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Tēnā koutou,

We are reaching out to share an important update on the Bridge to Better project.

Announcement on Proposed Developments:

We would like to inform you that *Kāinga Ora will no longer be pursuing the development* of the sites located on Achilles Ave and Rutherford Street. This does not affect our plans for Bridge to Better and we will actively continue to seek development opportunities on these sites, and others, with a range of developers.

The sale of Council land at Achilles Ave and Rutherford Street to Kāinga Ora was always contingent on a series of due diligence activities, which, due to their nature, often limit the amount of information that can be shared. We acknowledge that clarity around the future of these developments has been a long time coming for you and we appreciate your patience as we followed due process.

Progress on the Bridge to Better Project:

Following several months of informative engagement, we're excited to share that we've made significant progress in shaping the concept design. We are now at an important point in the process where we must decide on the street layout that best serves our city's needs.

We're taking a strategic approach to modernise our city's infrastructure. Upgrading the water, stormwater and sewer networks will lay the groundwork for more housing and commercial development and enable above-ground improvements that will create safer and more inviting spaces for all.

We've formulated two options that balance these considerations, preserving vehicle access and parking capacity while enhancing functionality and appeal. These improvements are designed to attract more people into the city and improve business and community vibrancy.

Next Steps

On Monday 4 March 2024, we will distribute a survey to gather your thoughts on the proposed layout options. These options have been informed by the feedback received so far. Our engagement team will be on hand to discuss these with you.

This proactive step is part of our commitment to engaging with our community, complementing other opportunities for input, such as the Long Term Plan process and upcoming consultation period on the proposed concept design.

Following approval of the concept design by Council, we'll move into the next design phases and consenting. Construction is planned to begin in late 2026.

We will work closely with you all as we progress this exciting project.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Philpott', with a stylized, cursive script.

Nigel Philpott
Chief Executive Nelson City Council

Contact the Project team at: BridgetoBetter@ncc.govt.nz