

Property purchase negotiations nearing completion



The Bay of Plenty Regional Council is very close to finalising negotiations to purchase properties and acquire land required for the College Road stop-bank repair.

Discussions are underway to mark this milestone, acknowledge the process that has occurred, and ensure the blessing of the land, in preparation for ongoing work.

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Engineering Manager Mark Townsend says that the community can expect to see activity relating to further geotechnical testing in October/November, with physical clearing of the area around the same time.

Meanwhile the design process for the stop-bank repair continues, with consultant engineers GHD chosen to develop concepts which will be independently peer-reviewed. The timeline for the overall repair process has the preferred design being selected in mid-November; the contract for the repair going to tender in late-November, leading into construction starting in mid-January 2018. The stop-bank construction is expected to take between 3 and 4 months, followed by work on services, road works, footpaths and landscaping, through until the end of May.

An email address has been set up to receive community questions relating to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council stop-bank design and land reinstatement process.

Questions can be sent to:

Edgecumbe.questions@whakatane.govt.nz

Answers to questions will be collated and shared via the Recovery Newsletter, or Facebook page (unless they require a private response).

Red Cross Supports Recovery



Red Cross volunteer drivers Jade Aikman and Jack Tukua with Volunteer Coordinator Jean Nuku.

The New Zealand Red Cross is providing a free, door-to-door transport service between Kawerau, Edgecumbe and Whakatāne to support the District Recovery.

Julie Forrest, New Zealand Red Cross Humanitarian Services Coordinator (Bay of Plenty) says the flood event has made it harder for many people to attend meetings and medical appointments and it is hoped the transport service will also help residents maintain their social networks.

The Eastern Bay of Plenty Community Transport Service is available Monday to Friday, from 9am to 3.30pm. To make a booking, call 07 923 4057.

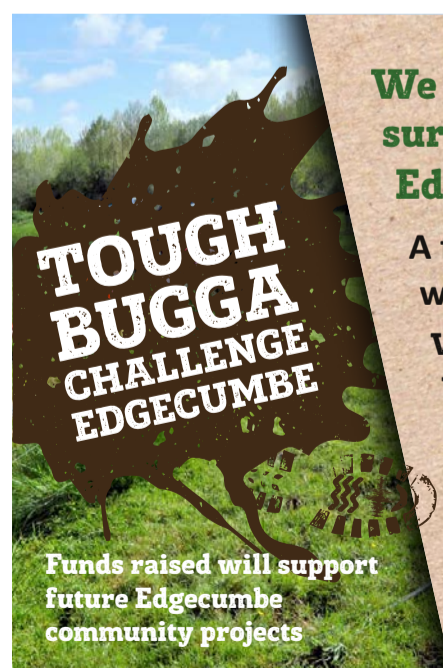
For enquiries, you can email rotorua@redcross.org.nz

Community Plan – next steps

Interested groups and organisations are being asked to think about representation on an oversight committee to implement the Edgecumbe Community Action Plan.

Rangitāiki Community Board Chair Charelle Stevenson will shortly be writing to interested parties to invite them to send a representative to a meeting in late-October. Items for discussion would include the commitment required of the committee to govern the plan; which groups could take ownership of various aspects; and where there might be opportunities for collaboration between volunteer groups.

The Community Action Plan seeks to lay out a vision and provide direction for action in Edgecumbe that restores community confidence, connections, pride and economic vitality. A copy of the draft plan, developed following the recent Peter Kenyon-led workshop, is now available to view at whakatane.govt.nz/project-edgecumbe.



We have survived the Earthquake, we have survived the flood, but can we survive Edgecumbe's Tough Bugga Challenge?

A fun and challenging all-terrain team* event, with 3km, 5km or 10km options.

When: 19 November 2017

**Teams can be made up of between 2 and 10 people.*

Where: 376 Manawahe Road

Time: Registration from 8.30am, Race Brief 9.45am, Start 10am

Cost: Adults \$20, Children \$10, Family of four \$45

Enter at www.soakedinadventure.co.nz

For more details contact Fiona Cleghorn on 027 626 7910 or Vicky Richards on 027 309 3657

