



# PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FOXTON EAST TARGETED RATE CLASSIFICATION

## BACKGROUND

Horizons, like most other regional councils, carries out flood protection and drainage activities using a scheme-based management approach. 32 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.

In the Horowhenua District activities range from protecting people and property from flooding to minimising river/stream erosion of productive land and the provision of land drainage. One of the schemes maintains a network of drains that provides land drainage to both Foxton and the rural catchment to the east. Known as the Foxton East Drainage Scheme (FEDS), much of Foxton's

stormwater discharges to the scheme drains that border the town.

Foxton has historically been affected by flooding on a relatively regular basis. That flooding is primarily a result of heavy rain over the town but it often coincides with both high groundwater levels and full drains. Those factors combined in June 2015 and again on a smaller scale, but with a relatively high frequency, in 2017. That flood risk will worsen with time, a function of both the district's forecast population growth and the effects of climate change. Horizons and Horowhenua District Council are responding jointly to this issue, with a relief pipeline to be constructed through the town. Detailed design will be undertaken this year with construction planned for the following two years.



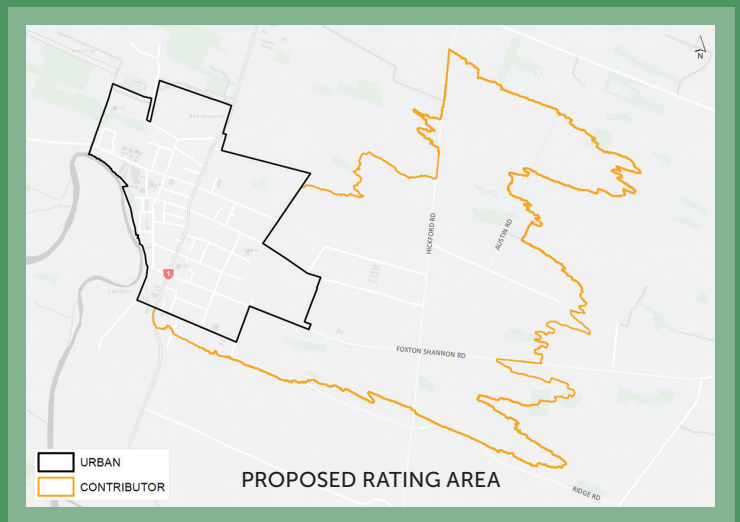
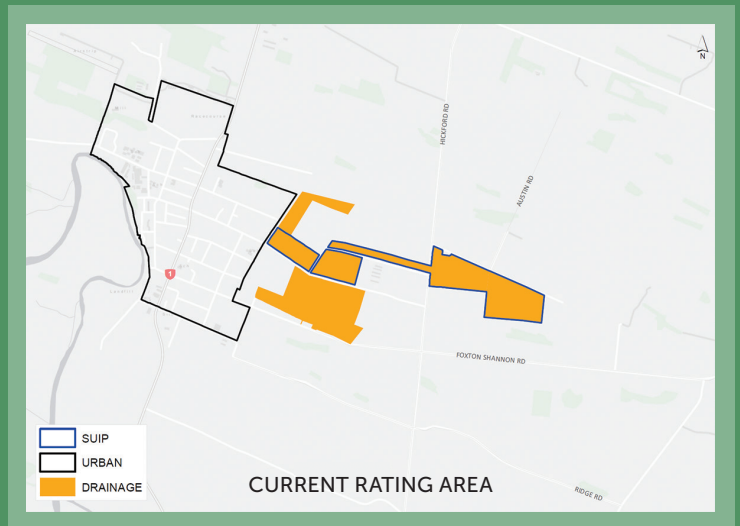
# FUNDING THE WORK

Last year we consulted on a 60:40 share of the estimated \$3 million cost between Horizons and Horowhenua District Council. Part of the feedback we received through the consultation process was concern expressed around rate levels for Foxton. In response to those concerns we're proposing to change the funding split between the two organisations to 40:60, with Horowhenua District Council paying the larger share. As the Horizons share is more targeted to Foxton (consistent with our funding policy) that will ease the rate burden to Foxton residents.

We're also proposing to alter the targeted rate classification to include the whole of the rural catchment to the east of the town. In essence 60 per cent of the operating cost would come from the urban area, 20 per cent from the 813 hectare rural catchment, and 20 per cent from the river and drainage rate levied across the region. Maps showing the existing classification and what's proposed are presented to the right. The changes proposed will mean that Foxton residents will pay \$40.63 per \$100,000 capital value and those outside of the town paying \$37.30 per hectare for the 2019-20 financial year. That's planned to increase to \$53.62 and \$49.23 the following year. Currently Foxton residents pay \$11 per \$100,000 capital value.

Details such as the term of the repayment period for the loan used to fund Horizons' share (20 years) remain the same. We're also proposing to work with Horowhenua District Council to add maintenance of the drain network to their term maintenance contract, which is a far more efficient arrangement.

As we noted with last year's consultation, 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.



## 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 staff will be available to answer your questions at the following drop-in session:

**Monday 11 March, 1.30pm**  
**Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom,**  
**22 Harbour Street, Foxton.**

We also welcome submissions via the options to the right before 5pm 25 March 2019.

- Go to [haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz](https://haveyoursay.horizons.govt.nz) and submit online.
- Fill out the submission form in the consultation document that should have arrived in your letterbox 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).

