

# HE TĀKAI KŌRERO MAI I WHAKAORIORI

## MASTERTON MONTHLY WRAP

# HŌNGONGOI 2024

## JULY 2024

### Call for lead architecture tenders for library and Waiata House extensions

Masterton District Council is moving forward with key projects decided as part of the 2024-34 Long-Term Plan, and has called for tenders for lead architects for the refurbishment and extension of Masterton District Library, and extension of its Waiata House offices.

As part of its 2024-34 Long-Term Plan, the Council decided to extend and refurbish the library, creating a modern library space with room for programmes, community events, and activities, including a creative classroom, work room, and open space office.

The budget is \$10.75 million spread over three years.

The Council also decided to extend its Waiata House offices to accommodate a purpose-built civil defence facility, customer services staff, public meeting rooms, and a laboratory for use by environmental services staff.

The budget is \$8.7 million.

Tenders must be lodged through NZ Government Tenders Service website (GETS).

The deadline for the library request for tenders (RFT) is 5pm on 24 July 2024. The deadline for the Waiata House RFT is 1pm on 9 August 2024.

The Council's General Manager - Infrastructure and Assets, Maseina Koneferenis, said both projects were key for the community.

"We want to create spaces that the community can be proud of. These projects provide an

opportunity to achieve our goals and aspirations for the town - bringing Masterton into the 21st century so it is a home that our tamariki and mokopuna can be proud of.

"Our vision is to create future-proofed spaces and places for our community, while also incorporating our history."

The Council is also moving ahead with plans to demolish the existing Town Hall and Municipal Buildings, including the façade, and build a new multi-purpose Town Hall on the current site, with a total budget of no more than \$25 million.

Under the District Plan, the building has local heritage significant but does not have a national heritage significance listing. Demolition is a 'discretionary activity' which means that it requires a Resource Consent under the Wairarapa Combined District Plan.

A consultant planner has been appointed to assess and lodge the application on behalf of the Council, and a heritage architect engaged to prepare a report on the heritage value of the building to determine whether there are heritage values to consider.

The processing of this application will be undertaken by an independent consultant who will also make a recommendation to the Council on whether this is publicly notified.



### Wagging Trails a hit for hounds (and their owners)

A new initiative by Masterton District Council to get dogs and their owners making the most of Masterton's parks and recreation trails is proving a hit.

Wagging Trails was launched on 7 July with a community walk around Henley Lake. A second event walking a Waipoua River took place on Sunday, with a third Night Glow Walk around Queen Elizabeth Park on Thursday 1 August.

Dog owners and their pooches are encouraged to don their brightest garb, reflective wear and sparkly lights to bring a glow to the park. The walk will begin and end at the Colin Pugh Sports bowl, starting at 6.30pm sharp, taking a loop around the Lake of Remembrance. Registrations will be available from 6pm.

The Council has worked with the SPCA, the Retired Working Dog Foundation, Ellie's Canine Rescue, Dogs101 and HUHA (Helping You Help Animals) with spot prizes for attendees and advice from dog behaviour experts.

Dog owners who register and complete all three walks will go into a draw to win back the registration fee for one of their dogs.

"Wagging Trails is all about getting dogs and their owners using our parks and trails in a way that demonstrates responsible dog ownership in shared spaces," Environmental Services Manager Terri Mulligan said.

"Dogs love company and these events should give them plenty! The walks will go ahead rain or shine so pack your wet weather gear and make sure your pooch arrives on a lead."



### Register your Christmas parade float!

Masterton's Christmas Parade will this year take place on Saturday 30 November, down Queen Street – and now's the time to register your float!

After a fantastic turnout of floats last year, we're aiming for an even more spectacular turnout.

There are great cash prizes from Trust House up for grabs for floats in each of four categories: community group, commercial, sports group, and education.

The winner in each category will receive \$500 and the runner-up \$250.

And if you need to paint your float, you can apply to Resene for help at: sponsorship@resene.co.nz

Rules for the parade are set out on the float registration form, available on the Masterton District Council website – www.mstn.govt.nz

### Solway Reserve planting

Masterton District Council has worked with Friends of Solway Reserve to plant 160 native species in the entrance to the reserve, the last remnant native bush in Masterton.

The Council funded the plants, and staff worked with contactor Green By Nature and Friends volunteers to plant them along the entrance to the reserve on William Donald Drive. The planting follows weed and pest eradication work by Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Joan Desmond from the Friends is excited at having the wider community involved in the project, with children and older people working alongside each other.

"The Reserve is being well cared for and we're continuing to establish excellent community networks, bringing experience, expertise and passion to see our precious urban treasure being able to flourish as it deserves."

### Council Meetings

The meetings of the Council and its committees for the coming month are listed below.

Unless specified, all meetings will be held in the Kiwi Room at Waiata House, 27 Lincoln Road, Masterton. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings. The meetings will also be accessible to the public via the livestream on the Masterton District Council YouTube channel. Agendas will be available on the Council website (www.mstn.govt.nz) and copies will be available for inspection at the main Council office, 161 Queen Street, and at the Library, 54 Queen Street, two working days prior to the meeting.

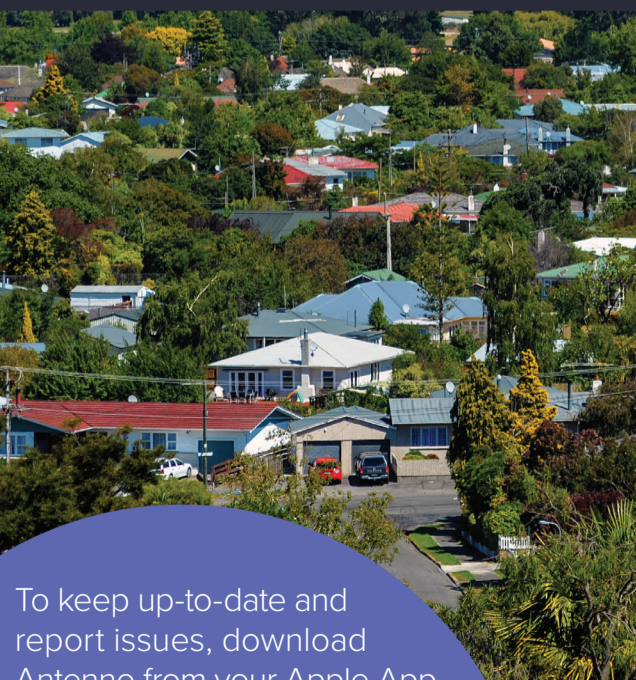
#### Opportunity for Public Comment

At the beginning of some meetings, a period is available for those who wish to speak or comment on any matter relevant to the meeting in question. Requests to speak at a meeting should be made to Harriet Kennedy, Governance Team Leader, phone 370 6300 or email mdc@mstn.govt.nz at least one clear day before the meeting.

### What's On

- Wednesday 31 July**  
9am Council meeting
- Wednesday 7 August**  
3pm Council meeting
- Wednesday 14 August**  
9am Audit and Risk Committee meeting
- Wednesday 28 August**  
3pm Infrastructure and Services Committee meeting

### LTP confirmed and rates set for 2024/25 year



#### Rates finalised

Masterton District Council has confirmed its Long-Term Plan (LTP) for 2024-34 and with it an average rate rise for 2024/25 of 9.6 per cent.

This is 1 per cent less than forecast, after decisions by the Council during deliberations on the LTP consultation, at a meeting on 5 June and more growth in the rating base.

Because growth in the rating base – the number and value of properties sharing the cost of rates – has been stronger in the urban area, the urban rate increase will average 8.6 per cent, with variations due to property revaluations.

Rural properties will have an average 12.4 per cent increase, with variations between different types of property and revaluations. Higher rural rates are a result of roading costs increasing, and rural

properties being allocated a greater share of those costs (as set out in the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy).

#### Applications for rates rebates now open

Masterton District Council is now taking appointments for rates rebate applications for the 2024 to 2025 financial year.

Anyone who received a rates rebate last year, and wishes to apply again should call the council for an appointment on 06 370 6300.

If you haven't received a rates rebate before, and are on a low income, you may qualify for a full or partial rebate.

To check, visit the www.govt.nz website and search 'rates rebate'.

To keep up-to-date and report issues, download Antenna from your Apple App Store or Google Play store.



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