



ANZAC PARADE: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

These Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been prepared in response to questions from those invested in Anzac Parade flood mitigation and resilience. Responses were compiled by Horizons Regional Council, Whanganui District Council and Massey University. We hope you find them useful. If you have further questions please complete the on-line request form in the updates section of the Anzac parade webpage and we will be in touch shortly.

1. **Can we raise the stop banks?**

Whilst this option might technically be feasible, there would be a number of issues that would need to be resolved not least of which would be how to deal with geotechnical issues beneath the stopbank which could lead to the structural failure of a larger stopbank. Furthermore, the increased footprint of a larger stopbank could potentially make the river less accessible, as well as requiring the removal of a number of trees.

2. **Would raising the houses be an option and who would pay for this?**

Yes – raising houses could be an option, in some instances, and the cost would be considered by the project. Lots of factors would need to be considered and it might not be the best option for the majority of houses.

3. **What is Horizon's role in this project?**

Horizons Regional Council is responsible for River Management which includes the safety of the community. One of the goals of Horizons 2021 – 31 Long Term Plan is to make communities more resilient to flooding. We have engaged Massey University as an unbiased third party to consult with all affected within the community.

We also have a role in assessing climate change risks and other natural hazards such as flooding and play an important role in overall management of the Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group.

4. **Why has Horizons only dedicated NZ\$ 50,000 a year to Whanganui East flood resilience actions?**

We have allocated \$50,000 a year to facilitate investigation into consultation and study of options.

And, is this enough?

This is enough for the consultation process. Further funding is likely to be budgeted once options are identified.



5. What is Whanganui District Council's role in this project?

Whanganui District Council is responsible for planning and building regulation, storm water, road and park infrastructure. It is the Whanganui District Council responsibility to identify flood hazard areas in the District Plan and to enforce planning rules in relation to future development within the area.

Council also maps overland flow paths and areas of ponding from storm water that can also cause localised flooding.

Civil Defence for Whanganui is also managed from Whanganui District Council and is responsible for flood alerts, evacuations and post disaster recovery.

6. What is Massey University's role in this project?

Massey University's role in this project is to facilitate the development of a resilience building strategy for the Anzac Parade area that faces increasing flood risk. Massey staff, Professor Bruce Glavovic and Dr Martín Garcia Cartagena will work as independent and impartial facilitators of a series of conversations between residents, property owners, iwi, hapū, Horizons Regional Council, Whanganui District Council, and other stakeholders to jointly develop this strategy.

7. Will my rates be affected by this project?

Horizons Regional Council - The current phase of this project is being funded by the wider Whanganui community through targeted and general rates. It encompasses not just Anzac Parade but Kowhai Park and State Highway 4. Until we have consulted and agreed how we move forward we cannot speculate on where future projects costs will come from.

Whanganui District Council - This project will inform future decision making and any discussion of costs and revenue raising would form part of those public discussions.

8. What is community resilience?

Community resilience is the process through which a community distributes and uses resources to adapt and even thrive in the face of a changing social and natural environment. For example, along Anzac Parade, a resilient community is able to cope with flood events and even thrive as flood risk escalates with climate change.

9. Why am I being asked to participate in developing this resilience strategy for Anzac Parade?

Co-designing this strategy provides a very important opportunity for people who have an interest in the Anzac Parade area to participate in formulating an effective strategy to build the resilience of Anzac Parade and Whanganui.



Climate change projections developed by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) for the Manawatu-Whanganui Region indicate that the frequency of extreme flood events is increasing and will continue to increase. Low-lying areas of Whanganui adjacent to the river will become more exposed to extreme flood events. Hence the urgent need to identify a pool of alternative proactive and innovative short, medium, and long-term risk reduction and resilience building measures (e.g., improved flood-warning and evacuation systems, flood-proofing residences, raising houses, managed retreat, etc.). If you care about Anzac Parade, co-designing this strategy will provide you with an opportunity to help shape its future.

10. What will this Resilience Strategy do?

This co-designed Resilience Strategy will identify practical ways to reduce flood risk and build community resilience in Anzac Parade. The desirability, feasibility and affordability of a range of community-wide and property-specific interventions will be assessed. Recommendations will be made to relevant city and regional councils about interventions to prioritise in the short-, medium- and long-term, based on the assessment of alternative interventions for flood risk reduction, resilience building, and resident and community well-being.

11. What does co-designed mean?

A co-designed Resilience Strategy is created in collaboration by residents, property owners, iwi authorities, council authorities, and other relevant stakeholders.

12. Will attention be focused on reducing the risk for State Highway 4?

Yes. We will invite the Waka Kotahi NZTA to participate in the co-design of this Resilience Strategy.

13. Will the valuation or insurance of my house be affected?

This process has no impact currently as no decision has been made but it will need to be considered in the future.

14. I am not the home owner. Do I still get a say?

Yes, all people who live in Anzac Parade are invited to participate, as well as those who own properties in this area, and others with deep connections and special interests in the future of Anzac Parade.



15. I don't live in Anzac Parade but have an interest in the place because I like Kowhai Park and other features of the area - will I get a say?

Yes, all interested and affected parties will have an opportunity to contribute to the strategy. Initially we are holding workshops with those directly affected. We will then be holding public meetings for the wider Whanganui community as this is a project which encompasses not just Anzac Parade but Kowhai Park and State Highway 4. The dates and times for these public meetings will be advertised in local media.

16. Will we have a say if flood protection measures are required on our property?

Any actions which come out of the project will follow extensive community consultation.

17. What are the timeframes for this project?

We plan to have the public consultation process complete by June 2022. The outcome of the consultation will dictate dates for the next stage.

18. How will I know about the outcome?

Meetings will be organized to present the outcomes of the project to Anzac Parade residents and property owners, as well as the wider Whanganui public. The dates and times of these meetings will be communicated directly to residents and property owners, and through the press, and the website for the wider Whanganui public.

19. Where can I find more information?

You can find more information about this project in the updates section of this webpage.

20. Will my details be made public or kept private?

The information gathered in the meetings is bound by the Massey University code of ethical conduct, thus privacy and confidentiality will be prioritized at all times. Your identity and all findings will be reported anonymously. This will allow you to express your views and opinions in a candid and safe manner.

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