

Annual Plan 2014/2015

JOINT STATEMENT FROM THE MAYOR AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Nā ngā pakihwi o ō tātou tīpuna, ka taea e tātou te titiro whakamua

'From the shoulders of our ancestors, we are able to see the future'

Kia ora and welcome to the Wairoa District Council Annual Plan for 2014/15. This is year three of our current 10-year plan.

Get ready for a breakthrough period of positive change in our district. This is the main message behind the 2014/15 Annual Plan. Having left the recession well and truly behind, it's now time to inject some progress into the community. A new Mayor, CEO, and a largely new Council have put a lot of time and energy into producing this plan, which we believe will provide a much-needed reboot.

A raft of new projects are being planned to breathe life into Wairoa. With the support of the community, the Gaiety Theatre will spring back into life, Marine Parade developments will continue at pace and Whakamahia Beach area will undergo a major facelift to provide a quality experience for visitors and locals alike. Increased expertise will improve the service provided by Council, and people can expect to see a focus on tourism and business. We ask people to also consider their views on forestry and how operations are affecting our roading network. This is becoming an issue of increasing importance and now we want to know what you think.

Change does not come for free – there is a budget increase of 4.32 percent (please note this does not include the targeted rates for the Māhia and Ōpoutama community wastewater schemes). This figure reflects how much money Council requires to carry out the plans. The actual cost to individuals will vary, depending on factors such as what services their property gets, how Council's Rating Policy spreads costs and property values. We recognise that no-one wants to pay more. However, we also recognise that for Wairoa to grow, we have to make some hard investment decisions. With that in mind, we're asking you to look on this plan as an investment in your community. Return on investment equates to a thriving district that people want to live in, move to and visit.

The future of our district starts now.



Fergus Power
CEO
Wairoa District Council

Craig Little, JP
Mayor
Wairoa