

## Spring Creek stop bank gets funding

Council has welcomed a \$3.6M injection from the government to help get Spring Creek’s stop bank rebuilt.

Mayor Nadine Taylor said confirmation the Beyond the Deluge river protection works will be grant funded was fantastic news.

“It means we can now proceed with confidence with the Spring Creek Peninsular Road stop bank works for which \$8.7M has been budgeted for in the Long Term Plan 2024-2034,” she said.

“This is very positive news for the Spring Creek community and it also means Council’s other flood protection rebuild plans can be accelerated. The Government’s commitment to this co-investment in flood protection will benefit projects around the country like ours. It is very welcome and much needed.”

Council’s Rivers and Drainage Engineering Manager Andy White said at a public meeting at Spring Creek the contribution from central government was significant.

“The \$3.6M will help offset the overall cost of the project and is warmly welcomed after years of lobbying,” he said.

Recent geotechnical assessments in the area verified the extent of cracking through the stop bank, which occurred during the 2016 Kaikōura earthquake and were further

damaged in the 2021 and 2022 floods.

“The assessment has confirmed the stop bank needs to be reconstructed using a raft foundation to ensure future seismic stability – we cannot simply raise the stop bank without resolving the underlying foundation,” he said.

Phase one of the physical work started in May and is nearly complete. It involved removing a bar formed on the true left of the river to reduce pressure on the true right of the river which was causing undermining and erosion of the stop bank.

“We have reduced the risk of damage to the stop bank while we prepare for the longer-term solution of rock armouring,” Andy said.

Excavated material has been stockpiled higher up in the floodplain to be shaped and seeded.

Regional Development Minister Shane Jones confirmed the Spring Creek funding, and a further \$2.8M for flood protection work on the Wairau, at a Nelson Regional Infrastructure Fund summit last week.

“This funding will allow physical work to begin in the 2024/25 summer season, if not sooner,” he said. “Investment in flood resilience provides security for local landowners and communities and is an investment in our future.”



## Rārangi looking smart

Several areas in Rārangi have had a spruce up thanks to Council’s Small Townships Programme.

The entranceway to Pipitea Drive, which provides access to the Hinepango Reserve, has had rock piles removed and new garden beds and paths established.

A sign, built by the Rārangi Menz Shed using timber repurposed from the old Echo site, has further enhanced the area.

The Hinepango Reserve Restoration Group has been supported with community grants including Council’s

Working for Nature Fund and the Small Townships Programme, enabling extensive work including clearing pest species and replanting the significant wetland.

Rārangi resident, and member of the local residents’ committee, James Travers was ecstatic with improvements in the area.

“The Small Townships Programme is great, the management of which supports by pulling things together and really gets things done for the community,” he said.

James said the Welcome to Rārangi signs with their “first to see the sun” tagline and photo of a local family on the beach at sunrise were a welcome addition to the beachside town as was the new sign at the Millennium rock.

“It’s really positive what is being done out here and the residents appreciate all the help we get from Council.”

In future Pipitea Drive will be hard to miss, as the Chorus cabinet opposite has been selected for inclusion in this year’s Chorus Cabinet Art programme, featuring work by a local artist.



The improved entranceway to Pipitea Drive in Rārangi

## Festival an overwhelming success

The Southern Jam Youth Jazz Festival, held in Marlborough in mid-August, attracted 18 schools from all over the South Island and featured a sold-out gala finale.

The annual festival, which involved Marlborough Girls’

and Boys’ Colleges, provides an opportunity for young musicians to compete, perform and learn.

Twenty-one bands took part in the Council-owned event, run by Pure Events Marlborough.

Feedback from those involved said the festival was one of the best ever.

A number of free-of-charge public performances were held at venues around Blenheim, Picton, Renwick and Rapaura.



## Picton Library and Service Centre Waitohi Whare Mātauranga Change of Hours

Starting 1 September 2024 Picton Library and Service Centre will open at 8.30am each Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The opening time each Wednesday remains at 9am.

This later opening time will allow staff to set up and prepare for the day and aligns with the opening hours of the Marlborough District Council Service Centre in Blenheim.

Books can still be returned via the afterhours return chute.

### Picton Library and Service Centre New Hours:

**Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday -  
8.30am - 5pm**

**Wednesday - 9am - 5pm**

**Saturday - 10am - 4pm**

**Sunday - 1pm - 4pm**

The hours at Marlborough Library in Blenheim have not changed.

### Opening Hours

Mon to Fri: 8.30 am - 4.30 pm

Closed Wed 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm

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