install a new sewer line from the pound connection to the pump station is being sought. If the leachate system is no longer suitable to receive the dog pound wastewater, this would be the best option to remove the risk of future sewer overflows and breaching resource consent and future proof the wastewater treatment from the pound.

Directly underneath stages 2 and 4 is an old creek bed. During construction of these stages in the early 1990s, the creek was diverted down the boundary of the property to make room for two new landfill cells. The flow from this drain is very small, but tested positive for contaminants, indicating the presence of leachate. We have not seen any negative impact on the Tureporepo Stream through routine water quality monitoring, probably due to dilution making the effect on the stream undetectable in the larger flow. We are working on a plan to capture the subsoil drain flow and divert it to the nearby pumpstation wet well. BoPRC has been kept informed these developments.

The work completed last year to alleviate erosion of the dog pound stream diversion channel has worked well. There is a new section of the channel that is now eroding and needs similar treatment. This section is on the embankment that separates storm water pond A from the channel. The embankment will be armoured and protected from further erosion during August.

Refuse and Recycling Collections

Both services are functioning well with no significant issues.

Resourceful Rotorua Litter Reduction Campaign

The slip face near the top of Mountain Road is being cleared of illegally dumped rubbish and the boundary with the neighbouring property (Skyline Sky Rides) is being fenced with 1.8m high deer fencing to try and close down this illegal dumping hotspot.

Waste Minimisation Education

Waste-related community events or activities supported by RLC have included:

- Three workshop sessions to community groups, at their request for this service.
- One free community workshop on waste reduction and recycling delivered in collaboration with Para Kore
- One school-based education session with 75 primary students.
- Two clean up events – one organised by Miss Rotorua Foundation at Mountain Road filling a 9m³ skip bin and one along the Puarenga Stream, organised in partnership with Tatau Pounamu and NZ Landcare Trust.

Rotorua Lakes Council also had a stall at the annual Home and Lifestyle Show 4-6 July, which emphasised waste reduction education. Attendance at the stall was very good.

Water Quality

Contaminant monitoring. A draft Rotorua urban water quality contaminant monitoring programme is progressing to support the Comprehensive Urban Stormwater Consent (CSC). Monitoring and triggered investigations inform freshwater quality management, identifying stream contaminants and informing possible mitigation actions.

Industrial sites. Neither Council's stormwater bylaw nor BoPRC's Natural Resources Plan (NRP) allow contaminants to be discharged to urban waterways unless permitted by the NRP. The CSC will require Council to manage urban industrial land-use effects on water quality. The draft approach has been developed with low, moderate and high risk assessment categories. Moderate and high-risk sites and activities will require a stormwater licence and be subject to audit for compliance with Council's bylaw.

Non-permitted discharges will continue to require BoPRC authorisation. BoPRC engages with Council, mana whenua and other impacted parties through this RMA process. Monitoring requirements can be aligned through this process and inform the Consent that authorises and controls the discharge of contaminants.

BoPRC consenting staff have indicated their support in initial discussions. Further discussions are to be held with BoPRC compliance staff to fine-tune and agree on the approach and capture in an MoU to support the Comprehensive Stormwater Consent. Council will also meet with submitters and respond to CSC Submissions.

Trade waste consents and audits continue to protect wastewater network and reduce risk of sewer overflows.

Emergency Management

Updates

Response: No local emergency events to report.

Readiness: Rotorua CDEM staff are developing a new work plan for the 2024/2025 year. The plan will cover all of the 4R's of Emergency Management, but will have a strong focus on 'readiness', in particular;

- staff training and
- development of tools that will help EOC staff more easily step in to their roles when the EOC is activated.

Building the capability of CDEM staff and improving the tools available to assist CDEM staff when the EOC is activated have been a focus for all of the TLA's in the BoP since the COVID 19 emergency, but there is a considerable amount of work still to be done. The need to improve training and general capability of CDEM staff across NZ was a consistent finding of recent reviews, including the *Report of the Government Inquiry into the response to the North Island Severe Weather Events* by Sir Jerry Mateparae (April 2024).

Other EMO's (Emergency Management Officers) around the BoP are taking a similar approach and all of the EMO's are working collaboratively as a group, with support from the two training advisors in EMBoP.

Tauranga City Council (TCC) has been investing heavily in training and engaging external contractors for much of this work, as NEMA has yet to develop courses and products that meet that need, particularly in respect of Intelligence, Planning and Operations. TCC staff have been generous in sharing the products they have developed with other CDEM office in the BoP region and have also been offering opportunities for CDEM staff from around the region to attend the additional training courses they have been purchasing.

Staffing and Training

Rajind Seneviratne of RLC’s Thriving Communities team was the successful applicant for the Emergency Management Officer (EMO) vacancy in the Rotorua CDEM team. His responsibilities will include leading the CDEM Welfare function for the Rotorua EOC and community engagement.



He has significant experience in building partnerships and community development. He established Rotorua’s ‘Welcoming Communities’ programme which is considered an exemplar for other territorial authorities.

The number of staff on the EOC roster remains stable at just over 100 but staff attrition has seen a 50% turnover in the EOC team in the past two years, which impacted experience levels and increased training requirements. That also meant that many of those on the current EOC team have never met each other or worked together. To address that, a morning tea was held for EOC staff in April which also offered an opportunity for management to express appreciation for the discretionary effort made by the EOC team in helping keep their community safe.



Photo: EOC team

Ohu: He Hapori Kaikaha | Active and Engaged Communities
Open Space Capital Projects

Reserve Improvements

Following completion of the Lakefront to Motutara Point walkway in June, the old damaged lake-edge boardwalk was removed. Only minor repair works are left to do along the lake edge to complete this trail.

The new forestry access point from Tarawera Road is finished. It will be connected to the internal forestry roading network for future harvesting, removing the need for heavy traffic through the Te Pūtaki O Tawa access. The Kauae Urupā - Henderson Road parking area is also progressing and will be finished by mid-August.



Above: New forest access point created for forestry operations off Tarawera Road



Above: Kauae Urupā - Henderson Road car parking area

Sports field consultants, SSDM, have been contracted to design the sports field construction at Titoki Place at Ray Boord Park. They will be working with civil consultants BlueLine to coordinate roading, parking, drainage and field lighting requirements with a developed design expected to inform consenting requirements that will be prepared during October. The intention is for field construction to be occurring from early to mid-2025.

Playground Renewals

The Karenga Park playground and the new adjacent toilet block have been completed. The final piece for Karenga Park playground was the installation of a 3D moulded play shape rubber koura developed by the local community during engagement for a play piece reflective of the area. The renewal of the Boyes Park playground is also progressing and is on track for completion in mid-August.



Photo above: Karenga Park koura



Photo above: Boyes Park playground renewal

Toilet Block Renewals

The eastern Hamurana Reserve toilet block (see photo below) has been completed and is open for public use.



The additional double unit permaloo toilet for Puketāwhero Park has been ordered and will be installed in September between the existing car park and the basketball court. The Ray Boord toilet/change room was completed in July but is not opened yet because of some additional work around the building that was needed after large stumps were removed and associated retaining walls were repaired. This landscaping work will be completed and the toilet/change rooms opened by mid-August.

Sports Facility Use and Events

All of our fields are currently being used for winter sports and we have had to close them for only one Saturday so far this season. Our annual sports field condition audit was undertaken in July with our consultant Dave Ormsby from the NZ Sports Turf Institute. Fields assessed were found to be in good condition. Spring maintenance will focus on weed spraying, fertilising and coring, with under sowing scheduled for autumn.

Rotorua has hosted four Aotearoa New Zealand Māori Rugby League national tournaments this winter, with two more scheduled. These events will be held at various venues, including the Rotorua Stadium, Puketāwhero Park and Puarenga Park. The tournaments still to occur are the Tamariki Tournament in late September at Puarenga and Puketāwhero Parks and the Tuakana Tournament in late October at Puketāwhero Park. We will also be hosting the first BoP Rugby Steamers game at the Stadium on 14 August.

Open Spaces Maintenance and activities

Open Space maintenance during July has included regular gardening and winter tree maintenance, as well as some annual maintenance work on structures. The Lakefront boardwalk had a scheduled clean and after a warm autumn some additional work was needed to remove algal growth on some of the boat ramps in the clearer water lakes. These ramps will be rechecked before Spring when public use will again increase.



Photo above: Lakefront boardwalk cleaning and Tarawera Landing boat ramp scrubbing

Staff coordinated and attended community planting days with tamariki from Rotokawa school with 600 plants added to the Waikawau Reserve. Work has also occurred during July as part of the Ngā Kaitiaki o te Taiao o Waiowhoro project to enhance and improve the environment of the lower Waiowhoro stream, from the Ngongotahā cycle bridge down to the lake edge. This project was initiated by the local community who formed a group and began restoring the stream margin in 2017, with support from Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) and

Doc ID 20458067

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Infrastructure and Environment Committee
4 September 2024

Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BoPRC). They have monthly working bees and on their last community planting day, 680 plants sponsored by BoPRC were planted along the Waiowhiro stream.



Above: Waikawau Reserve and Waiowhiro Stream community/kura planting days

**8 HE WHAKATAUNGA KIA HOKI ATU TE ARONGA O TE HUI HAI HUI
TŪMATAWHĀNUI – RESOLUTION TO MOVE INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED (TO
CONSIDER AND ADOPT CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS)**

PUBLIC EXCLUDED

1. Exclusion of the Public
2. The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

RECOMMENDATION		
That Infrastructure and Environment Committee resolves to exclude the public on the grounds contained in Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act:		
General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
8.1 - Confidential Minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee Meeting held on 7 August 2024	Please refer to the relevant clause/s in the open meeting minutes.	Good reason for withholding exists under Section 48(1)(a).
8.2 - Approval of Contract Value & Term Extension 19/061 Streetlight Maintenance and Renewals 2020 - 2030	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

9 TE KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING KARAKIA

Kia whakairia te tapu

Kia wātea ai te ara

Kia turuki whakataha ai

Kia turuki whakataha ai

Hāumi e. Hui e. Tāiki e!

Restrictions are moved aside

So the pathway is clear

To return to every day activities

To return to every day activities

Allied, enriched, unified, and blessed