



One month of the new eBus

Plenty of us are getting on board the ebus!

There were 68,000 journeys on Nelson Tasman's new eBus service during its first month of operation, an impressive 68% increase compared with the average monthly usage from the last seven months (January to July) of the old service.

Patronage on the service continued to climb across the month with a 16% increase from week one to week four.

Between the launch of the service on Tuesday 1 August and the end of the month, there was an increase of 675 journeys a day.

The new Motueka and Wakefield routes are also proving to be popular with close to 3,000 journeys on the Motueka route alone across the month.

The strong and growing numbers through the first month show the new eBus service is succeeding and with petrol sitting at around \$3.00 a litre, the eBus is clearly helping some family budgets.

While the eBuses have made a great start, there are still a few bumps needing ironing out and we're going to continue to improve the service with some future refinements in timetables and routes.

Four weeks of real-time data can now be used to refine timetables and make improvements where possible.

There are processes that we need to go through before implementing any major changes, but we will be looking at one of the issues most raised – an earlier route 1 and 2 service from Nelson to Richmond.

Pictured: Xander, Hadley and Jayden on their way to school on the eBus.

TRANSPORT TALES



Speeding traffic concerns Parklands School

There are increasing concerns about the growing risk to students from speeding vehicles on Pah Street in Motueka outside Parklands School.

Tumuaki/Principal Andrea Smith says they're seeing large trucks and cars speed past the school on a daily basis, posing a huge risk to students.

"We want to make sure our children get home safely after school, and if something doesn't change then I hate to think what the outcome could be."

To address these concerns, the Transport Choices Motueka team have worked on plans to come up with solutions to provide greater protection for the children getting to and from school.

Project Manager and Motueka resident Dan Roberts says the team has worked with Parklands School to create a design that works for the students and wider school operations.

"We are proposing raised crossing points where the kids need to be able to safely cross the road to get to and from school. These raised crossings will help make the children more visible to other road users."

Dan says the new crossings will help lower vehicle speeds around the school.

"With these changes, we will be less likely to see near misses or accidents in the area."

The raised crossing will be installed near the intersection of Pah and Talbot Streets and will connect to an internal path in Memorial Park. There will also be a proposed upgrade of the existing school crossing.

Andrea says both she and the School Board have seen the plans and are happy with the feedback that we supplied to ensure it works for our tamariki.

"We're looking forward to it being in place."



We heard you Richmond!

Our first Transport Choices Richmond project is about to hit the street, and we've already made changes thanks to feedback from the community.

Funding for this work comes from our share of the Government's \$350 million distributed by Waka Kotahi to rapidly reallocate existing street space for walking, cycling and public transport.

A series of safety improvements are going to be made on William Street and some nearby side streets, and we've been out canvassing the views of residents.

One contentious issue from talking to people was the proposed trial of a no right turn out of William Street on to Salisbury Road. Many people expressed concerns about that idea, so we investigated ways of making changes while ensuring improved safety at that intersection.

The project team went back to the drawing board and redesigned the layout, and the no right turn has now been dropped.

We've found that William Street plays a vital role in creating an inclusive, safe, vibrant, and sustainable neighbourhood and by improving safety, particularly around schools, we're ensuring everyone including our rangatahi (young people) can move around safely by walking, scooting, biking or whichever way they choose.

Isaac Construction is doing the work for us. They plan to start early next month and finish by February 2024.

Residents who may be affected by construction work will be contacted directly, otherwise you can keep up to date at shape.tasman.govt.nz/transport-choices-2023/william-street-project – or by scanning the QR code with your smartphone.



TRANSPORT TALES



New road safety survey launched

We're conducting a new survey canvassing the views of people who use three major roads in Richmond.

We want to gauge the safety perceptions of people who live on or regularly use Champion Road, Hill Street between Champion and Queen Street, and the area of Queen Street between Hill and Salisbury Road.

The survey has been launched to get a broader picture of how people currently



get around and how safe they feel on those streets.

The survey will remain open for six weeks and respondents will go in the draw to win one of five \$50 Prezzy Cards.

You can take part in the survey at shape.tasman.govt.nz/streets-people, or pick up a printed copy from our Richmond Service Centre or Richmond Library.



Murchison shows Giant appreciation for basketball visit

NBS Nelson Giants Captain Sam Dempster was a popular guest at Murchison Sport Recreation and Cultural Centre (MSRCC) recently as the venue hosted three basketball coaching sessions with Sam.

After leading the Giants through a busy 2023 NBL season which included a sell-out home schedule, Sam spent some time to help grow the game in Murchison as part of the 'Giants in Schools' programme, which has helped thousands of youngsters further their hoop dreams.

Local children from Murchison Area School were pumped to have some top-level skills passed onto them as they were put

through their paces with some shooting, dribbling and passing drills as well as a game or two to really underline the fun.

These coaching sessions are just one of the many events and activities that are made possible by having a quality venue like the MSRCC in the Tasman District.

Opened in 2008, the MSRCC at full capacity can host 650 people. The venue has a full commercial kitchen, facilities for indoor/outdoor sports, and spaces for meetings, conferences, exhibitions and private functions.

The accessibility of the Centre and location within the District – essentially a halfway point between Nelson and the Buller/West Coast area – makes it ideal for hosting interregional get-togethers, including social and sporting events.

COOL COMMUNITIES



Special funding for festivals

There's a new one-off funding boost available from the Government especially for festivals, but the clock is ticking to get your hands on some of it.

The Creative Communities Festival Fund is designed to support established festivals that celebrate the life experiences, stories, cultures, and regional identities of New Zealanders, that continue to be impacted by the effects of Covid-19 in 2023.

These funds are intended to help the sector adapt and thrive, while further improving access, equity, and arts participation for all, and are also aiming to provide opportunities for the development of a resilient and sustainable arts sector.

We will distribute funds through our annual Creative Communities Scheme

funding rounds, and you can apply using the Creative Communities application form, ensuring you include the word festival in the title.

Festivals can apply for operational, commissioning, development, and presentation costs. There is no maximum amount a single festival can apply for, but most applications are under \$2000.

The deadline for applications is 10 November and full details are on our website: tasman.govt.nz/grants.



Get a deeper understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Community organisations across Tasman and Nelson are being offered an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi – the Treaty of Waitangi and how it relates to them.

A series of educational workshops are being held over the next two months and are jointly sponsored by us and Nelson City Council.

These day-long courses are aimed to offer community organisations an insight into the treaty and its historical and ongoing impacts and connect this understanding to the local context.

They're designed to build better relationships, stronger team cultures and thriving organisations.

The workshops are in two phases. The first is an introduction to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and once this has been completed, participants can move on to phase two which focuses on how to activate Te Tiriti within an organisation.

Phase one: 9.00 am – 3.30 pm

- Wednesday 11 October – Whakatū
- Wednesday 1 November – Waimeha
- Thursday 2 November – Motueka
- Tuesday 14 November – Mohua

For pricing, enrolment and other enquiries, email kiaora@kindmindkai.com.

FUTURE FOCUS



Tasman residents rate us

The results from our Annual Residents Survey are in and we've received some great suggestions and feedback and have a clear view of what to focus on over the coming year.

Managed externally, the survey asked residents and ratepayers their opinion about the many services we provide, such as council facilities, roading and footpaths, water and waste, and our information and communication.

We also asked how we were addressing local issues and operations and what our reputation and performance is overall.

"Beyond the results of this survey being used to measure our effectiveness as a local body and against performance targets within our Annual Plan, it provides a glimpse into the views and aspirations of the District's residents and ratepayers," says Council CEO Janine Dowding.

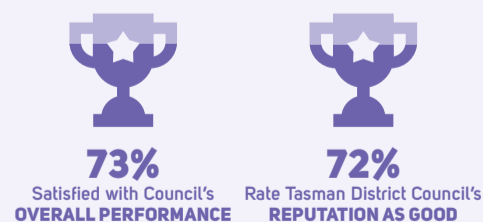
"Not only do the results tell us what we need to know as a service organisation, they tell us where we need to focus."

She says in an environment where priority setting is essential to budget

and resource management, surveys like this tell us where to put our emphasis in the future. They also tell us whether we have that right.

"We know we are not going to please everyone, but the latest results show we have the support of the majority with over 70% of those residents surveyed telling us that we are on the right path. While we are pleased with this result, there is still more work to do."

Survey results can be found on our website, visit tasman.govt.nz and search 'residents survey'.



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Really good work at Reilly Wetland

We are extremely pleased to share the outstanding restoration gains that have occurred at the Reilly Constructed Wetland on Berkett Creek, Motupipi.



Landowners Tony and Kathy Reilly have generously retired 7400m² of productive farmland for wetland restoration work, starting the previously drained and straightened waterway on its journey to improving the health of this important tributary.

and woody debris installed to improve in-stream habitat is largely intact despite numerous high flow events.

The project has been so well supported by Tony and Kathy that we have pooled our resources to build Stage 3 this coming summer.

Starting in mid-2021, Stage 1 was constructed in challenging ground conditions with Stage 2 completed in early May 2022.

Project Manager of Wetland Restoration Blair Reid says the Reilly project is another good example of farmers displaying guardianship of the land with a view beyond their own lifetimes.

The Reilly's generosity has provided the canvas for this amazing work, with the Ministry for the Environment's Jobs for Nature programme and the Council's team of passionate wetland restoration experts contributing to a blossoming project.

"The really inspiring aspect of this work is the coming together of two worlds that are sometimes seen as totally different, productive farming and environmental restoration, when in fact the two go hand in hand."

Stems planted in Autumn 2021 and Autumn 2022 are going gangbusters

Wilding conifer control continues

This year, we have continued our efforts in wilding conifer control in the Mt Richmond Management Unit, which has seen crucial control in some of the highest value conservation areas, specifically the ultramafic zones of the Red Hills (Maungakura) and 'Red Hill' in North Nelson.

Under this scenario, less than half (42%) of the known national infestation would be actively managed, while spread and regrowth would continue in the abandoned management units.

Work was also carried out in key locations around the Management Unit, with a lot of control this year focused on the most troublesome wilding species *Pinus contorta*.

Iwi, forestry, agriculture, conservation groups, regional and unitary councils, and Central Government agencies are actively collaborating to address this issue. Together, we are requesting that additional national funding of \$15 million be provided annually, on top of the \$10 million already budgeted per year for the next decade.

Great progress has been made in the area since late 2020 which has been further enhanced with operations undertaken by Nelson City Council and the Department of Conservation.

The requested investment level will enable us to safeguard our biodiversity, cultural values, water resources and productive lands, and reduce the risk of wildfires.

We are grateful for the support we have received from Central Government on this issue, particularly funding for the Jobs for Nature Programme.



We want to finish the job and maintain the gains we have made over the last few years. However, the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme, led by Biosecurity NZ/MPI, will see a reduction in funding that will markedly reduce the level of control operations after this year.

Energy efficiency goes under the microscope

There's a lot going on in the background to keep our Council systems functioning and we are constantly watching our operations to find where energy efficiencies can be made.



It would be safe to say that few people think about how the water gets to their properties or what happens after the loo is flushed, but it all takes pumps, pipes and control systems which require electricity.

The second major change we've made is in the Richmond water supply pumping system.

Recently we've focused on a couple of areas to improve energy efficiency.

We use high lift pumps to drag water from the Water Treatment Plant on Lower Queen Street up to our reservoirs at the top of Champion Road and Queen Street.

The first is with machinery at the Motueka Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Each of these systems has large pumps which do the grunt work to get water to where it's needed but by installing smaller pumps alongside these, at times of lower demand the smaller pumps take over to deliver water.

We've installed new compressed air machinery used in the automated membrane filtration cleaning system designed to improve process efficiency.

When fully commissioned, the smaller units use less energy while still supplying water at required levels. Pumping at lower rates also takes the strain off pipe networks, which in turn should extend the usable lives of the pipes.

Basically, with financial help from the Climate Change Mitigation Fund, we've been able to double the size of our compressed air storage facility on site, which means air compressors don't have to work as hard or as often, therefore not requiring as much electricity.

Metal collections back at Māiri

Scrap metal collections are back at our Māiri Resource Recovery Centre.



We've spent the past few months upgrading the metal collection area on the site, and during this time we haven't been able to collect scrap and users have been diverted to other facilities.

The new heavy-duty slab provides an improved base for the metal collection storage area and means products stored at Māiri will no longer be contaminated by dirt and mud off the ground before they're shipped out.

But a new heavy-duty concrete foundation has been laid and we're now ready for action.

YOUTH YARNS



Deadline extended for peace art competition

Good news for those youngsters who haven't yet got their entries together for this year's Mayors for Peace art competition.



The new deadline for entries is Tuesday 10 October, giving our budding artists the entire school holidays to create their visions for Peace. This year's theme is 'what peace means to me'.

We're looking for drawings or paintings created by youngsters aged between 6 and 15 who live or study in Tasman.

As a member of the international Mayors for Peace network, Tasman Mayor Tim King is encouraging our young people to join this global art competition to explore and promote peace in our communities.

Last year, local students Lucy Gauntlett and Aria Robertson took out two of the top placings in the world for their works in the international art competition.

Find out more at tasman.govt.nz, search 'art competition'.

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Councillor Kit Maling, Richmond Ward

It's a busy time on Council at the moment with work on the 10-Year Plan. There is never enough money to do what the community asks for while trying to keep rates as affordable as possible.

There are three topics I would briefly like to mention that are happening right now.

Buses: We have rolled out the new electric buses with improved services and new routes out to Wakefield and Motueka. With the cost of fuel, this is a really affordable transport option. I have used the buses a number of times and it was only 26 minutes from Richmond to Nelson and the free wifi was great, so I encourage you to give it a try.

Māpua Masterplan: This is a plan for the development of Māpua for the next 30 years. I attended one of the drop-in workshops at the Māpua Community Hall, it was well attended, and the

community were really engaged. There is still one week left to have your say on this plan – visit shape.tasman.govt.nz/mapua-masterplan-2023.

Richmond on the Rise: This is about the future development of Richmond and making it a nicer place to live. It includes intensification, giving people more housing choices and upgrading community facilities. It would be great to have as much community input as possible. Find out more and share your feedback now at shape.tasman.govt.nz/richmond-on-the-rise.

All the best, Kit Maling.



Golden Bay Community Board

As a board, we have been having conversations about community, what this means and how we can have meaningful engagement and connections with the diverse range of individuals and groups who make up our Golden Bay community.

A community is a group of people who share something in common, such as a place, a culture, a religion, or an interest. Communities can provide a sense of belonging, support, and identity to their members, and to communicate with them effectively, we need to understand their values, norms, and expectations.

This understanding is vital, and something that is of great importance to the Board. At our recent strategy planning, a large part of the meeting was devoted to how we achieve this in our community.

We know that change is hard and that we are never going to please everyone.

When we are asked to make decisions that will affect our community, we don't make these lightly, or in isolation. We get information from Council staff, community members, and in some cases, independent experts.

We ensure that we have clear and factual information and that we are focussing on the long-term benefits or impacts of our decisions.

We believe that transparency is important, and we are always open to talking to members of the community about the decision or the process we used to reach it – email us at gbc@tasman.govt.nz or give us a call if you have any concerns or questions.

WHAT'S ON IN TASMAN



Outdoor movie night

Friday 22 September, 7.00 pm, Decks Reserve, Motueka.

Get your whānau and friends together for a relaxing evening with the famous Mama Mia musical movie. Bring your comfiest blankets, cushions, snuggly jacket, and a thermos of your favourite warm drink. Rain day is Saturday 23 September. Organised by Motueka Youth Council and Tasman District Council.

Motueka Skatepark official opening

Saturday 30 September, 11.00 am, Motueka Skatepark.

Roll on down for the official opening of the Motueka Skatepark. There will be a skate competition where you can show off your skills, or just relax on the sidelines with a free sausage sizzle and cold drink. If it rains, this will be held on Saturday 7 October.

Active Ageing Expo

Sunday 1 October, 9.30 am – 3.30 pm, 10 Pah Street Motueka.

To celebrate the International Day of Older Persons, the Motueka Over 50s Social Hub has organised an Active Ageing Expo in Motueka. Come along and check it out – there will be fun rides, demonstrations, action stations, great food and more!

School holiday fun

Join us for School Holiday STEAM-themed fun at all our libraries from 25 September

– 5 October. STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. From authors' visits to Van Gogh-inspired community art projects, The Great LEGO® Challenge to I Spy... at Washbourn Gardens, there are many creative events across the District for your tamariki these school holidays. Visit tasmanlibraries.govt.nz for more details.

Lunch and learn in Māpua

Wednesday 4 October, 12.00 pm – 1.00 pm, Māpua Community Hall.

Come along to this lunch and learn for the ABCD's of Marketing with Mike Martel. This one-hour seminar will help you discover how to get better customers and set your business up for growth and resilience. BYO lunch and coffee, and meet with other entrepreneurs. This is a free event. Book your spot online at ntbt.co.nz.

How To Look At Art – The Suter's Tasman ArtWalk: Richmond

Thursday 5 October, 5.30 pm, Richmond Library.

Join The Suter Art Gallery's director Julie Catchpole for a guided walk of Richmond's large-scale artwork images. We will meet outside the Richmond Library's Queen Street entrance. Free. No registration necessary. If it rains, it will be postponed. This ArtWalk is part of the October Step Out initiative between the Health Action Trust, Top of the South Neighbourhood Support, Te Whatu Ora Nelson Marlborough, and both Nelson and Tasman Councils.

NEWSLINE NOTICES



Youth grants available now

Did you know we offer grants of up to \$500 to students in Tasman to participate in youth leadership opportunities? This can be used for activities such as The Spirit of New Zealand, Outward Bound, Festival for the Future, Whenua Iti Outdoors and other experiences, conferences and workshops. The grant is provided to support the personal development of young people living in Tasman. Applications are accepted all year round.

To be eligible, you must:

- Live in the Tasman District.
- Be aged between 15 – 20 years.
- Be applying to a programme/project/training which has a central focus on youth leadership.
- Provide a report back to us.

Get all the details and fill out an application on our website, tasman.govt.nz/grants.

Need help with your business?

Business Assist – Nelson Tasman Business Trust is a non-profit organisation supporting local businesses. They provide free, confidential, independent assistance for business owners or those planning to start a business.

Whether you are an entrepreneur with an idea, a start-up or a well-established business or community group, Business Assist can help.

To book a free business consultation, join their monthly network meetings and get support through their mentoring services, visit ntbt.co.nz.

Council hui

Meetings will take place in person and via Zoom. For details, the Zoom link and recordings of previous meetings visit tasman.govt.nz/meetings-calendar. Unless otherwise stated, all meetings will be held at Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond.

Audit and Risk Committee

Wednesday 27 September, 1.00 pm. No public forum.

Operations Committee

Thursday 28 September, 9.30 am

Strategy and Policy Committee

Thursday 5 October, 9.30 am

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