

Ngā pārongo hou

Latest council news

Here-turi-kōkā August 2023 | Putanga Issue 27

Pedestrians walking back to happiness

A new footbridge that will span Waikare Creek in Kāeo is a step closer with construction now under way.

The structure is being built next to the existing two-lane Waikare Creek Bridge on State Highway 10 in the heart of the town.

The new footbridge will provide a safe alternative for users, particularly those with prams or wheelchairs, who currently must cross Waikare Creek Bridge using very narrow paths close to highway traffic.

Far North District Council contractor Fulton Hogan started the preliminary work on Monday 7 August.

A temporary footpath is in place for pedestrians to use on either side of the existing bridge during the work, and some car parks outside the Madhatters Donna's Café and the Four Square will be closed to provide large machinery access to the site.

Two bridge piles are due to be installed once Top Energy relocates power lines later this month. Other work involves strengthening the river embankment and building paths to provide access to the new footbridge.

Path users are advised to take care around the area, and motorists are urged to reduce their speed while work continues. The \$500,000 project is expected to be completed by early to mid-November.



Preliminary work is getting under way on a new footbridge at Kāeo to improve safety for pedestrians in the Far North town.

Funding joy for Te Hiku project



Te Hiku o te Ika Revitalisation Open Spaces Project has helped transform Kaitiāia, Awanui and Ahipara.

The award-winning Te Hiku o te Ika Revitalisation Open Spaces Project will receive more than \$33,000 from the Te Hiku Community Board after it approved new funding during its 1 August meeting.

Kaitiāia Business Association applied to the community board for financial help to complete artwork, seating, the removal of mosaic tiles, and to buy cultural artwork plinths to be installed in Kaitiāia.

The community board agreed to grant \$10,000 to remove the mosaic tiles at the former Pak 'n Save carpark and incorporate them in the new town square. This move will save the much-loved artwork created by the community nearly 30 years ago.

Another \$15,932 was allocated by the board for eight town square plinths that will tell the story of several cultural artworks with a kōrero about the area's history.

The plinths will be installed once the town square waka is in place. A further \$5,561 will go towards creating a backdrop of the Market Square stage in Kaitiāia at the old Warehouse building. Finally, \$2,254 will be spent on finishing the colourful seats on Commerce Street with designs and carvings by artist Ashley Dye that represent Kaitiāia.

Last chance for PDP submissions



The last chance to make a further submission on the Proposed Far North District Plan is open until **Monday 4 September**.

In July last year, the council proposed a new District Plan (Proposed District Plan) and asked landowners, the wider community, tangata whenua and stakeholders for feedback. The Proposed Far North District Plan received 580 submissions, resulting in more than 8500 submission points. The next stage in the review is a further submission period. This is not an opportunity to raise new points.

To find out more, go to our Proposed District Plan webpage on the FNDC website and click the *What's this about* tab.

For more information go to fndc.govt.nz

Karere Kahika



A message from Kahika Moko Tepania

One of the best things about being an elected member is meeting the many inspiring community, business, and youth leaders we have. These people help make changes, whether it's installing playground shade sails, shaping council policy, or ensuring neighbours are safe during emergencies. More and more these days, discussions with these day-to-day heroes turn to another topic: the terrible state of the roads, the potholes, the slips, and the washouts. Our vital roading network is in a state of critical failure. Since January, we've faced ex-tropical Cyclone Hale, Cyclone Gabrielle, and another 10 heavy rain events here in the Far North. It's been the wettest year in more than 70 years.

You can read the full column on the FNDC website under the latest news tab.

Tell us what you think

Resident Opinion Survey

Far North District Council is conducting a survey to gather feedback on our services, facilities, and activities. This survey is being conducted by an independent research provider, Key Research. Your responses will remain anonymous. This link will take you to the survey fndc.govt.nz/residentsurvey Ngā mihi.

