

Community-Led Development of Council Owned Facilities



So, you have an idea on how you would like to develop an area in your town!

There is lots to consider and we have written this guide and project application to help you, and guide us, as we explore your idea together.

Council understands the importance and positive well-being impact of having community spaces and facilities where people feel they belong and can connect to one another. Community facilities contribute to building strong, healthy and vibrant communities and foster resilience, belonging and pride. They bring a wide range of social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits for Rangitikei and residents and are an important part of realising Councils Strategic Framework

Council values working with community in developing community facilities and spaces to be what the community want and need, after all these are community assets. Bringing resources, knowledge and passion together in partnerships can result in multiple sources of investment, effort and expertise to deliver community outcomes. This is even more important in a context of financial constraints, growing demand and increasing diversity in our district. Giving our communities a lead role in these projects can empower and enable communities, building community capacity and resilience. Such projects also provide platforms to honour our commitment to work with Mana Whenua.

We embrace our responsibilities under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and understand that Mana Whenua hold special cultural and spiritual connections with the land and environment. This includes wahi tapu (sacred sites), taonga (treasures), water and ancestral lands. When we look to undertake new developments, it is good practice to connect with Mana Whenua. There are many benefits in looking for opportunities to learn from and engage with mana whenua including learning about local history, understanding traditional views and practices, and bringing the culture

to life. If you would like help to identify and contact Mana Whenua in your project area, our Strategic Advisor for Mana Whenua can assist you.

Mana Whenua means people of Māori descent who have historical and territorial rights over an area.

Community Committees and Community Boards are elected groups of residents that help Council understand the community's view and it is important to consider their feedback on your project. Council staff can help arrange your presentation to your respective committee or board at the right time in the project planning phase.

Council seeks to optimise our existing facility network, and invest in places where people already are, and by working alongside the community Council can be faster and more flexible in meeting needs.

However, Council must be fiscally responsible and before agreeing to any new development must consider; staff capacity to support the project, the rating impact of ongoing maintenance, replacement cost, and depreciation value. There are a number of community groups activating to develop spaces in their part of the district, Council may need to consider prioritisation of developments to address the greatest needs and gaps first, leaning on reserve management plans and strategic asset planning documents that look at the district as a whole.

We are excited to hear about your idea and help you navigate the first steps!



Initial Project Checklist



Here's the first check list: Your Council Project Advisor can help you answer some of these questions.

- ✔ **Is this area you want to develop public land that is owned or controlled by Council?**
 That means it's not privately owned or owned by a government agency.
- ✔ **Are there any other Community Groups already working on developing this area?**
 If yes, have you discussed your plans with them? You might be able to join forces and work together if there is.
- ✔ **Do you have support of the wider community?**
 Council has limited finance to support developments, are you prepared to do the work to fundraise, write grant applications and/or secure in-kind support such as materials and labour?

If you answered **yes** to these questions, you are off to a great start. Please add your details below and send to our Council Community Project Manager, Pio Rowe will get in touch shortly to assist you with the checklist questions and guide you through the process. For any enquiries please email: Pio.Rowe@rangitikei.govt.nz

Project Contact Details

Project Name:		
Project Location:		
Name (Individual or Group)		
Lead Person		
Email		
Phone		
Legal Status <i>(if any ie: Incorporated Society, Trust)</i>		
Committee Members List any specific skills or affiliations	Name	Skills or affiliations
Key Stakeholders	Mana whenua, Users and user groups, cultural groups, different age demographics, local residents, Ward councillor/s, Local Community Committee/Board	