

# What we're working on

## Done

- ✔ Applied to Central Government funding for 10 projects totalling \$87m - including Route 52 upgrade, native plantings, roadside trees removal, renewal of asbestos cement water reticulation pipes.
- ✔ Actively managed and monitored water supplies during drought conditions for longer than ever before in our area.
- ✔ Changed payment frequency of invoices from all our suppliers and contractors from monthly to weekly to help with cashflow.
- ✔ Launched #LoveLocalTararua campaign to support business and encourage local pride.
- ✔ Tararua District Council Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) coordinated the local response to the drought and COVID-19 lockdown; supporting the community, coordinating deliveries for household needs, providing PPE to other essential businesses and working collaboratively with other agencies.
- NEW Application for funding of \$500,000 for Roadside Tree Removal was successful, providing employment for 27 people.
- NEW Installed signage as part of the transition to Alert Level 2, using the #LoveLocalTararua brand, to encourage traffic to stop in our towns as they travel through.
- NEW Installed desk screens in Council service centres, libraries and the Woodville i-SITE to ensure public safety and re-opened for service.
- NEW Contacted 182 local businesses to assess impact of COVID-19 and their readiness for transition to Alert Level 3 & 2.
- NEW Council has approved that all rates penalties will be waived for the next rates invoice, due at the end of May 2020 and metered water invoices due in April and July 2020.
- NEW Council has approved that fees for regular users of council facilities will be waived for 3-months.
- NEW Our advocacy to central government for support for our rural community has contributed to two Feed Coordinators being appointed by the Ministry for Primary Industries for the drought recovery.

## Doing

- ✔ Assessing council projects that can be brought forward and council activities that can be altered to create opportunities for business and employment.
- ✔ Establishing a panel of local contractors to carry out new connections for the 3-Waters (drinking-water, stormwater, wastewater).
- ✔ Preparing to recruit 2 to 3 adult apprentices for 3-Waters physical works.
- ✔ Renewing the maintenance contracts for Parks and Reserves across the district (due to expire in June 2020). The scope has been increased to include berm mowing and sexton works.
- ✔ Expanding the "Entry to Infrastructure" training course run by UCOL, Tararua Alliance & local schools to include career changers and unemployed adults, with the view to run multiple courses throughout the year.
- ✔ Continuing to advocate for central government support for our rural community.
- NEW Developing a District Recovery Strategy collaboratively with our two iwi partners - this includes working with other agencies and consulting key stakeholders.
- NEW Meeting with local businesses to discuss ideas and activities to support district recovery.
- NEW Continuing to respond to the event despite the deactivation of the EOC - i.e. supporting the community, coordinating deliveries for household needs and working collaboratively with other agencies.
- NEW Working with the Rural Support Trust and regional rural coordination group to coordinate and deliver rural recovery plans and activities.
- NEW Refunding 3-months of health licenses to assist businesses most affected by the COVID-19 lockdown.
- NEW Approved in principle to build 6 new pensioner units in Dannevirke.
- NEW One-on-one meetings with social support agencies and community groups to gather information for social recovery decision-making and planning.
- NEW Continuing to promote and develop the #LoveLocalTararua campaign - including a digital publication and refreshed www.tararua.com website.
- NEW Establishing a Digital Hub in the i-SITE building in Woodville to support small-medium enterprises.
- NEW Installing Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations in Pahiatua as part of the Town Centre Upgrade.

## In the pipeline

- ✂ Exploring local alternatives for core products at a similar quality and/or for a similar price. Product examples include aggregate, materials, office supplies etc.
- ✂ Establishing working groups with community stakeholders and leaders to assist us in developing / exploring strategies for recovery.
- ✂ Considering rates relief and funding options for the various programmes, including recovery opportunities, as part of the 2020/21 Annual Plan.
- NEW Investigating opportunities for youth development and training.
- NEW Gathering information for the review of the Tararua District Water Bylaw, to be conducted through public consultation
- NEW Initial investigations into improving walking tracks and developing a mountain bike track connecting Pukaha to the Council-owned Kaipororo Forest in the Tararua Ranges.
- NEW Conducting internal (council) and external (community) debriefs to review the response phase of both the drought and COVID-19 events.