

Council Briefing Minutes

Date: Thursday, 12 November, 2020
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: Council Chamber
Forum North, Rust Avenue
Whangarei

In Attendance

Cr Greg Martin (Chairperson)
Cr Gavin Benney
Cr Vince Cocurullo
Cr Nicholas Connop
Cr Ken Couper
Cr Tricia Cutforth
Cr Shelley Deeming
Cr Jayne Golightly
Cr Phil Halse
Cr Greg Innes
Cr Anna Murphy
Cr Carol Peters
Cr Simon Reid

Not in Attendance

Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai

Scribe

N. Pestana (Team Leader Democracy)

The briefing commenced at 9.30am and was facilitated by Cr Greg Martin.

1. Apologies

Her Worship the Mayor.

2. Reports

2.1 Innovating Streets - Rose Street to Vine Street

Tracey Moore (Senior Landscape Architect) covered the content of the briefing as outlined in the agenda.

Elected member discussion and feedback.

- *There was a view that carpark should not be removed from the Vine Street carpark to enable the semi-permanent pedestrian crossing on Vine Street.* Shelley Wharton (Manager Infrastructure Planning and Capital Works) advised that this is a temporary or semi-permanent exercise to test whether

this has a positive or negative effect on the area. The changes will be monitored and evaluated to determine whether they will become permanent, relocated or removed entirely.

- *It was felt that the falling leaves from trees in the planters would cause stormwater drains to become blocked. Temporary curbing would be a subtle and cost-efficient change.*
- *There was discussion on the crossing at Walton Street. Calvin Thomas (General Manager Northland Transportation Alliance) advised that the Walton Street Crossing is not part of this project. The upgrade to Rose Street will include the permanent crossing at Walton Street.*

2.2 Rainwater Tanks and Town Supply

Andrew Venmore (Manager Water Services) covered the content of the briefing as outlined in the agenda and presentation.

Elected member discussion and feedback.

- *Elected members generally agreed with the need for upgrades to the Wairua River / Poroti Treatment Plant to provide additional water supply.*
- *There was discussion on the views of hapū towards the sourcing of water at Poroti, Andrew Venmore acknowledged that there are lots of interests to be considered. Regular meetings are held with hapū and Council contributes to restoration projects in the catchment area. There are no plans to take more water out of the Poroti springs than what we are currently consented to take and generally, hapū are supportive of that.*
- *It was felt that given the effects of climate change and drought, Council should encourage people to have rainwater tanks, particularly for watering gardens.*

2.3 WDC 20-21 Capital Works and Renewals Programme

Greg Monteith (Manager Capital Works and Procurement) covered the content of the briefing as outlined in the agenda.

Calvin Thomas and Greg Monteith responded to questions from elected members on the project split of the Capital and Renewals Programme.

3. Closure of Meeting

The briefing closed at 11.56am.