

17 July 2023

Deputy Mayor, Tania Kerr
Cc: Councillors Ana Apatu and Marcus Buddo

Hastings District Schedule of Road Repairs

Kia ora Tania

Between the Two Rivers is a new community catchment partnership of mana whenua and wider rural community between the Ngaruroro and Tutaekuri rivers.

Our immediate priority is to support the community in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle.

As you will know, a source of considerable stress and anxiety for the community is the state of roads and uncertainty about when roads will be repaired and strategic access and roading risks addressed.

We understand the scale of the recovery programme that is before council, the strain this is placing on staff and council budgets and how hard council and contractors have been working.

Our understanding from initial enquiries with council staff is that while the council does have priorities, there is not a publicly available schedule of works for our area and that the current setting is that members of the community call the council to notify of any issues.

Visibility on this - knowing that road issues are registered and on a repair schedule - would reduce community anxiety considerably. Currently, communicating what is happening is down to word of mouth in the community and can – and does - lead to misunderstandings and unnecessary frustration.

We acknowledge that from your perspective, releasing such a list may invite dissatisfaction from some community members that their roading issue is not being given sufficient priority but we believe that the vast majority of the community is alert to the needs of others and that the benefits of visibility across this rather daunting burden of repair outweigh those risks.

We are holding a meeting in early August to hear from the community and we expect this issue to come up. We would welcome discussing the best way forward on this by phone or in person before then.



Andrew Russell
Co-Chair



Meihana Watson
Co-Chair