



# FOXTON EAST DRAINAGE SCHEME

## BACKGROUND

Horizons, like most other regional councils, carries out flood protection and drainage activities using a scheme-based management approach. 34 river management schemes cover a large part of the Region providing a variety of services, each tailored to meet the needs of the particular community that receives the benefit of those activities.

Those activities range from protecting people and property from flooding to minimising river/stream erosion of productive land and the provision of land drainage.

Foxton township has historically been affected by flooding on a relatively regular basis primarily as a result of heavy rain over the town but exacerbated

both by high groundwater levels and drain flows from the dune catchments east of the town. Those factors combined in June 2015 and again on a smaller scale, but with a relatively high frequency, in 2017.

In order to address these issues Horizons has been working with Horowhenua District Council to identify what might provide relief for Foxton, tapping into the Catchment Management Planning programme that Horowhenua District Council have been undertaking for all their urban areas. As a result, we have the following proposal to put forward to the community as part of consultation for the 2018-28 Long-term Plan.

## THE PROPOSAL

The technical work commissioned by Horowhenua District Council has identified that the best solution to mitigate flooding in Foxton is a new pipeline linking the Horizons drain on the east side of the town (known locally as Kings Canal) with the Foxton Loop, running along Cook Street. We've tentatively planned for construction to take place over summer 2020 and 2021.

The pipeline will not provide the absolute panacea to flooding and we expect climate change to add to that challenge over time. For this reason, the pipeline will be designed and constructed to enable a pump station to be added at some point in the future.

# ADVANTAGES

There are a range of challenges in providing drainage for Foxton and the rural catchment to the east, relating to the topography of the area (relatively low-lying sand dune country with typically high groundwater levels over winter). Maintaining open drains through sand country is challenging particularly through wet winters. A Cook Street pipeline will provide a more direct and much more efficient route for drainage water, and will provide much more reliable drainage for Foxton and the farmland to the east of the town.

## RATING IMPACT

Constructing the pipeline has been costed at \$3 million, and Horizons and Horowhenua District Council have agreed to share the cost 60:40 respectively. Both organisations have made provision for that expenditure in their respective Long-term Plans (LTPs). We're proposing to loan-fund the Horizons share, with 80 per cent of the repayment cost being met by way of an additional targeted rate over Foxton and the catchment to the east of the town. This will require amendments to Horizons' Foxton East Scheme, requiring significant review/ amendment of the targeted rate classification for that scheme. We're proposing to review that in 2019 (Year 1) of the Long-term Plan; Horizons will consult with both Foxton residents and landowners to the east of the town early in 2019 on those proposed changes.

Horizons river management rates for Foxton are likely to rise substantially with this work – to as much as \$80 per \$100,000 capital value per year over the next 10 years. Indicative rates are shown below.

## INDICATIVE FOXTON EAST SCHEME RATES OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS, RATE PER \$100,000 CV



No financial provision has been included in this LTP for the pump station that may be required to make the most of the pipeline in the future, particularly with climate change effects.



## HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY

Your views on this proposal are important in assisting Horizons in making a decision on whether to make the changes proposed. Horizons is hosting a community meeting to discuss this and invite you to come along:

- Thursday 22 March, 6pm  
Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom (Teal Room)

We also welcome submissions via the options below before 30 April 2018.

- Go to [haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz](https://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz) and submit online.
- Fill out the submission form in the consultation document available at our service centres and post it to **Freepost 217922, Horizons Regional Council, Private Bag 11025, Manawatu Mail Centre, Palmerston North 4442.**
- Write your submission as a normal letter and post to the same address as above.
- Email your submission to [haveyoursay@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:haveyoursay@horizons.govt.nz).
- Call freephone **0508 800 800** to have your submission noted down.

