

A new reservoir for increased resilience



MAY 2023



We're making plans for a new water supply reservoir. Here's what you need to know:

- Over the next 20 years we'll be delivering hundreds of new homes for our community. The Porirua Development programme is however more than just about building houses - it's also about the wellbeing of the area and the people who call Porirua home.
- We're planning to build a new, bigger, water supply reservoir behind the existing reservoir at Stemhead Lane.
- Our storage of clean drinking water will increase from 4.5 million litres to 13.5 million litres.
- We'll have significantly more water in storage to help all of us get through any water supply disruption. This increases our ability to respond to a natural disaster like an earthquake.
- We are currently in the design and planning phase. Construction should start in 2024 and is expected to take two years.

See over the page for the full details.



What are water supply reservoirs and why do we need another one?

Water supply reservoirs are filled from the bulk water supply network. They store treated drinking water so when there is disruption to the water network (e.g. a pipe bursts or a pump station breaks down), water can still be supplied to homes in our area. Under normal conditions, a reservoir should provide 1-2 days of drinking water, meaning there is 1-2 days to fix any issue before your supply of water is disrupted.

Water supply reservoirs need to have enough storage capacity to support the needs of the community, now and into the future. They also are critical to our response to natural disasters, particularly earthquakes.

The reservoir at Stemhead Lane has only enough storage capacity to deliver less than one day of normal water use. By building a second reservoir we will significantly increase the volume of water available and therefore our ability to get through any water supply disruption.

What is planned?

We plan to build a new reservoir between the existing reservoir and the Waitangirua Link Road.



The new reservoir will hold **9 million litres of water** and will be designed based on the latest knowledge about our area's earthquake activity and impacts.



The existing reservoir holds **4.5 million litres of water**.



Combined, the two reservoirs will provide enough storage to meet current demand and to allow for the expected growth in Whitby and Eastern Porirua.

What is involved?

Mid 2023

Consent applications

2024

Construction begins

2026

New Reservoir completed

We are currently designing the new reservoir.

We aim to submit an 'Outline Plan of Works' application to Porirua City Council and a resource consent application to Greater Wellington Regional Council by mid-2023.

Assuming that the applications are approved, we plan to start construction of the reservoir in early 2024.

Construction is expected to take approximately 2 years. This will involve building the reservoir foundations and structure, underground pipes and a small building to house electrical and control equipment. Once the works are completed, the site will also be landscaped.