WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL **NFOCUS**



local people. local impact.



Stand for Council. Nominations close Friday 12 August at noon!

CHECK YOU ARE ENROLLED TO VOTE IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION

To be able to vote in the upcoming Wairoa District Council election you need to be registered on the Parliamentary Roll by August 12, 2022.

By now you should have received a letter from the Electoral Commission checking that the personal details they have recorded for you are correct.

If you haven't received a letter, you can also check that you are enrolled, or update your details, via www.vote.nz You can also use this site to check to see if you are eligible to vote, or if you need to enrol in order to vote for the first time.

Anyone who will turn 18 by the time of the elections, October 8, is able to pre enrol now. They will then be automatically enrolled on their 18th birthday.

In September, your voting papers will be posted to the address you have provided in your electoral details, so it is important your information is up to date.

To check your details, or to enrol, you can also pop into the Wairoa District Council office and fill in a form or call 0800 36 76 56 and ask for a form to be sent to you.

After August 12, anyone who is not enrolled will need to arrange a special vote by contacting the Wairoa District Council Electoral Officer Juanita Savage at the Council by phoning 06 838 7309.

August 12 is also the date that nominations for the positions of Mayor and councillors close. If you would like a nomination paper and candidate information handbook sent out, again, please contact the Wairoa District Council Electoral Officer Juanita Savage by phoning Council on 06 838 7309.

Nomination papers and the candidate information booklet are also available on Council's website www.wairoadc.govt.nz The Council website also has a range of electoral information including answers to Frequently Asked Questions.

REGISTER YOUR DOG



Mo ce@wairoadc.govt.nz

TE WAIROA E WHANAKE PROJECT UPDATE

The new build section of Te Wairoa E Whanake, the main street revitalisation project, begins this month with the setup work for the concrete slab set to begin.

The annexe, sited at the rear of the former Gemmell's building, will comprise a large a steel-framed structure with the construction of the steel frame due to begin within the next few months.

Wairoa District Council Chief Executive Kitea Tipuna said action at the site will start to ramp up with the construction of the new build which will provide a hospitality space. Inside the former Gemmell's building there will be a new retail area with tenancy agreements for these two sites in the final stages of being confirmed.

A hospitality pod will feature in the courtyard section of the space. The pod has been completed and was built as part of a flagship community project through a partnership with Wairoa Young Achiever's Trust helping support local rangatahi into a building and construction industry career.

Once the courtyard base has been poured, hopefully next month, the pod will be installed and the internal fit-out will take place. An Expressions of Interest round for a tenant for the hospitality pod will be advertised soon.

The community courtyard is set to open in the new year and will provide locals and visitors with a space to relax, socialise, and connect.

The development of the Gemmell's site is currently within budget, although material delays and availability of local contractors has caused setbacks.

Work behind the scenes is ongoing to attract further external funding for the development to help supplement possible cost overruns. Mr Tipuna said targeting external funding to provide the community with a space they can be proud of has been an important project focus from the get-go.

In addition to sourcing funding, cost saving reviews across material and product options are being conducted to ensure the development is fit-for-purpose while being affordable for the Council and the community.

So far, more than \$400,000 of additional funding has been secured to contribute to the cost of the development with the most recent grant of \$50,000 received from Eastern and Central Community Trust for a transparent roof for the courtyard. This funding joins a series of successful grants from First Light Community Foundation that funded the construction and internal fit-out costs for the hospitality pod and tables for the courtyard space.

Hiring local contractors where possible has also been a priority and key driver behind the project.

Te Wairoa E Whanake - Rise Up and Grow Wairoa involves transforming the former main street burnt out building and the neighbouring old Winter's building on the corner of Marine Parade and Locke Street. The project is predominantly funded through a successful Provincial Growth Fund Application and focusses on a multi-functional connected town centre that celebrates Wairoa's unique heritage and culture and champions the Wairoa River.

A design review is currently underway for the Winter's building to ensure a suitable facility can be achieved within the available budget.

FOR YOUR DIARY **PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE Tuesday, August 9, 1.30pm

YOUTH COUNCIL Monday, August 15, 3.30pm

FINANCE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 16, 1.30pm

CONTACT US info@wairoadc.govt.nz (06) 838 7309



Work on the main street Te Wairoa E Whanake, revitalisation project is set to ramp up this month.



Enrol or update your details to vote in the local elections.



vote.nz 0800 36 76 56

