

MDCA AGM - Chair's Report

Sept 2022 – August 2023

Kai ora Tātou. Welcome to the MDCA AGM. It has been a privilege to serve as chair of this association over the past 2 years, and I look forward to contributing in the future as a member of the executive committee. The past year has been busy and impactful for our village community, with a number of initiatives around growth and mobility generating significant interest and at times dividing opinions of our residents. It was reassuring to see so many members and residents take an active role in community matters. I truly believe that an open dialogue and willingness to share and/or listen to differing viewpoints is an important first step in building awareness of and consensus on some of the important challenges facing our growing and thriving community.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Executive Members who have contributed their time and energy over the past year. To Lou Gallagher, Esme Palliser and Anne Marie Beeler, who stepped down during 2022-23, many thanks for your support. To Henk Vermeer, thanks for joining and having an impact in your first year. And of course to Aileen Connell, Bruno Lemke, Jim Vause and Marion (who "stood in" as acting secretary for the entire year) you all helped keep the wheels turning in the right direction.

Secondly, thanks to our Ward Councilors for regularly attending our monthly meetings and making time to take calls and/or respond to emails – we very much appreciate your ongoing support and advocacy.

Over the past year the MDCA has invited several guest speakers including the principal of Māpua School, the Māpua Boat Ramp Community Trust, Takaka Co-Housing, several TDC Managers and the MDBA Chair Gordon Shaw. I hope these were well-received and helpful.

MDCA also completed a Community Survey aimed at better understanding residents' main issues and prioritizing MDCA activities accordingly. We will be sure that this important feedback is incorporated into the upcoming Māpua Masterplan engagement sessions.

A number of projects have been completed, continued and/or initiated, including the Playground upgrade, Dominion Flats plantings/maintenance (Congrats Helen Bibby and team), Pump Track improvements, and tennis court booking system and resurfacing. Also, the Māpua Willing Wheels has completed its second year of operations, the Motueka to Richmond Community Bus has been a success and the just started Motueka to Nelson Ebus service is now up-and-running.

MDCA has also been kept very busy participating in feedback and/or engagement sessions related to the Māpua Masterplan, Streets for People Shared Pathway and Liquor Licence submissions. Many thanks to the members that took leading roles in these important engagements.

And of course there have been business-as-usual roading improvements/maintenance, the Bluffs reopening, wastewater infrastructure and plan change/deferred zoning process concerns. A special thanks to Jan Heijs for all his efforts in addressing the wastewater discharges issues.

Looking ahead to the coming year, the Māpua Masterplan, Aranui Road Shared Pathway and Māpua Boat Ramp are all front-and-centre, so lots to keep us busy. Thanks to all members for your ongoing support and encouragement.

Mā te Wā
Paul McIntosh
MDCA Chair