



SHAPING NELSON'S FUTURE



Te waihanga i nga tau titoki o Whakatū
Nelson's Long Term Plan 2018-28
THANK YOU FOR HAVING YOUR SAY



Nelson City Council
te kaunihera o whakatū



MAYOR'S FOREWORD:

HUTIA TE RITO O TE HARAKEKE

Kei hea te kōmako e kō?
Ki mai ki ahau
He aha te mea nui?
He aha te mea nui o te ao?
Māku e ki atu
He tangata! He tangata! He tangata, hi!

Nelson is the Smart Little City. It is a vibrant place - where we are deeply connected with, and committed to, our natural, social and cultural environment. Clever business and innovation help us thrive. We enjoy living fulfilled lives in smart, sustainable communities.

This is our vision for our city, and guides us as we deliver the Long Term Plan 2018-2028. This vision helps us shape our efforts as we keep the key question in our minds - where do we, as a city, want to be in 10 years' time?

Nelson is the best little city in New Zealand, and we want to keep it that way. Our size has so many benefits and allows us to connect with nature and each other in deeply meaningful ways. We need to be smart in our decision making, so we carefully shape and craft our resources to address the challenges we have ahead.

As we look forward 10 years we see a period of great change, challenge and opportunity. The demographics of our country are undergoing a major transition, climate change is altering our weather patterns, funding is increasingly under pressure and the needs and expectations of our communities are changing.

Councils are facing a bow wave of infrastructure renewals that will need investment well above what is possible under the current local government funding model.

These challenges require us to be smart in our thinking. We need to be focused on making the right decisions about where and when we use our resources.

Nelson City Council has four focus priorities for this 10 year plan: infrastructure, environment, central business district (CBD) development and lifting Council performance. These priorities build on the work we started three years ago. They balance the focus on key assets that enable the growth and development of our city, with a need to keep Nelson humming through new projects that support our creative culture, our environment and our community wellbeing.

The message I gave you three years ago about the need for significant investment in our core infrastructure remains unchanged. We have made

good progress in that time through projects such as the investment in the treatment plant that supplies our drinking water, the extra funding for footpaths, the upgrading of one of our major wastewater pump stations and building our resilience with the completion of the Maitai duplicate pipeline. But much work remains to be done and Council believes we cannot afford to reduce momentum in this area.

The story is the same for Council's environmental work. We oversaw a significant step change four years ago with increased funding for projects that enhance our city's major waterway, the Maitai River, and improving biodiversity in a number of key ecosystems. We will continue those efforts battling invasive pest species, working to improve freshwater quality and managing the impacts of climate change as the need for action is as urgent as ever. Increased investment in this area is a feature of the 10 year work programme.

Council's third priority is a healthy, vibrant and thriving CBD; one that supports our retail and other businesses, while attracting visitors and residents alike. As the main urban centre for the top of the South Island, Nelson city has a special role to play in the economic life of the region. Continued investment is necessary to maintain the fabric and distinctive identity of our city.

Lifting Council performance is our fourth priority, and is one that enables us to achieve success in all our other priorities. Nelson deserves a Council that is strategic, demonstrates best practice, has excellent systems and communicates and engages effectively to help it achieve even greater levels of success for our community.

Council will be directing significant funding towards these four priorities to secure Nelson's future.

Council will continue with our partnership approach. In particular we plan to deepen and

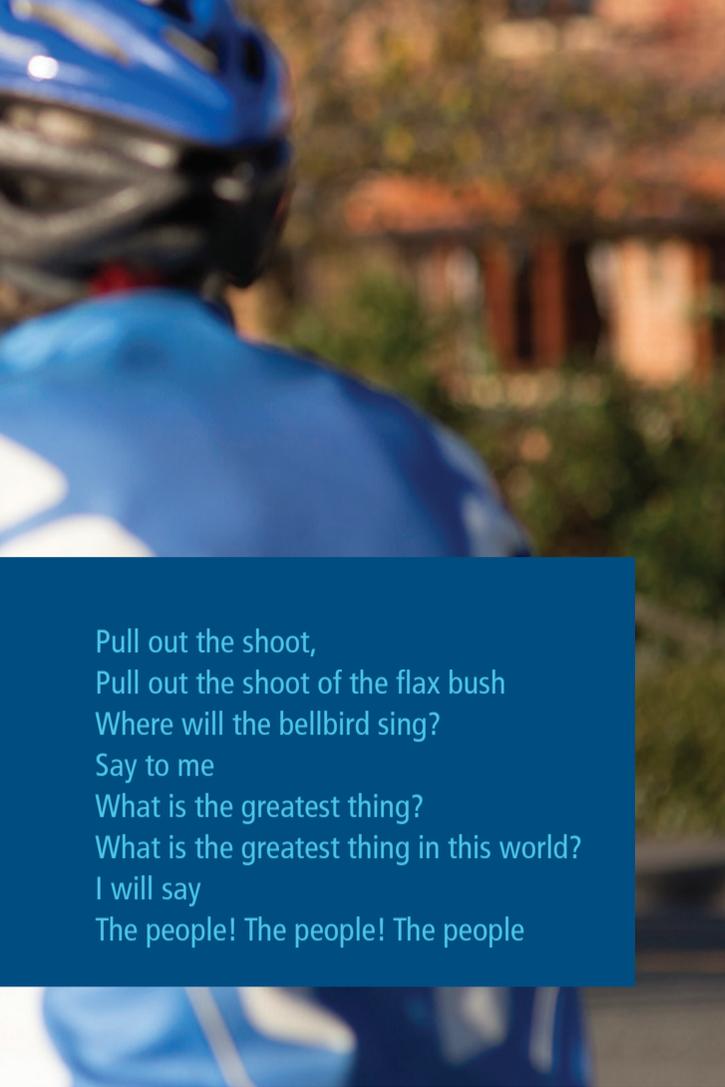
extend our special partnership with iwi and ensure these relationships are strengthened over the life of the Long Term Plan. We also recognise that alone we cannot affordably deliver all the services and facilities residents want so we need to partner with community groups, business, central government and neighbouring councils to make funding go further.

The new government has indicated it wants to work with councils, supporting economic development of the regions and building successful communities. We are working hard on your behalf, engaging with the government to take advantage of the support offered in all areas possible.

One critical area where we will be working closely with the government and the New Zealand Transport Agency is to ensure we have a transport network that supports Nelson as a liveable city and helps our region and its economy to thrive.

Our city to sea linkage is critical for walking and cycling both for commuting and recreation. Our waterfront has untapped potential as a world class visitor destination. Our thriving regional economy also needs a safe, efficient and resilient corridor for freight to reach our Port. It is essential that progress is made on the Rocks Road Walking and Cycling project and the Nelson Southern Link Investigation. The Council has successfully advocated for funding for both projects and they will advance as soon as possible.

Council has also allocated funding for new community projects that will support wellbeing and continue to bring us together as a community. We are looking forward to the collaborative development with the Stoke community of a new youth facility and to engaging closely with users about the much-anticipated upgrade of the Elma Turner Library. Other projects that will contribute to the city's vibrancy include new funding for community events, expansion of mountain biking



Pull out the shoot,
 Pull out the shoot of the flax bush
 Where will the bellbird sing?
 Say to me
 What is the greatest thing?
 What is the greatest thing in this world?
 I will say
 The people! The people! The people

facilities, and a new water sports centre at the marina.

This Long Term Plan has been designed to maintain our momentum in tackling the key issues facing our Smart Little City. It will deliver the bright future that Nelson deserves. A liveable city, with reliable infrastructure, a flourishing community life and a wonderful natural environment.

Although there are challenges ahead, I know that Nelson will approach our future with an enthusiasm and a confidence in our ability to meet those challenges with smart, inspired solutions.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to let us know their thoughts on the direction we set in our Consultation Document. We received 434 submissions and over 150 people took the opportunity to present their feedback to Council in person. The level of interest in our plan for the future was heartening and all submissions were carefully considered when finalising the Long Term Plan 2018–28.

Rachel Reese
 MAYOR OF NELSON

Audit New Zealand ensures that local government consultation documents provide an effective basis for public participation, and that the information and assumptions in the consultation document are reasonable.

Council received an unmodified audit opinion. This means that Audit New Zealand were satisfied with the process and results for the Nelson Long Term Plan 2018-28.

VISION



Nelson is the Smart Little City: Whakatū Tōrīre

Nelson is a vibrant place where we are deeply connected with, and committed to, our natural, social and cultural environment. Clever business and innovation help us thrive. We enjoy living fulfilled lives in smart, sustainable communities.

MISSION

We leverage our resources to shape an exceptional place to live, work and play.

ACHIEVING OUR VISION:

Council has reflected on what is important to achieving our vision for Nelson and the financial challenges in creating and maintaining assets over the next decade. We're focused on delivering critical core infrastructure projects, maintaining existing networks and providing infrastructure to meet Government requirements.

It is not financially sustainable for Council to provide all the services and activities that parts of the community would like, in the period of this 10 year plan. Therefore we have had to carefully prioritise the work programme.

We undertook a series of pre-consultation meetings over a six month period on a range of issues of importance to the community as well as meeting with individual stakeholders and key sectors in the city. This added to information that Council already held on community priorities, and provided early knowledge of projects the community wished to initiate. We used this information to help shape and prioritise projects in the Long Term Plan.

RATES AND CHARGES:

WHAT WILL MY RATES BE?

As part of the process of developing the Long Term Plan, we weighed up requests for more and improved services with keeping rates and charges affordable. We need to deliver core infrastructure to keep Nelson safe and functioning, as well as projects that enhance the city and make it a place where people want to live and work. The average overall increase in rates required in the first three years, adjusted for growth is 3.8% for 2018/19 and proposed to be 3.9% and 3.4% for 2019/20 and 2020/21 respectively. Over the following seven years, the overall increase in rates required including growth is expected to average 2.4%. Information on the wide range of services that Council provides are shown on pages 4 – 8.

We have set a cap on the overall increase in rates required each year of the Local Government Cost Index plus 2%.

More information on your rates is available on nelson.govt.nz/rates-search

OUR TOP FOUR PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT 10 YEARS:

e whā ngā whakaarotau

In implementing the following priorities Council will be paying particular attention to projects that deliver multiple benefits. Projects in one area can bring significant gains for another priority. For example, the accelerated programme to reduce inflow and infiltration into the wastewater system aims to reduce the risk of wastewater overflows into our waterways and Tasman Bay. Fewer overflows mean significant benefits for our environment, and contribute to the smart development of our city.

Council consulted on the four broad priorities for the Long Term Plan 2018-28.

1. INFRASTRUCTURE *Ko ngā Tūāpapa*

Our city, community and environment all depend on our core infrastructure networks to provide safe and smart transport, water, wastewater, stormwater, and flood protection. Key city assets need ongoing maintenance and replacement so we can depend on these essential utilities. This work also enables and protects investment in our city and removes constraints on our growth. Council is putting essential infrastructure at the forefront to future-proof our city.

2. ENVIRONMENT *Ko te Taiao*

Council recognises investing in the environment is essential for our future. A healthy environment underpins the health of our community and the way people enjoy Nelson, supports the economy and means we have functioning ecosystems to support our treasured species. Responding to climate change and growing our community's resilience to the more extreme weather events it will bring is a top priority.

3. CBD DEVELOPMENT

Whakahaou taone

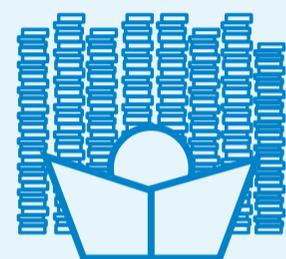
Our aim for Nelson's central business district is for it to be attractive to businesses, residents and visitors, with an exceptional mix of events, civic facilities and retail. We are working to build an environment that supports commerce, encourages inner city living and is a catalyst for private sector investment. The top of the South, Te Tau Ihu, needs a strong commercial centre to thrive. We want our city centre to enrich and build our local culture - the bustling meeting place for everyone who lives, works and visits here.

4. LIFT COUNCIL PERFORMANCE

Whakapikinga pukenga

To achieve our vision of a Smart Little City, we need a Council team that enables things to happen. It needs to provide solutions to cut through the red tape so that real value can be delivered to our community. Nelson deserves a Council that is strategic, achieves excellence in delivery and asset management, is business-friendly and has a strong culture of engagement with its community. The projects in this plan seek to follow best practice principles, while always seeking to improve how we partner with our community.


**PROCESS
ALMOST
6,000
DOG
REGISTRATIONS**



**LEND OVER
730,000
BOOKS**

PROVIDE



**40
PLAYGROUNDS**

with **265**
items of play
equipment



**STAGE
150
EVENTS**

across the arts and
summer festivals

WHAT WE PLAN TO DELIVER IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS:

DEAL WITH MORE THAN **90,000** CUSTOMER ENQUIRIES AND PROCESS MORE THAN **1,500,000** EMAILS



MAINTAIN **272KM** OF ROADS



MAINTAIN **500** MARINA BERTHS

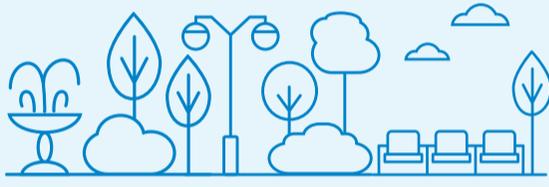



WELCOME MORE THAN **380** NEW NZ CITIZENS at 12 citizenship ceremonies

LOOK AFTER AROUND **11,250** HECTARES of recreational reserve



PROVIDE **165** PUBLIC GARDENS, SPORTSFIELDS, PARKS AND RESERVES (*plus 98 walkway reserves)



INSULATE AROUND **175** HOMES under the healthy homes scheme



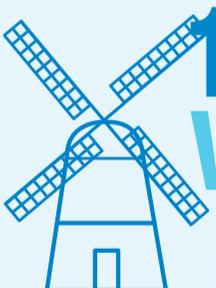
LIGHT OVER **4,595** STREET LIGHTS



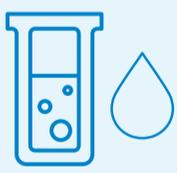
AROUND **1,000** SAFETY CHECKS on recreational boats and paddle craft by the Harbourmaster



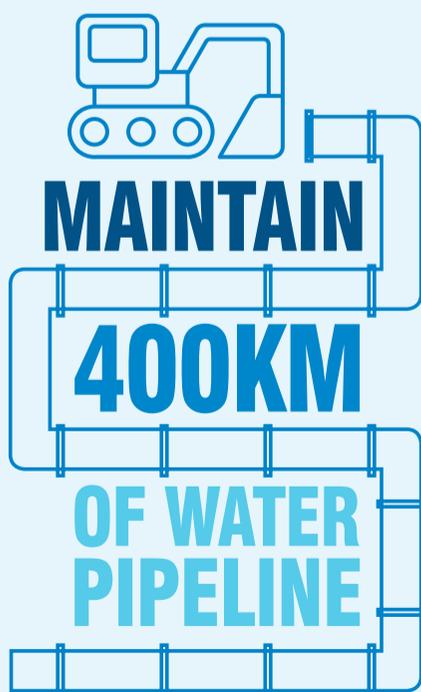
WELCOME MORE THAN **125,000** VISITORS to Founders Heritage Park



TEST OUR DRINKING WATER OVER **1,500** TIMES



MAINTAIN **400KM** OF WATER PIPELINE



REPLACE **2KM** OF OLD WATER MAINS



GRANT OVER **800** more than **400** resource consents and building consents



HOW WE'LL MAKE NELSON THE SMART LITTLE CITY

Council's work programme is structured around 11 activities. Over the next ten years Council will be spending \$462 million on capital projects to improve the city and \$864 million on maintaining assets and delivering services.

This section shows a few of the key projects under each activity. All the key projects, challenges and costs are available in the full Long Term Plan available online, see nelson.govt.nz



TRANSPORT

Council provides transport infrastructure for Nelson city, including the roads and paths used for driving, parking, cycling and walking. Services include road safety, traffic and parking control, and public transport.

To support this growing city, Nelson needs a transport network that is safe, resilient, enables economic development, supports our tourism industry and provides our residents with choices on how they travel day to day.

- Council supports the **Nelson Southern Link Investigation** continuing and indeed it is essential that we make progress on this project if we are to address problems in the transport network and make the most of the opportunities to support businesses, residents and visitors. This is a New Zealand Transport Agency led project but Council has successfully advocated for funding of the **Nelson Southern Link Investigation** and **SH6 Rocks Road Walking and Cycling projects** and they will advance as soon as practical. A budget of \$574,000 in 2020/21 and \$117,000 in 2021/22 has been allocated as the Council's contribution to these projects.
- **City Parking** - first hour of free parking is retained with an increase in fees thereafter to \$2 per hour.
- **Cross town links** improving central city cycling and walking facilities, including along Nile Street. \$1.9 million investment over the next 3 years.
- Planned programme of works for the **Tahunanui cycle network** which is expected to be completed by 2020/21. \$2.8 million investment over 3 years.
- **Parking meter renewal project** will provide a study into smarter options for parking in the CBD.
- Funding for the CBD **Bus Terminus** increased. \$2.6m over 5 years.
- Enhance **Public transport** by reducing fares for all passengers, reintroducing an amended Stoke Loop service, upgrading local buses, introducing electronic bus ticketing and extending weekend services to Richmond. Investment of \$225,000 per year.



WATER SUPPLY

Council supplies high quality water to households and businesses through a piped network. The water supply system includes dams and weirs on the Maitai and Roding Rivers, the water treatment plant and the network of pipes and storage reservoirs throughout the city.

Water is metered to ensure it is used efficiently and costs are shared fairly between water users.

- Continued renewal of ultra-filtration membranes at the **Water Treatment Plant** to maintain our high water standards. \$3 million investment in 2018/19.
- Replacement of **residential water meters** that have reached the end of their useful lives. This work will also help protect the water supply from risk of contamination from sources within the pipe network. \$3.3 million has been allocated over the next 3 years.
- **Replacing ageing pipes**, including asbestos cement and cast iron pipes. \$22.9 million has been allocated over the next 10 years.
- **Maitai Dam aeration project** designed to improve the quality of the environment in the dam. Scheduled over the next 4 years.



STORMWATER

The stormwater network includes pipes, open channels, and overland flow paths that convey stormwater to receiving rivers and streams, or directly to the sea.

In many parts of the city a fully reticulated system is not provided and individual properties discharge stormwater to on-site soakage or to roads as part of the primary drainage system.

- **Urban streams and rivers** – continuing to upgrade stormwater protection in the city, Stoke and Atawhai, over the next 10 years.
- **Stormwater disposal** - ensuring options are available to allow for the on-going growth of the city, considering the key risks.



WASTEWATER

Council collects, treats and disposes of wastewater for the Nelson district. It operates and maintains a network of pipes and pump stations across the city that carry wastewater from Stoke and Tahunanui for treatment at the Bell Island facility, and from the rest of the city to the Nelson Wastewater Treatment Plant at Wakapuaka.

Nelson generates 16 million litres of wastewater a day, with the Nelson treatment plant at Wakapuaka treating around eight million litres and the Bell Island treatment plant in the Tasman district treating the other half.

- An increased commitment to **reduce inflow and infiltration** which should lead to a steady improvement in wet weather flows. Sections of the wastewater network in poor condition will be renewed. This is a \$3.7 million investment over the next 3 years.
- **Natural hazard security** due to earthquakes, storm events and sea level rise – hazard vulnerability studies will focus on the Nelson Wastewater Treatment Plant, pump stations and the piped network across the city.



FLOOD PROTECTION

Council flood protection works include maintaining and enhancing rivers and streams to maximise the volume of water they can carry, increasing the size of culverts, managing gravel in areas where it accumulates and reduces flow capacity, modelling, land use planning and maintaining detention ponds and overland flow paths for excess water. This work aims to manage risks associated with flooding from rivers and streams during heavy rainfall events.

- Continue to have a focus on maintaining the capacity of existing **waterways**. Any future upgrading of channel capacity will be undertaken following consideration of the risks.
- **Flood protection strategies** and **community consultation** to identify flood protection requirements across the city and develop appropriate responses.



Nelson's very own Green Gecko

A special thanks to Gabe the Nelson Green Gecko, who was our mascot for the Long Term Plan. The Nelson Green Gecko is one of our rarest animals. Confined to the Nelson area but almost never seen. Without near-complete predator control, these beautiful animals will struggle in the wild.



SOLID WASTE

Council manages the Pascoe Street Transfer Station, which receives domestic hazardous waste, refuse and separated green waste. Council also manages the recycling service to residential properties and promotes waste minimisation.

The joint responsibility for the management of both York Valley Landfill in Nelson and Eves Valley Landfill in Tasman has been transferred to the Nelson Tasman Regional Landfill Business Unit.

- Council will contribute to achieving the outcomes of the **Nelson Tasman Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan**.



ENVIRONMENT

Council's environmental activities include planning, city development, scientific monitoring and reporting, education and assistance, as well as building and resource consents, compliance and enforcement.

- **Freshwater** – extend our Healthy Streams project. \$258,000 investment in operating costs and \$108,000 in capital expenditure per year to improve stream health in both rural and urban areas.
- **Biodiversity/Nelson Nature** – focus on pest plant/animal control, significant natural areas, management of coastal margins, development of bio-corridors, threatened species and habitat restoration.
- **Climate Change** – develop a programme of work to target emission reduction. Council is researching carbon emissions measurement and reduction programmes and considering actions to support the community to adapt and respond to the effects of climate change.
- **Natural Hazards** - incorporate hazard planning and infrastructure management in the Whakamahere Whakatū Nelson Plan and Council's infrastructure work programme.
- **Coast and marine** - launch a new estuarine health monitoring programme across Nelson's four estuaries and respond to national and regional initiatives in coastal and marine areas.



SOCIAL

Council's social activity supports community wellbeing through provision of a range of social, arts and heritage facilities such as our libraries or Founders Heritage Park. Council also funds events such as the annual Arts Festival and services such as downloadable heritage walks.

It invests in and supports the work of key community-owned facilities such as the Nelson Centre of Musical Arts and the Theatre Royal. Council also funds community development, including through grants to groups providing social services and support to the community. This activity helps strengthen and connect our community, build resilience, support our most vulnerable residents and contribute to making Nelson an attractive and vibrant city.

- The precinct around the **Elma Turner Library** is a vital part of central Nelson. A project to re-develop the library is central to this riverside area, and provides opportunities to collaborate with neighbouring landowners. Council has set aside funds to redevelop this well-used facility so it can continue to be a much-loved hub but with expanded community space.
- Funding increased to \$656,000 in 2018/19 for the **Bishop Suter Art Gallery** to reflect the need to make the most of the facility's recent upgrade.
- **Community events** – funding of \$50,000 for community events in 2018/19 and rising to \$75,000 in following years.
- **Improved public toilets** - upgrade and extend the Millers Acre and the Tahunanui Lions toilets. Estimated investment of \$515,000 and \$516,000 respectively in 2020/21.
- Following public consultation, a charitable trust will be established to govern the **Nelson Arts Festival** from 2019. Council's ongoing funding of the Festival will be managed under a contract with the new Trust.
- **Nelson Tasman Hospice** – a one-off grant of \$150,000 in 2018/19 for the new Hospice in Stoke.
- Funding of \$50,000 allocated in 2018/19 to build on the work already undertaken supporting positive social outcomes for youth at **Stoke Library**.
- An operating grant of \$124,000 per year allocated to the widely used **Theatre Royal**, plus a community use subsidy of \$113,000 per year.



PARKS AND ACTIVE RECREATION

Council manages a network of approximately 11,250 hectares of parks and reserves for the city. It provides recreation opportunities, such as those at Saxton Field with its wide range of indoor and outdoor sports facilities.

Council is also a key partner supporting a range of international and national sporting events to be hosted in Nelson.

- **Mountain biking** – the economic benefits of mountain biking are significant for Nelson, both in terms of money into the local economy as well as job creation. Following consultation, funding of \$190,000 was committed in 2018/19, \$100,000 in 2019/20 and \$210,000 in 2020/21 for trail development and preparations to support hosting of the Enduro World Series in Nelson in 2021.
- Funding was also made available for other **cycle trails**, including the Great Taste Trail, proposed off-road route between the Maitai Dam and the Maitai Camp, Dun Mountain Trail and the trail below the Maitai Pipeline.
- Improve the surface of fields at **Neale Park**. Funding of \$30,000 per annum over the next 3 years.
- Engage with the Stoke community, with a focus on engaging youth, to progress the **Stoke Youth Park Facility**. Planning commences on this facility in 2018/19.
- The hockey turf at **Saxton Field** is planned for renewal in 2018/19. Investment of \$605,000. In addition, the Saxton Field Athletics Track is planned for renewal over the next 2 years with further projects at Saxton Field in following years.
- Continue to support the **Brook Waimarama Sanctuary** with a grant of \$250,000 in 2018/19 and \$150,000 for every following year over the Long Term Plan.
- Support Natureland with a grant of \$248,000 in 2018/19 and an annual grant of \$170,000 per year after this. \$50,000 also allocated for capital works this year.

THANK YOU FOR HAVING YOUR SAY

- We want a healthy, vibrant and growing city that supports residents and visitors alike.
- To achieve this it is important that our plans for the future reflect what our communities need to thrive. Thank you for taking the time to share your view on the proposed Long Term Plan.

We're confident that Nelson's Long Term Plan 2018-28 will deliver the bright future that Nelson deserves. A liveable city, with reliable infrastructure, a flourishing community life and a wonderful natural environment.

HAS THE INFORMATION IN THIS SPECIAL EDITION OF OUR NELSON BEEN HELPFUL OR INTERESTING FOR YOU?

We welcome feedback, just drop us a line at enquiry@ncc.govt.nz



ECONOMIC

Council fosters economic development in Nelson through providing the city infrastructure, enhancing the central city and funding a range of economic development services. It supports Uniquely Nelson and maintains relationships with key partners impacting the local economy such as the Chamber of Commerce, Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology, Cawthron Institute, Nelson Tasman Business Trust and many others.

- **Waimea Dam** is expected to provide significant economic benefits for Nelson. Following public consultation, Council has allocated \$5 million to the Waimea Dam project in 2020/21, subject to conditions, including ongoing access to water and the option of converting the grant to shares.
- **City Development** - Council aims for Nelson to be a vibrant, attractive place by providing for growth and development in positive ways. Funding has been included across many different activity areas for projects which will ensure Nelson's central business district can deliver Council's vision for an attractive, thriving city centre.
- Council's **City Development team** is responsible for implementing the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity, the Housing Accord and the Special Housing Areas Act. This activity focuses on ensuring there is an adequate planned supply of residential and business land.
- **Nelson Regional Development Agency (NRDA)** - Council oversees the NRDA, which has a tight focus on Sustainable Destination Management, innovation and an emphasis on promoting an extraordinarily unique and enduring regional identity. NRDA uses Council funding to leverage Government and private sector funds.



CORPORATE

Council's Corporate activity includes a range of necessary services to ensure the smooth running of the organisation from managing Council's information technology to running the three yearly Council elections.

- Bring office space at **Civic House** up to an adequate standard to address a 40 year underinvestment. \$5.7 million investment over 2018/19 to 2021/22.
- Council's **staffing** is below capacity in some key areas, resulting in risks to project delivery and increased costs from engaging contractors and consultants, \$1.2 million will be invested over the next 12 months, and a further \$517,000 in 2019/20 and \$482,000 in 2020/21.

COMMERCIAL DIFFERENTIAL

To support central business district (CBD) businesses and see the city centre continue to thrive, the commercial differential in the CBD and the Stoke commercial centre has been reduced.

The differential recognises the additional services that businesses receive, such as extra rubbish collection, street sweeping, and events to attract visitors. Reducing the differential by 0.5% per annum for the next five years reduces rates collected from those businesses.

The decrease helps to keep our CBD competitive compared to other centres that do not have such a charge.

DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Nelson city continues to experience strong growth in its population, visitors, development and the local economy. This growth generates increased levels of subdivision and development activity which places greater pressure on the assets and services provided by Council.

As part of the Long Term Plan process Council approved the Development Contributions Policy and Development Contributions for the next financial year, from 1 July 2018.

For more information about Development Contributions or to see the full Long Term Plan, visit our website nelson.govt.nz



ALL THE WORK UNDERTAKEN BY COUNCIL IS TO REALISE OUR VISION FOR THE CITY - NELSON IS THE SMART LITTLE CITY

Whakatū Tōrire