

Ngā pārongo hou

Latest council news

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Kaikohe Library and community hub starts

The transformation of a vacant lot at the intersection of Broadway and Raihara Street in Kaikohe began on 26 August after a contract was awarded to build the town's new library and community hub.

Local company Henwood Construction Limited (HCL) was awarded the contract during the council's July meeting after a tender process conducted by Far North Holdings Limited (FNHL), which is managing the project on behalf of the council.

The project steering group approved an open tender process that included evaluation weighting given to companies with relevant Northland experience and that can show a benefit to the local area. Council staff were also involved in the process to ensure compliance with procurement requirements.

HCL has experience delivering projects of similar size and scope on time and on budget with FNHL and has demonstrated experience working with hapū. More than 75 per cent of its workforce live in Kaikohe.

Initial concept plans for the unique hub came from council consultation with local schools, community workshops and hapū engagement. Over the past 15 months, FNHL has developed the designs further



The finalised design of the Kaikohe Library and Civic Hub goes beyond a traditional library by providing something for everyone.

and these were approved by the project steering group in March.

The building goes beyond that of a traditional library by including in the design a gaming room, recording booth, Maker Space, meeting rooms and a cafe.

Preliminary designs for the multi-purpose facility were first revealed at the *State of the Far North Address* in November last year.

For the full story go to fndc.govt.nz

Kaikohe's WTP gets upgrade



The upgrade will not disrupt the current plant or water supply.

An upgrade of Kaikohe's water treatment plant is underway to strengthen the town's water resilience through improved reliability of supply.

Work at the Tarairi Hills Water Treatment Plant started at the end of July and will take a year to complete. There will be no disruption to the operation of the current plant or supply to Kaikohe during the upgrade.

Works include new water treatment infrastructure, electrical upgrades, a new intake from the Wairoro Stream, and a new 1500m³ treated water reservoir.

The upgrade is funded through the government's Infrastructure Acceleration Fund (IAF), which has been allocated to upgrade water and wastewater infrastructure in Kaikohe. The water treatment plant work is separate from a major upgrade to the town's water and wastewater network that began in early August. However, both workstreams are supported by multimillion-dollar investments from the IAF.

The IAF is managed by National Infrastructure Funding and Financing (NIFF).

Heritage benefits from boards



The 150th reunion for Hokianga schools will benefit local businesses.

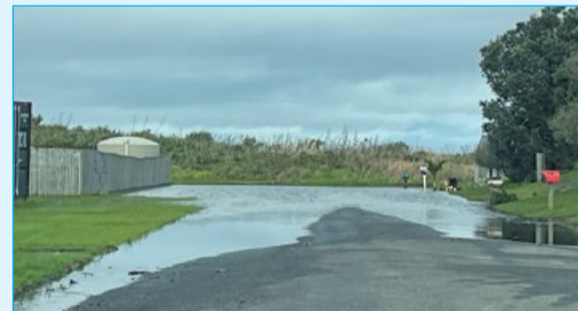
Two significant celebrations of local heritage got the nod from community boards during August meetings. Ōkaihau College and district schools' 150th reunion three-day event will include a pōwhiri, a mix and mingle evening, visits to area schools, and a street party, held between Friday 24 to Sunday 26 October. The reunion event received \$5000 from the Kaikohe-Hokianga Community Board, and \$2500 from Bay of Islands-Whangaroa Board.

Another significant project with a heritage focus is the Broadwood Mosaic Project. It plans to relocate mosaics from the Kaitāia town centre to a reserve in the Hokianga town of Broadwood.

The mosaics, which celebrate Te Hiku heritage, will be attached to planter boxes installed with fruit trees at a popular rest stop for motorists. Community workshops in Broadwood will enable locals to create their own mosaics to add to the display.

Te Hiku Community Board granted \$6500 and Kaikohe-Hokianga board \$4727 to the project.

Flooding relief for Whatuwhiwhi



Flooding like this at Marreine Place should no longer occur.

Flooding of Marreine Place properties following heavy rains in Karikari Peninsula should be a thing of the past for residents after the installation of a new flood pump in June.

In the past, residents at the end of the Tokerau Beach cul-de-sac frequently had access to their properties blocked by deep water when adjacent wetlands became inundated during heavy rainfall.

The new pump transfers stormwater from the dead-end road into the wetland, assisted by an additional cesspit and flood chamber that removes excess water as it accumulates.

An earth berm between the road and wetland has also been rebuilt and planted. The Marreine Place Flood Pump Project has addressed long-standing flooding issues that have plagued residents.

The work was funded and undertaken by the council as part of ongoing stormwater upgrades.

Have your say on our Animal management survey by 14 Sept



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