

Media Release

7 November 2019

Community feedback invited on Dargaville Pontoon design

Kaipara District Council is inviting members of the community to have their say on the design for a new pontoon in Dargaville.

The proposed design includes a replacement 23 metre floating pontoon, a walkway to the pontoon, additional piling to secure the pontoon in position, and replacing piling on the outer wharf. Improvements to wharf amenities such as better lighting, more parking and shelter over the existing wharf are also proposed.

Kaipara District Council PGF Project Manager Diane Miller says the redesigned pontoon will deliver recreational and commercial benefits to Dargaville.

“It will improve all-tide access to Kaipara Harbour and provide a facility for services such as ferries and freight,” she said.

Ms Miller said the redesign of the Dargaville Pontoon is a key part of Kaipara Wharves, a project that aims to create a water-based transport network on Kaipara Harbour by investing in wharf infrastructure.

“Taking advantage of the Kaipara Harbour to connect communities within our district, and connect our district with Auckland, will create opportunities for tourism, as well as for passenger and freight transport,” she said.

Kaipara Wharves is one of three projects comprising Kaipara KickStart, an initiative supported by the Provincial Growth Fund to use Kaipara’s natural assets to support social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing for the district. Other projects include improving the district’s road network and stimulating high-value agriculture and aquaculture.

Ms Miller encouraged members of the community to come along to the information session and have their say.

“We want to get feedback from the community before we finalise the plans and start detailed design work,” she said.

A drop-in information session for members of the community to contribute their ideas and feedback will be held from 4pm to 7pm on Wednesday 20 November at the Northern Wairoa Memorial Hall.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can access the information on our website www.kaipara.govt.nz/kickstart, and provide feedback to the team by emailing kickstart@kaipara.govt.nz

Construction of the new pontoon is expected to begin in February 2020, and to cost around \$500,000.

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For more information contact media@kaipara.govt.nz

Information for captions: The proposed design for the new pontoon.