

He kōrero nā te Kaunihera o Wairau. News from Marlborough District Council.



The wooden planks on the Riverside Park boardwalk could be replaced with a recycled plastic product

New surface for Riverside Park boardwalk

Deteriorating macrocarpa planks on the Riverside Park boardwalk may be replaced with a synthetic option.

Funding is proposed in Council's Long Term Plan for the project, which is needed due to the existing decking breaking down.

The boardwalk, along both sides of the Taylor River, was built in 2002 after the state highway through Blenheim was realigned and the Symons Street bridge removed.

Parks and Open Spaces officer Robert Hutchinson said the redevelopment at the time included modern landscaping, plantings and grassed areas as well as the boardwalk.

"It has been an incredible asset to the town as both a walking and cycling option and recreational space," he said.

Since 2007 significant silt build up in the river and raised water levels have resulted in the decking being under water at times with earthquakes in 2013 and 2016 aggravating the issue.

Repairs have increased each year as rot has set in causing safety issues for users.

The synthetic board is made from sustainable recycled plastic and has a longer life than natural timber at around 80 years.

It is suitable in marine environments, does not deteriorate with prolonged immersion in water and will result in fewer maintenance costs, Mr Hutchinson said.

The product has been used in other New Zealand walkway projects, selected for its suitability in a marine environment.

The electrical system and lights also need replacing, with a forecast cost of \$493,600.

Public consultation begins 4 April on Council's Long Term Plan (LTP) 2024-2034. This plan, reviewed every three years, highlights the key projects, services, facilities and funding Council has planned to invest in Marlborough's future, our people, quality lifestyle and outstanding natural environment. Consultation is the key to a good plan and we need your help in shaping Marlborough's next 10 years and beyond

Long Term Plan community drop-in meetings and webinar

Public consultation begins next month on Council's Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

One of Marlborough's biggest challenges is how to fund \$106M local share of the \$234M repair and improvement bill for the Marlborough Sounds transport network, damaged by storms in 2021 and 2022.

There are a number of ways in which this could be funded, which will be explained at a series of public drop-in meetings - details are below.

Monday 15 April 5.30pm - 7.30pm
Blenheim
Lansdowne Hub
6B Lansdowne Street, Mayfield,
Community drop-in

Tuesday 16 April 2pm - 4pm
Rai Valley
The Millers Rest
6767 State Highway 6
Community drop-in

Wednesday 17 April 12.30pm - 2.30pm
Waitaria Bay
Waitaria Bay Hall
Community drop-in

Thursday 18 April 5.30pm - 7pm
Online webinar
Via Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88384985861>

Friday 19 April 12pm - 2pm
Seddon
Awatere Memorial Hall
1C Foster Street
Community drop-in

Monday 22 April 2pm - 4pm
Linkwater
Linkwater Settlers and Memorial Hall
1351 Queen Charlotte Drive
Community drop-in

Tuesday 23 April 5.30pm - 7.30pm
Picton
Port Marlborough Pavilion,
Endeavour Park, Waikawa Road
Community drop-in

Ronga Road works finished

A roading milestone has been reached at Ronga Road near Rai Valley.

Roading recovery repair works were completed at the site of a slip 5.5km from the SH6 turnoff.

"During the August 2022 weather event a slip came down across the road, unfortunately bringing a house with it, which closed the road for approximately six weeks," Marlborough Roads Recovery Manager Steve Murrin said.

"This has been one of many large roading recovery projects around the region with approximately 15,000 cubic metres removed from the site in April and May 2023," he said.



The August 2022 weather event caused major damage to this Ronga Road property

"During this time slip material and debris was removed from the western side of the road, new water channels created, and existing ones cleared and deepened."

In November 2023, the eastern side of the slip was cleared from the property and drainage lines installed. In February and March 2024 new culverts were installed at three sites to complete the drainage works. This was followed by sealing.

"The property owner also tilled the paddock on the western side of the road to return it to useable land. It's fantastic to see these repair works completed," Mr Murrin said.



Recovery repair works at the Ronga Road slip site are now complete

Dublin Street to open soon

Mayor Nadine Taylor says KiwiRail's decision to reinstate the level crossing and reopen Dublin Street in Picton is welcome news.

"The Waitohi Picton community who have been and continue to be disrupted by the iReX project works will be pleased to hear that KiwiRail has confirmed Dublin Street will be reopened. This is a good outcome for the local community until a longer-term decision is made about the future of the roading network in the town," Mayor Taylor said.

KiwiRail has been talking to the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) regarding building the Dublin Street overbridge and associated road upgrades in Waitohi Picton relating to the Inter-Island Resilient Connection (iReX) project. In December 2023, the Government announced it would not provide additional funding to meet an increase in construction costs and KiwiRail decided to wind down the project.

KiwiRail iReX Programme Director David Warburton says while discussions are ongoing with NZTA, KiwiRail has made the decision to reinstate the level crossing and reopen Dublin Street.

"The reopening means the Waitohi Picton community can use the road, while decisions are being worked through on the future of the transport network," he said.

"Dublin Street will reopen in two phases, with work starting after Easter to reopen the street west of Market Street, including Market Street and the side streets. East of Market Street will come second. We don't have firm dates but are working to do this as quickly as possible, however it does rely on the availability of specialist equipment."

KiwiRail is working with Council and NZTA on how the Broadway intersection in Picton will be left, Mr Warburton said. "We are also working with Port Marlborough on the best options for the old terminal buildings and the new temporary terminal and completing work on the Waitohi Awa Culvert strengthening work."

Around 60 people including Mayor Taylor met at a KiwiRail coffee morning in Picton recently so the iReX and Interislander teams could thank the community for their support and hospitality.

Wither Hills Farm Park is open

Walkers and cyclists can return to the Wither Hills.

Council reopened the park to users on Wednesday morning given the cooler temperatures.

Council's Parks and Open Spaces Planner Linda Craighead said staff were very appreciative of the public's response in staying away from the farm park during the last couple of months.

"It is great to see other areas being used," she said.

"While the park is open it is still dry and we ask that the public remain vigilant and if temperatures do increase or it is windy then walkers and bikers should stay on the lower tracks."

Council closed the Wither Hills Farm Park due to fire risk following discussions with Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ).

The decision was made in the interest of public safety due to the dry conditions, steep slopes and warm and windy conditions at the time.

Common passage plan coming for commercial vessels in Sounds

A new common passage plan to standardise the route all large commercial ships take through the Marlborough Sounds is a great example of collaboration, says Council's Harbourmaster.

"This project has only been made possible due to the positive collaboration between the various parties to ensure that the changes made to achieve a common passage plan are achievable for users," Harbourmaster Captain Jake Oliver said.

The Marlborough Common Passage Plan has been developed by the Harbourmaster in consultation with Port Marlborough NZ, Interislander and Bluebridge ferry operators and was presented to Council's Environment and Planning Committee. It takes effect from 1 April with a transition period for shipping operators to adopt the new plan up to 31 July. Monitoring will take place from August to September.

"A passage plan outlines a vessel's voyage from berth to berth - from the time it leaves the dock or harbour, the voyage itself and through to approaching its destination and mooring," Captain Oliver said.

The project stems from a need to define the water space required for commercial shipping within the Sounds. A report produced in 2020 also

identified opportunities to assist with risk management in Kura Te Au/Tory Channel and one recommendation was to consolidate the passage plans used by the ferry operators so that a common approach is followed by all ships and pilots.

There are currently three operational passage plans within Tōtaranui/Queen Charlotte Sound - one for Bluebridge and Interislander, and a third for Port Marlborough. Although the plans are similar, there are differences, Captain Oliver said.

"As ferries develop and boat traffic increases, there is a need for a common passage plan which standardises the routes these large commercial ships take. This helps Council in its statutory role to regulate navigation safety but also gives the operators a shared understanding of how other ships travel through the Sounds," Captain Oliver said.

"Because the route for ships will be the same under the new common passage plan, it also allows us to publish these for the benefit of other users," he said.

Captain Oliver said the common passage plan also meant reviews of navigation aids - signals or markers - used in the Sounds would be easier and more effective as a result and it would continue to develop pre-pilotage communications for ships.



The new passage plan will standardise how large ships navigate Kura Te Au/Tory Channel such as key turning points like Dieffenbach Point (pictured) - more than 10,000 shipping tracks have been analysed in its development

Wheelie bins are rolling out

Let's get it sorted - Marlborough's wheelie bin rollout is underway.

Wheelie bins are being delivered now as part of Council's new and expanded kerbside collection service but don't use the new bins until the service starts on 1 July.

Rubbish bags won't be collected kerbside after 1 July.

Wheelie bins are on their way if you live in Blenheim, Picton, Grovetown, Havelock, Rai Valley, Rarangi, Renwick, Seddon, Spring Creek or Tua Marina.

To find out if your property is included in the service go to: <https://links.marlborough.govt.nz/kerbside>

Each household gets two wheelie bins - one for waste and one for recycling - and a maroon crate for recycling glass. Keep your existing maroon crate if you have one. The new bins will be delivered in the safest place close to your property so as not to cause congestion, nuisance or a danger to the public.

If you have any questions, contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.

Let's get it sorted - for future generations and our environment.

Let's get it sorted



- ✓ Rollout
- Get Ready
- Go 1 July

Public Notices

Meet your Council



Mayor Nadine Taylor leads a team of 14 elected councillors. They are responsible for making decisions and developing policies that will help shape our province into the future.

Council's vision is that Marlborough is a globally-connected district of smart, progressive, high-value enterprises, known for its economic efficiency, quality lifestyle and wellbeing, caring community, desirable location and healthy natural environment.

For more information or to contact one of your elected representatives, go to: www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/councillors or Ph: 03 520 7400.

Sport and Recreation Community Activity Fund open now

Council's 2023/2024 Sport and Recreation Community Activity Fund is accepting applications for activities held before 28 February 2025. There is \$30,000 available for allocation each year.

This fund is open to event organisers, local clubs and organisations looking to create small sport and community activities that are of low cost to participants and that encourage and promote involvement, accessibility and physical activity.

Key dates:

- Applications close: 5pm Monday 8 April 2024
- Funding decision by: 5pm Friday 19 April 2024

Applications must be completed via Council's website: www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/events/sport-and-recreation-community-activity-fund

Enquiries to Regional Events Advisor Samantha Young; Ph: 03 520 7400 or email: events@marlborough.govt.nz

Awatere and Dashwood rural boil water notice

Water from Council's reticulation network to the Awatere and Dashwood rural areas should be boiled.

It does not currently meet the NZ Drinking Water Standards and may contain bacteria or protozoa that are harmful to human health.

All water used for drinking, food preparation or cleaning teeth should be boiled before use.

Treated water is available at the public taps on Marama Road, outside Seddon School. For further information contact Council on Ph: 03 520 7400.



Antenno keeps you in the loop

Council's mobile app Antenno is a great way to keep up to date with important Council alerts.

Free to install, Antenno is available on Apple and Android smartphones and no personal information or login details are required. You simply save the locations you want to be informed about, such as your home address, workplace or school.

When Council posts an update relevant to your chosen locations, you receive a notification.

While most posts are specific to your location, some notifications like sports ground closures are published district-wide. This means no matter where a team is playing, they'll have the relevant information.

During rainfall and flooding events, road closure information changes quickly. In these instances, Antenno updates link to information on Council's website.

These notifications are sent out district-wide to ensure they reach as many people as quickly as possible.

To learn more about Antenno including how to download the app visit: www.marlborough.govt.nz/services/apps



Blenheim Customer Service Centre

15 Seymour Street, Blenheim 7201

Ph: 03 520 7400

mdc@marlborough.govt.nz

Mon - Tues 8.30am - 4.30pm

Wed 8.30am - 12.30pm
1.30pm - 4.30pm

Thurs - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm

Picton Library & Service Centre

2 Dublin Street, Picton 7220

Ph: 03 520 7493

pictonlibrary@marlborough.govt.nz

Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm

Sat - Sun 10am - 4pm

Council & Committee Meetings

The following meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. Copies of the agendas will be available online and at Council's Office, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim.

Council

Thursday 4 April 2024 at 9am

Assets & Services Committee

Tuesday 16 April 2024 at 9am

Environment & Planning Committee

Thursday 18 April 2024 at 9am

The times and dates may be subject to change, please contact the Committee Secretary, Ph: 03 520 7400 for confirmation.



Council's Harbours team - working to ensure our waterways are safe for everyone to enjoy.

Contact the Harbourmaster's Office if you need advice or information about Marlborough's harbours.

03 520 7400 | HARBOURS@MARLBOROUGH.GOV.T.NZ

