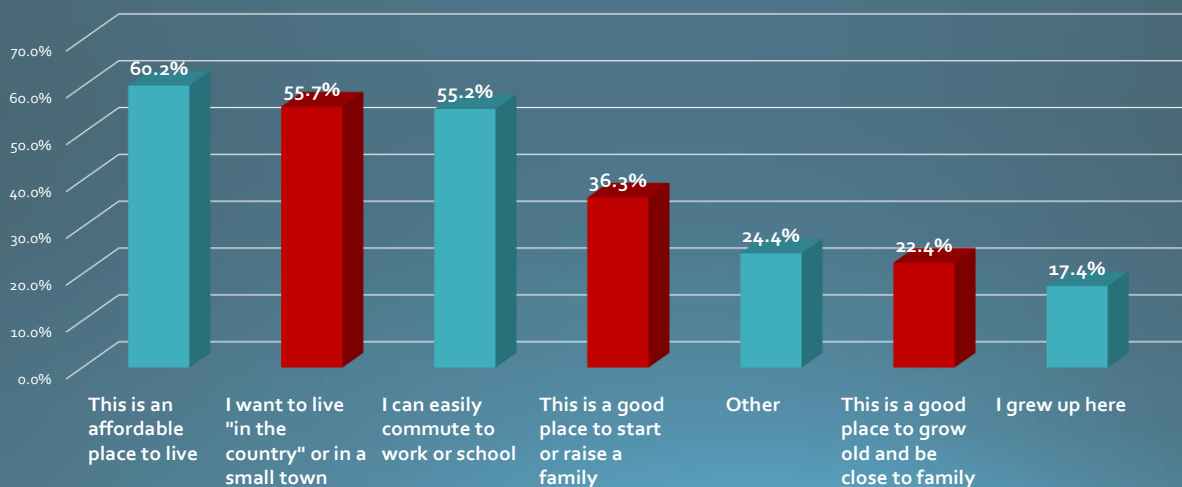


Our Future Featherston Survey 2017

Why do you choose to live in Featherston?



Why do you choose to live in Featherston?

- Tired of the city
- We came here to work and raise a family.
- We came here to work and raise our family.
- I married a Featherston resident - its home now
- I love the fresh air!
- Close to Remutaka Hill
- Allow me to add to my tick that leisure pursuits are very important.
- It's a small town with great vibe.
- And it's awesome and creative- far cooler than snobby greytown.
- Halfway between Mum in Eke and Wgtn. Vibrant town.

The other two towns just didn't "feel" right. There was no community connectedness.
I love it here - it's just a great town in the beautiful South Wairarapa.
I generally commute to Wellington for family and arts & culture.
Neighbourly/community
To be part of a "community"
This is an affordable place to live (except for the cost of Power).
Reminds me of the South Island (especially Canterbury).
Defiantly the best of south wai. Love its offbeat charm and lack of pretentiousness
I was brought out by government for the Kapiti expressway and refused to stay in the district any longer. My husband has been shooting on Lake Wairarapa for years and loves the area. So it was as good as any place to move.
Great community, accessibility to all attractions (Wellington and Masterton), access to beaches. Access to everything without having to live at the beach or in a city!
Just love the place, don't need to live anywhere else.
My family is involved in community work.
I have to.
Had Magnificat community here.
We initially came back to join a family business.
I love Featherston, it is a friendly town that has good amenities, schools and beautiful scenery. It is a place that has good family values and is a close commute to the capital.
Featherston has a great little community with a wonderful spirit of working together in the best interests of everyone. Community meetings often draw crowds of up to 200 when there are important discussions to be had. Featherston is currently coming alive with lots of new residents and commercial developments offering a wider variety of products and services.
Not sure if I can tick more than one box. Has been great to bring up our kids, good place to grow old, grew up here, did commute for 40 yrs, is affordable and THE PEOPLE ARE FANTASTIC!
This was a place I used to love but now we are wanting to move out of the region due to issues with the SWDC.
Featherston is full of creative, professional, and community-minded people, around whom we want to be. The community spirit is unique. We would never get this in a city or suburb. We are immersed in natural beauty, and only a (beautiful) train journey away from the capital city of our country.
Close to rail for commuting. Close to rimutaka cycle way. Good local heritage and fantastic community spirit. Good arty core.
and also my husband a MBA born and breed got sick of his town and said we were moving and we ended up in Featherston, his choice, not mine at the time, but that decision has been the making of me as a person. Featherston has been good for my soul and a family puller from all around NZ and overseas. Beautiful, beautiful town!!!!
My job
Close to Wellington
Life here is "happy"
Community focused
A fantastic community feel. Beautiful piece of the Wairarapa/NZ.
Amazing people. Purchased 1st home here.

We have bought a weekend house and a rental here. We love the wairarapa vibe but still close to Wellington. The future of Featherston is bright.

My work is here too.

The appeal of living in a friendly village in a stunning natural setting with a strong sense of community and history, within walking distance of a variety of shops and a range of facilities and activities. They include a medical centre and chemist, social services, a library, a gymnasium and tennis courts, an affordable open air swimming pool and walking and cycling tracks.

I got a job here.

Friendly people and community. Good outdoor bowling club and other sports activities.

booktown, community,

Lovely community and people

Very proud to be a long resident of Featherston. Love the peace and the friendly community.

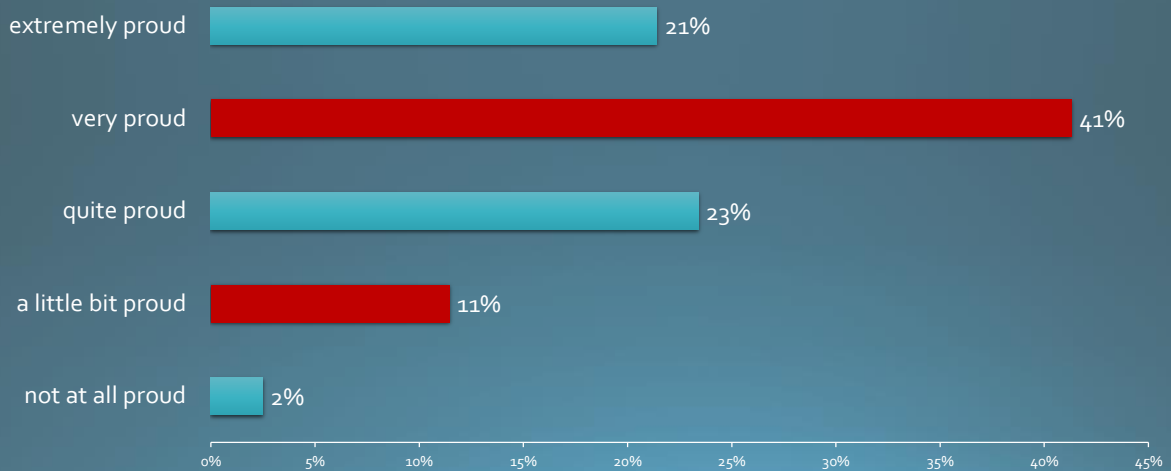
First step on the housing ladder

It's not too far from our family and friends in lower hutt.

Cheap housing

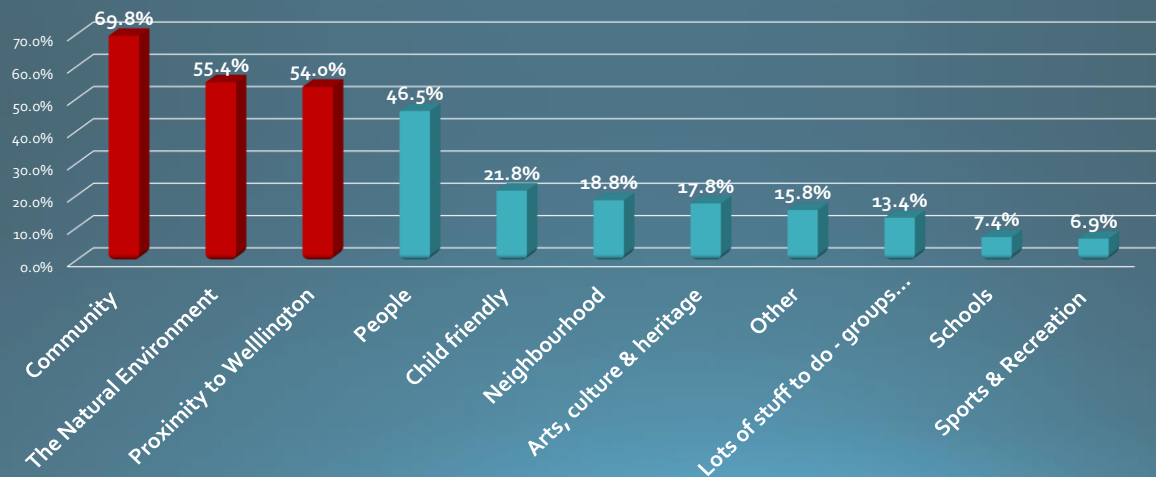
We are a couple - one's work can be done anywhere, the other works in Wellington. Buying a house here will enable us to become mortgage-free much sooner and we already have a vastly improved quality of life.

How proud are you to live in Featherston?



How proud are you to live in Featherston?
Proud of the people
Very Proud
so proud there should be another heart after extremely proud!!
extremely proud
We would not want to live anywhere else.
Extremely proud
Pride is one of the Seven Mortal Sins. It's actually not a good thing in itself. Better to align oneself with a positive reaction than an emotion
I am extremely proud - if you want a true life experience and want to grow from it, come to Featherston it will test you and bless you!!
It's not that I'm not proud to live here because I love the town, but I am tired of constantly having to battle with those living over the hill as to what a great place it is, and the enormous potential it has.
Only recently arrived and still finding out what to be proud of
A little proud
Extremely proud

What are the top three things you like the most about Featherston?



What are the top three things you like most about Featherston?

Peace and quiet when I want it

Affordable rural land to live comfortably on.

Expand forest trails between Featherston and Greytown. Easy for backpackers to catch train here.

The lot

The lot (all options) it is a wonderful place to live plenty to do.

Free red cross van for disabled non-drivers to get to appointments; Increasing awareness and taking steps to provide activities for group of all ages and abilities; caring people; well trained, capable Fire Brigade for fire information, fire fighting, emergency care, safety promotion, friendly work in community; caring teachers; churches who pray for the people and provide activities and programs to help meet the daily needs of the people (the Christian Churches cooperate and work together); wonderful friendly caring library looking out for providing for all ages from zero on; interested in its heritage but sad did nothing little for history of Prison Camp.

History of the area. The air.

Home of Buffalo Bill

To rid the town of unsightly properties, particularly buildings, private properties which effect values.

It's like the NZ I grew up in in the 1950s

It s close to Wellington with job opportunities and transport but also allows me to get away from the big city.

Everyone who lives here is awesome! Literally loads of writers and artists and interesting folk.

Close to the coast

Family live here.

Not sure yet - just moved here.

Also it is a nice size and it isn't too wanky.

The Library!! ***** (What will we do when Penny retires????) If I would have 4-5 choices, I would add community/people.

The Featherston people are very caring if you are in trouble.

Impossible to tick only three...

so many opportunities for kids just locally

I love that Featherston people are real, we have a kind caring heart.....great people, kindness caring and a real sense of community.....

Life style farm and work close together

That Featherston is a "Sleepy Hollow", just the way we have always enjoyed it, and just the way it should remain.

Most of the boxes above could be happily ticked

and the walk to one tree hill we called it The Domain when I was a child growing up in Featherston

Shops and proximity to the rest of the region.

We have a great heritage here, but it is not widely known. I have friends who are military history lovers, who were not aware of Featherstons past.

Wellington is only important to me / us for my husband's employment. We don't go there for anything else really.

Coffee

Lack of noise and people compared with wellington. Rural roads.

The diversity..it doesn't feel pretentious

Proximity to the rest of Wairarapa

I also love the environment. It's so peaceful.

What are your hopes or aspirations for Featherston?

What is your vision for our town?

What are your hopes or aspirations for Featherston? What is your vision for our town?

Attract more good people and displace the underdesirables. To see it grow with alternative people and businesses.

Retail development etc based on VUW School of Design Concepts

To be a vibrant, alternative town with great options for children and youth.

Heated indoor pool. More businesses. Build on book venue but also as an outdoor town. We have the cycle trail, lake and forest as our backyard.

more activities for young children/ teenagers to do after school

As someone who just moved here, I would like to see more businesses come to Featherston and also the current businesses extend their hours. After 6pm there is very little open and I think people would stop here if there were cafes and other stores open.

That it becomes known as a dog friendly town where dogs are welcomed and treated like in the UK (go on buses and trains, into cafes and pubs and hardly ever excluded from any parks, etc.)

A safe town.

To build its growing popular reputation. To have a beautiful main street, get rid of "Brown Ruins"

To see Featherston grow.

To see Featherston grow but please we appear to have too many organisations doing the same thing.

A vibrant small town, with a strong young family community and a focus on creative arts. Other towns are precious and conservative. Featherston can be energetic, artistic and distinctive

For a lot of the closed down shops to re-open. And have a self service petrol station after 8pm

I hope it gets bigger and gets more tourists and visitors from Wellington. I hope the trains get increased into Wellington. I hope the shops increase.

Have a peaceful town that people want to visit, lots of Native parks - birds - gate way to everything.

Strong and safe community that provides for itself - self sufficiency and sustainability.

Featherston continue to develop as a book town and great place to live for families.

A great small town filled with good people.

To be different and alternate place for everyone to enjoy.

All of the below [listed in question 5].

I hope Featherston will continue to flourish.

Better access to facilities both Government, Regional and Community infrastructure.

To see it develop into a town which differentiates itself from the others in South Wairarapa.

FOR IT TO FLOURISH!

To stay much as it is now, with Mr Broeren's buildings replaced with character retail shops. Nice to see young people buying houses here.

That the rest of the Wairarapa will stop 'bagging' Featherston. We have the best community, just need some more shops.

To see the town centre beautified. More quality restaurants and choice of great foods rather than takeaways

I would love everyone to see the town for the supportive arts community that it is to me.

The old and the young knowing and respecting each other (reference: the Student Army initiative post equakes in ChCh, where young people visit the old regularly, for socializing and welfare of both groups) Crime-free environment; assistance given to troubled families/children so committing crime is the last thing they'd think of; safe mainstreet, with adequate forward planning for potential increased traffic and residents.

More visitor friendly

No more old empty buildings.

To further deepen community spirit and positive pathways for future generations.

For the main street to continue to grow. Keeping the relaxed down to earth vibe.

That diversity is preserved and that any improvement reflect diversity i.e. not homogeneous council type "upgrades".

A vibrant diverse community with local artists, sports clubs, and activities, where everybody knows your name.

A place to have a nice meal.

That it does not lose its dog and child friendly spirit.

To see it continue to grow with new businesses and people to the area, but not to a point where it loses it's charm.

They could of put a bigger supermarket in and less car parking. Never seen it full. More takeaway options and another childcare centre.

To keep improving and to have well thought out public facilities. Would love to see a major upgrade of the pools so we could use all year round and train services to Wellington that allow parents to drop their kids at school / collect when both parents work. Currently working parents with children are really disadvantaged with train times.

Friendly community with opportunities for recreation and learning and great amenities and such things as access to walkways, public transport and parks / reserves

To have more community minded people working together for the greater community.

A town that celebrates, conserves and preserves our natural resources, as well as our growing artistic and cultural residents and initiatives e.g book town

For Featherston to become recognized as a caring and future thinking part of the Wairarapa.

That it can develop without turning into a mini-Greytown - maintain its old-school charm, but also offer more opportunities to people in terms of somewhere to work as well as live, so support businesses starting up etc.

Alot of my wishes for town are happening

I want to see the town develop into a hive of activity and be seen to be a destination town not an "pit stop" town.

To tidy itself up and become a "must-stop" destination for people passing thru'. Also to become a desirable but down-to-earth location to live.

I want me kids to be able to grow up in Featherston - a community where people are real, connected, and the land/environment is precious and sustainable.

It would be great if more of the significant old buildings could be restored and utilised to give the main street a more 'happening' look; i realise that the council is hamstrung on this because the owner of many of the bigger buildings is oppositional. it would be great if one of the buildings could be rented out as an art hub where artists and other small businesses can hire a space for a small affordable rent and produce and sell their works like a small factory'come'permanent market. This would make small businesses an affordable option for a lot of local people and possibly save them from commuting, keep their money being spent in town and promote a healthy work/life/family balance. The cost of larger properties puts them beyond the reach of artisans and small start ups and many people do not have capacity for workshops, etc. in their domestic accommodation.

To have a safe and vibrant community that people are proud to live in
friendly up beat town

Has more health and fitness related activities available to locals. Continues to develop its artisan and boutique specialist shops.

To do up some of the empty abandoned shops.

Get rid of the derelict shops on the main road - do them up and make Featherston beautiful.

Greater public awareness of Featherston's history & well-being of community.

To grow tourism and it stimulates the town. Have empty buildings used and repaired.

More space for younger kids to play and jobs.

To become more connected together and that people learn to let things go.

That we will get more shops and businesses so there are more jobs and less unemployment.

That it grows and prospers but without losing what makes it a great place to live i.e. small town quirks. Focus on ourselves, stop worrying what other people think/write.

As I am in the older age group, I would like to see a retirement home set up. It is very hard for elderly folk to leave all their friends behind when they can no longer manage on their own. Also meals-on-wheels re-instated would be wonderful.

Would love to see Feathy develop into a total foodie enclave! Marty has wine, g'town has 'fashion' Feathy should rock epic produce from artisan producers. That and BOOKS of course!

To grow with the community and retail, but still maintain the kindness and caring attitude of our people.

That it doesn't lose its sense of community with growth. That it loses its look of being unloved with the empty abandoned shops being brought back to life as we are the southern gateway to the Wairarapa.

Continue to grow and support local community and services.

I'd love to see more groups/sports/recreation activities that take commuters into account. More public art projects would be amazing. More publicity for our great walks, and natural environments (and perhaps more investment in keeping them visitor friendly.)

To boom and becoming a thriving place like it's cousins Martinborough and Greytown.

That Featherston becomes the most exciting small town in the Wairarapa.

I hope Featherston continues to grow without losing its bohemian feel.

For Featherston to push forward and grow and a community. More Te Reo and tikanga Maori. More things done by and with our local marae and our marae made a bit more inclusive as opposed to exclusive.

I hope that house prices go up, and in turn rents go up so that we don't have shiteheads living in our town. We have had our share of tragedies....and although the victims were Featherstonians....they perpetrators were not locals...and they bring nothing but hurt and pain to our community.

For it to stop looking like a run down ghost town

To grow / expand.

To keep to a community feel and not feel pressured in being like bigger /other towns (e.g. Greytown)

To make a better community and bring the community together.

Hopefully more people my age move to Featherston.

Covered outdoor space for markets and events Mini golf orienteering course like in Asia with exercise facilities photo stop art a bit like pavement art but permanent that you can take a photo standing in the middle

I hope we can utilise the amount of traffic we get from the Rimutaka Hill. Our main street is coming along nicely but there are still buildings that need to be done.

To remove/restore the neglected buildings

Indoor Swimming Pool - Covered so it can be used all year around Better public transport All footpaths upgraded

A healthier lake, round-up banned (especially around waterways) Trees allowed to be planted on the berm as windbreak and also makes the village have a lovely feel.

Unique retailers to attract visitors and grow the town.

To have the owner of the old County Building do something about it, and to finish the 2 storey one by the rail crossing plus let the former pizza one. Good luck with this though, councils have been trying to deal with this fellow since the late 1990s with no success.

That it is not ruined by big city thinking and amenities - you want those, go live in Wellington! Vision of future - we remain true to who we are and not pretending to be something we're not. Maybe trying to get youth engaged and thinking of ways to be involved.

get rid of boarded up shops

A town that can support all who live in it. Build a safe community where everyone feels safe.

A diverse, thriving, vibrant resilient community that creates its own opportunities and solves its own problems together

people looking after people making sure all are cared for

To keep developing our quirky style. There's a lot of interesting people here

To promote further diversity in business and the community so that in future Featherston is a place where young and old alike can have all their needs met, eg health, education, employment, entertainment, community groups etc.

More linking transport to Upper Hutt

Continued growth with the changing demographic to more people buying homes here. More commercial development. Finding a way to get Mr Broughen (sp?) to renovate his buildings and add more life to the main street. A rearrangement of the roading system so that people do not turn off to Martinborough before they have even got into Featherston.

A town that is proud of its history and heritage, a town buzzing with food shops, bookshops, museums, friendly welcoming locals using our heritage buildings. Would be great to see Information Wairarapa move to Featherston - the Gateway. Would love to see the old Toogood Building, and Officers Wives Boarding house restored and open for locals and visitors to share. Would be fantastic to have some wine bars and really looking forward to Royal reopening. Swap Thirsty liquor shop with Kia Ora and give us back our iconic building. A safe walking path connecting the town with the Peace Garden at the WWI & II camp sites and from town to the cemetery and the lake.

We are able to have a Council that will better support the community and help it to grow. The current council does not allow this to happen.

To have a community who chat to each other in the streets. Who love the events going on in town, and look after each other. We'd love the ANZAC Hall to have a better profile, because it's a treasure. Featherston deserves to be appreciated for its history and current community.

People who rarely visit or never wish they do or could because others relay their positive experiences

The retail be re-established. Landlords to be held accountable for their buildings in the middle of town. Too many derelict buildings. Ensure we have a better relationship with the sister city Messines in Belgium.

I'd like to see the centre town continue to develop and grow so I don't have to go so far to buy things (especially when everything's within walking distance from home).

That we DON'T lose our unique identity as we grown into an internationally acclaimed town - that we stay the loving, caring town that embraces the ups and downs - we stay true to ourselves, but continue to grown and develop culturally and fiscal wise - that we don't outprice ourselves off the market hindering the right people coming to our town and making that positive difference!!

More shops, more regular trains, more things for young people to do.

We need modern infrastructure.

Lots more investment, lots new shops i.e. Fresh Fish, Haberdashary. Restuarant (not Fish and Chips).

Cultural centre and family friendly.

The ANZAC/Solider sculpture at the town square being installed.

Closer connections between schools.

Art works and sculptures in town. Gift shops. Painted shops - town tidy up. Full shops - reasonable rents charged. More food/eating/dining-in places.

To be a tidy appealing village that people want to visit and stop at. Strong schools for our community.

More jobs.

More job opportunities, school holiday activities for children & dog park better equipped for exercising dog.

To get people aware of how awesome this town and community is!

I would like the main street to be full of shops like it used to be. People travelling to and from Wellington would stop and spend their money here. A busy wee town.

Keep moving in the current direction - interesting, friendly, quirky place.

it becomes more connected to Wellington.

A cool little heritage town in its own right, attracting main street businesses to set up similar to neighbouring towns. Feathy has massive through traffic ... just need to set up some things to get them to stop/spend eg Truck stop, something for Motorbikes,

We have so many areas to capitalise on, but it's hard when our Main Street has areas of neglect, and landlords seem unwilling to address the issue. The council need to meet with landlords and build strong relationships and trust.

Keeping the supportive village atmosphere but continuing to grow and thrive.

That the positive vibe in the town will continue to spread and grow. That the main street will look inviting from Hi-tech to Davis Sawmill. (No derelict buildings to be seen!) That we don't get too much like Greytown but that we have businesses that ordinary people can afford to go to. That Featherston becomes a destination and not just a place to pass through. That the whole community will (continue to) get behind the Booktown idea as one way of making the point above happen...

Hope that town continues to attract good people who want to make Featherston their home and work to improve it, make more family friendly, commuter friendly and a vibrant town.

I want featherston to be a place that people feel safe and succeed.

A few more (affordable) shops would be nice. Walking "downtown" on a Saturday browsing and then having a coffee/lunch (and having a good choice) would be fab.

Increase in train frequency from Featherston to Wellington. Increase in community recreational programmes for children and an increase in attendance of youth groups for teenagers.

More businesses opening and work opportunities growing; also a rest home for the elderly.

For it to become a vibrant little town with more shops and bars/restaurants without losing its "old time" charm

A shining example of a thriving small town. It would offer an affordable, healthy lifestyle and a strong sense of community while fostering innovation by being an incubator for high tech start up companies.

I hope that Featherston can continue to grow and change its reputation for the better. I believe Featherston can be a thriving hub and has major potential, especially considering its location.

Greatest little commuter town - best lifestyle

Stay quiet, relatively undeveloped, and unpretentious.

to continue to grow and not to be considered the poor town of the wairarapa

Less empty shops - more attractive Fitzherbert Street

To tackle the social problem with gangs and youth

more employment opportunities and increased average incomes through investment in shops and services for the community

More trains, more commerce and improve the look + feel of the town

more of the same

For the amenities, shops, schools to continue to grow until Featherston is no longer a "poor cousin" to Greytown and Carterton.

To be friendly country town.

A few more shops and less parks. The new town centre park is under used don't see many people using. It would be better used for more shops.

i hope featherston school continues to grow, i hope that the neglected buildings will be given some love, i hope the featherston school buildings/environment can also be given more love

A town where people want to visit and live. A town with a good reputation. A town that is equal to its South Wairarapa cousins.

To continue growing its unique quirky style. To truly become the gateway to the Rapa - revitalise the info centre so it invites visitors to stop in Feathy. Make it a wine tasting, accommodation/tour booking hub. Beautify it, plant trees on the berms. Make it the BEE friendliest town in the Rapa with Bee friendly plantings. Grow the IT learning for kids, teach them to code and design their own computer games.

A great place to live but also a great place to stop and shop like Greytown

That it continues to grow in confidence and builds on its strengths - the people, its sense of community and its Down-to-earthness

Build it in Featherston! The Wairarapa needs a new purpose-built building for council (regardless of the shape of local government). Featherston is the prime location for this and we need to make it happen. Visualise over 100 government workers based in Featherston, eating lunch, drinking coffee, buying houses, supporting local business. This building could also be built by and shared with Regional Council (who desperately need a new building), Destination Wairarapa, MPI, DOC, library, etc.

Craft beer bar with family friendly play area, improved reputation, increased house prices, less crime

To be a thriving busy town again

-An attractive Main Street that would entice people to stop and have a look. -more council investment in Featherston

Better amenities. More commercial activity. Cafes, bars, eateries. A much more appealing main street.

That it is inclusive, diverse, engaging, sustainable and innovative

To be Beautiful and look the part not run down buildings empty like Paddington in Brisbane

more shops--- clean up the empty ones

Better social services hub. A community garden koha shed soup kitchen

Would love to see more retail being put back into the middle of town. Featherston is looking amazing.

I'd love to see Featherston become a 'destination' like Martinborough and Greytown. The buildings that are empty, tidied up and used for shops/restaurants/accommodation.

To keep it a quiet place and not be overrun by rules and regulations by posh people that come to live here and try to change things they want to be perfect , there is no perfect place on this earth

To become properly connected to the incredible natural surroundings, with parks and recreation activities building on the natural assets we have. And I would love to see it become a haven for artists as it is already drawing them here.

To be a place people want to be. Get rid of the poor cousin in the Wairarapa. Central place to Promote what is happening here to community and visitors-not just by social media e.g. similar to electric sign in Carterton. Lots happens in this community but its not promoted enough to everyone

To stay Cotuit focused. Not grow too large. Remain as a friendly and supportive community.

I would like to see a town that is bustling, with interesting, busy shops and public places. Where people's unique interests and personalities are embraced and everyone has everyone else's back.

To keep on retaining the sense of community it has.

To grow more but not become pretentious like MBA or GTN.

I would like to see the Main Street with new street lights like Greytown to give it more 'street appeal'

That all the shops will one day be full and that council won't stand in the way of people with good ideas. We have a great community spirit we need to grow and build on that.

I want to see our town continue to thrive with more investment on the main road and hold onto the small town feel

Council to not allow the heritage buildings in Main Street to be left looking terrible ruining all of the wonderful things that are being ✓

I would love to see Featherston better connected to the amazing natural environment around it. Would love walking/bike tracks linking Featherston to the lake and places like Boar Bush.

That we develop our own character, without trying to catch up with Greytown and Martinborough

To be a tidy, respectable town that people feel safe and welcome in.

More trains!!!

That it develops a culture of its own that attracts people

For it to continue improving and becoming more family-friendly

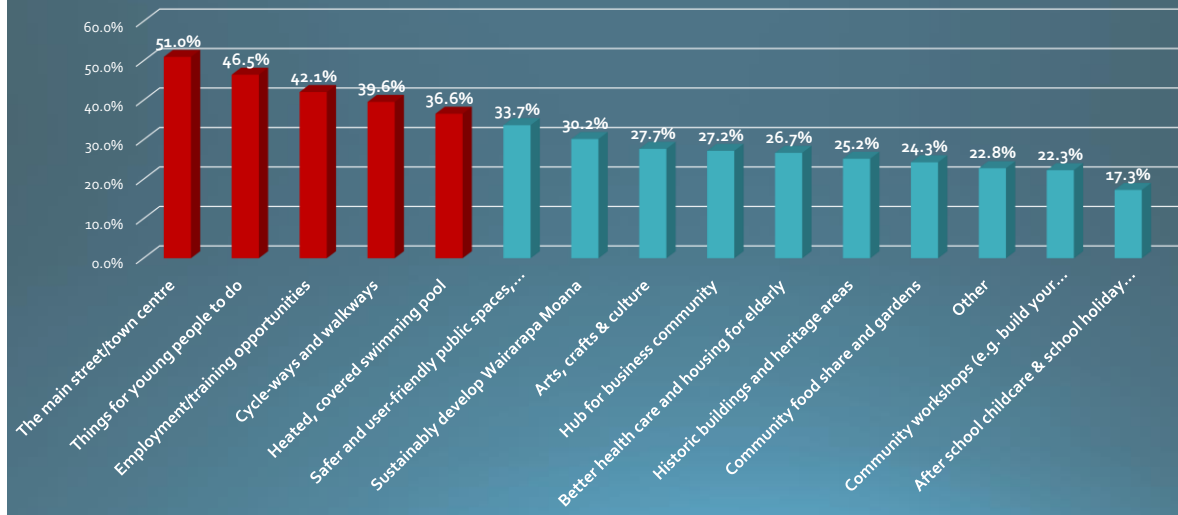
Futuristic without forgetting our history, including Maori History of the area before European settlement.

I want to see Featherston's confidence grow. We are not Feather-stoned and we are not just a dormitory suburb for commuters. I want to see us develop a strong sense of who we are and what makes us great - our mix of community, our connection with the city combined with our "country" attitude and location, our independence and tenacity as people. I want to see everyone in our community visibly embraced for who they are and what they can offer, the busy commuter, the poor solo parent, the isolated freelancer, the driven entrepreneur, the frazzled soccer mum, the indispensable (but always hard to pin down) tradie... we all have a place and Featherston is the perfect place for people from every walk of life. To that end, I want to see our natural taonga more valued and promoted, I want better technology (improved council-run websites, digital recording of our oral, photographic and written history, more community participation and services done online - just like this) and I want a less distrustful attitude taken to Wellington. The train link will not improve until people really want - not just need - to go back and forth! I am also concerned, from a distance, about our youth. I can only hope things have improved. I have been here only two years and my imagination overflows with potential ideas for this town!

More cohesive information sharing. That it continues to grow and tidy up in the main street and more shops open up (and thrive).

Connected community that shares resources; that is resilient, safe, nourished; that looks after the natural environment; that knows and celebrates its heritage (including before settlers arrived from Europe); that supports its children and young people to realise their worth and potential. A down-to-earth town of where artisans can flourish.

What are the top five things you would most like to see developed in Featherston?



What five top things would you most like to see developed in Featherston?

Dog centred playgrounds and activities

Light Industry

Better health care and housing for elderly; Adequately staffed properly staffed and programmes to meet need of elderly home in Featherston only Wairarapa town without one.

Better internet service.

All of the above.

We do not any badly behaved young people.

Improving local eateries to cater for visitors through the town. Focus on the quaint and countrified vibe that really works for the town.

Further to my ticking "Community food share and gardens" - I know there are community gardens, and I applaud the initiative, but I wonder if those who could use them are aware that they exist, or, whether they have the courage to visit them?

Pest and weed free Featherston.

Cycle-way link: Featherston to Greytown.

Better train services - i.e. more! (at least one between 6:20 p.m. and 10:20 p.m.)

More businesses

Even having community service open at times people who commute (which is lots of us!) can use them, eg library and swimming pool open in the evenings.

A heated covered swimming pool would be nice, but for starters we just need better opportunity to use the current facility. Opening times are in the dark ages, lets think about what people NEED (and who). Open hours are too short & inflexible (2-5.30 each day? How about a few weekday evenings for workers to use, the 7.30 Fri closing is useless, workers are in the pub!!), and a dedicated swimming lane please, SWDC will be up for suing when there is a bad collision. And open for whole daylight saving period too, closing 2 weeks before DST ends is daft.

bridlepaths

It would be great to make Featherston the centre for bike tourism. It would be so easy to make Featherston a BikeTown AND a BookTown...that way the town can be a busy centre of tourism a lot more of the year. It makes no sense for people to be taking the train up to Greytown and staying there in their boutique accommodation when Featherston is a lot more central with regard to some truly awesome bike rides...people could get off the train and settle into accommodation in Fton then ride out to Martinborough or go down the cycle track to Wairarapa Moana or even head out for the coast if they were real enthusiasts. Seems a pity for Greytown to be capitalising on this tourism demographic as well as so many others!

Featherston official names recognition by NZGB.

Cohesion and sharing between various community groups, utilise talents.

Impossible to tick only five...

Featherston has always needed more things for our youth, when kids are playing sport they aren't hanging around parks throwing beer bottles. We need to support the growth of the rugby club...so that the youth don't have to play for other clubs...Feathy all the way. We need a good strong supported youth group, and I suppose Alan Maxwell is trying to achieve that, we need to communicate with our community....so that the community can also support the youth. I love the way the youth have got involved with the Lake ...but until the surrounding farmers stop putting chemicals on the land, or shooting the geese...not much will change. I love the way that the end of Lake Reserve has been blocked off, but 4 wheel drives and motorbikes still wheelie it up down there.

Deeper pool.

looking through this list makes me realise how well we are really catered for. (a heated swimming pool is realistically a no goer)

Once again, one could happily tick most of these boxes as most deserve a high priority.

Better animal control

A quiet SH2 surface since that will transform how people use the main area. People won't realise the benefits until it's done.

Gardening Club for exchange of plants and ideas.

We are always on at the Council about our road. Its gravel and at the end is the reserve, very popular with tourists over summer.

Tall climbing rope tower like Upper Hutt

Dog park with exercise equipment e.g. ramps, tunnels & jumps

I'd like to see some mountain bike and walking tracks developed in the lower foothills, catering for a range of abilities and accessible from the town.

My focus is business, so- linking those things above, further development of the town and centre to be cycle tourist friendly, and more attractive to general visitors to linger: Practically, slow down traffic, more covered/sheltered areas and add bike stands on main streets. Bold long term planning from SWDC to encourage this, and the John Broeren situation must be resolved. More \$ in town through accommodation, food, services etc provided, more employment, more reasons for young people to feel pride in Featherston. Plus promotion of Featherston as a day trip ex Wgtn- cycle the hill, bike up to town, spend a few hours doing X, Y, Z, catch the train back.

Better transport links to the rest of the region - ie improve train services, frequency

I found it hard to pick just five as nearly all of these have equal merit, and others are already being provided. We need access to ultra fast fibre broadband in Featherston as soon as possible, and the ability to offer it for free within the commercial zone to entice the high tech entrepreneurial community and position the town as an incubator for emerging high tech start ups. We're ideally placed for this being so close to Wellington city, already world-renowned for being "a high tech capital" and a hub of world class production in the film industry. Shared workspaces are being set up through NZ, offering hot desks, and kitchen and meeting facilities. Empty buildings in the main street may be suitable for such a purpose, offering a good return to the owners if they wish to take advantage of this business opportunity. This may also reap rewards in training, education and employment opportunities for the young people of South Wairarapa as the high tech businesses grow. The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment proclaims the benefits of fast broadband as 'opening up a huge range of business, educational, community and other opportunities' - exactly what Featherston needs now, to take advantage of a massive growth in technology - not some time in the future when we may have 'missed the boat'. Focusing on protecting, enhancing and valuing our surrounding outstanding natural environment, I'd also like to see opportunities for people to learn conservation and landscape development skills while helping to restore Wairarapa Moana and implement concepts developed by the Victoria University landscape architect students. This would build on the wetland restoration work being done by the Featherston Youth Program and hopefully begin a career path for participants. Links: <http://www.stuff.co.nz/business/unlimited/9891932/A-guide-to-shared-workspaces>

Not just cycle ways and walkways but recreational areas for everyone - including horse riders! Shared tracks or separate tracks - community working together to support ALL recreational activities.

Get that land banker to do something with his nasty derelict buildings in the town centre

Please DON'T cover the pool and turn it into a loud, steamy echo chamber like every other public pool! It is perfect just the way it is!

Horse-riding trails.

new government building for Wairarapa council located in Featherston

shops so there is things that are not to over priced here to spend your money on instead of heading out of town or shopping online for and it would also give work to younger people coming onto the work force as in my day thee was the local dairies to get jobs at as well as Batavian rubber company for school holiday work..

Skill share workshops, where people share their skills for free.

More communication between the community groups.

Nearby reserves and rivers PROPERLY developed and connected to the town with easier access for everyone

Better public transport -bus and train-to give everyone ability to move around

I would like to tick more as I think there is so much potential for this town.

More dining and entertainment options.

Hub for business but so it can be used after school and on the weekends for youth to do school work or play cooperative games.

What is the one thing you would want in Featherston that doesn't exist at the moment?

What is the one thing that you would want in Featherston that doesn't exist at the moment?
Attracting artisans businesses e.g. Blacksmith, Potter etc.
Improved public transport - Wgtn/Hutt Rail Service.
Mini Golf. More reasons for travelers through Featherston to stop and spend their discretionary income.
Covered swimming pool And a covered public space for markets, picnics etc.
Heated swimming pool
heated pool and covered area so it can be used all year round.
A restaurant that is open at night.
Dog friendly environment
Things for young people to do.
Better reputation.
Better publicity.
Better publicity. Sport noticeboard letting folk know whats on (i.e. rugby, soccer etc.)
Housing and healthcare for elderly.
UFB - fast broadband throughout the town. Free in the Main Street area. And an area specifically for cyclists. Stands for bikes. Signage that encourages them into the town centre and then covered places for them to rest and recover. :-)
Self service petrol station after 8pm
Art Gallery
Fence around One Tree Hill with native birds in it like Mt Bruce.
Saturday morning yoga classes.
More trains at the weekend.
A little water slide at the pools.
car wash
A flying fox from One Tree Hill.

Good music venue. Royal?
Safety for crossing all streets and roads
A Police presence.
Wine bar or something similar.
Choice of decent restaurants without having to go to Martinborough or Greytown. There aren't a lot of choices for visitors to choose from. Many people cycle the trail but have little choice but to have takeaway..
I love food - and I love the cheese shop and the bakery and the Italian deli and the market and the Chinese food- I just want so much more 😊😊😊 and a pop up market space on the Main Street where the Saturday market could be more easily accessed. Theatre! Totally theatre.
A butchers
Nice food/bar business.
Beautify the town. New footpaths, town planning, relaxed outdoor vibe. User friendly, family friendly spaces. Filling the gaps. WIND SCULPTURES and STREET ART :) CONTAINER Village :)
A pest/weed (mouse, rat, hedgehog, shoot ferret, possum etc.) control team - trap lines, education, weeding bees etc.
Things for the kids to do.
Video store / Cinema
Butcher
Groups working together.
Great band venue.
Improve all footpaths & beautify the town centre.
An appealing, cohesive town center. No permanently empty / derelict buildings.
Maybe a nice restaurant and nice takeaway Also a decent service station like BP
Heated pool
Many things are already here, but maybe they could be improved - i.e. better times and prices for public transport, better information centre, library, pool, footpaths, cycle ways, walkways, parks, reserves, playground etc
Butchers
Overarching town planning strategy- similar to the Greytown one so that cohesive, thoughtful development of town spaces, infrastructure and surrounding natural resources are linked and have common purpose for building a town profile
An Art Gallery/ music centre
Really good butcher /smallgoods shop
Social services so people don't have to continually drive to Masterton
A space for music to be a part of the community. Perhaps a performance space in the town square to draw in musical performances by locals and those from further away.
Mountainbike trails in adjacent hills
The Royal Hotel open again! Somewhere close to go and have a drink on a Saturday afternoon/evening after a day in the garden - the empire doesn't do it for my wife and I.
A modern indoor sports & gym complex that can provide for and link sports clubs as well as general public. (And it could include a covered, heated pool ;o))
Drycleaner/shoe repair/clothing alterations etc.
Something for our young people to do
Afterschool care for the whole of Featherston children. we have many new families arriving here in Featherston and the parents work, what do the families do, move away?
A local gym that is open for commuter friendly hours

Things for young people my age to do.
A crossing at the south end of Fitzherbert Street (near the Mobil etc).
Increase rail transport service. Railcar connect to Upper Hutt.
Tidy up and use buildings empty at present. Use as display windows of our history perhaps.
Another playground for kids.
Bad publicity
A fence around the playground, its so unsafe.
More frequent rail services to Wellington.
A retirement home.
Build your own bike workshop, or just a drop in day to borrow tools and know how to repair and maintain bikes. A library of things.
A retail centre and renovation of the delapidated buildings. A restaurant.
Covered heated swimming pool, open longer hours so all community could be using it. And more people employed at the same time.
Indoor pool in South Wairarapa
Business-wise? a bigger supermarket with competitive pricing. Community-wise? More public art.
Places to dine at night, more places to eat
More for young people to do.
A restaurant.
Better and more use of the local things eg halls, rugby club, cricket nets, wrestling club, rec/stadium.
A decent monthly newsletter.....the phoenix is rubbish and has never met the communitys need.....put out a newsletter that we want to read.....
Safe Streets
More groups for ages 5 to 12 and 12 to 17 activities.
Community Bus.
Maccas. Bus.
A deeper pool.
Nothing that I can think of, I moved here because it was already a lovely place to live.
Make the pool deeper. Proper basketball court we can actually play on.
To pull the river closer so I don't have to go so far. #phat manus (and basketball court to play on so I can break ankles). Better transport options.
A better pool as it's to shallow and not deep enough for us to pop #PHAT MaNUS.
Covered space
Another restaurant
Indoor heated swimming pool
Far More trees. More weekend trains. Butcher. Artist Studios.
a butcher shop
greater range of shops would be nice
Engagement of youth (under 20's)
nice pub
To restore the heritage buildings on the main street.
A rock climbing gym
exchange hub- wood/compost/veges/fruit/furniture/animals
Butcher's shop
Development of a permanent project that showcases the role of the military camp and the town. It is extraordinary that there is almost nothing to see of the huge operation that was based here during two wars.

More employment opportunities for locals, particularly young people
Safe walking and cycling paths - like Greytown Rail Trail - not like the one to Cross Creek.
A council that supports us
A positive attitude from other South Wairarapa towns, and support from our Council.
One walking track up to pine tree hill that is accessible on foot from Featherston is insufficient. Shouldn't have to get in a car to drive to go on a walk when the bush is at our doorstep
A sports club, amalgamation of all sports. Traffic islands on the Main Street to slow traffic down. Not safe or a speed camera.
A footpath down my street!
after school care to every child
Theatre
A cinema and a bank.
Better promotion/more visibility re the historic/heritage background of the Featherston - the train, army camp. There is more to life than shopping Greytown!!!
Develop info display boards & photos to make military site a stopping destination. Tall climbing rope like in Upper Hutt not like Greytown. Sculpture on main street.
A WINZ office so its not so hard to get the help need to find work.
Not sure.
More people to do/act instead of just talking/moaning.
Heated indoor swimming pool like Carterton.
Great social services hub.
Better trains to Wellington, the train times are restrictive and ridiculous, especially on the weekend.
Multi use bush tracks
To enhance our twinning status with messines, I would love to see the menz shed to create a model village of messines in the centre of the model railway.
Can I say two? Personally there's nowhere I want to go out to at night. Somewhere to have a drink, look at art, listen to good live music, have a decent meal, watch a movie, play pool. And generally, a clean well designed website which has a clear vision for promoting Feathy as a tourist destination and great place to live.
Sensible use of our rates. The area encompassing mini fell, cherry tree park, the skatepark and the squirkle all being joined by garden and lawns rather than roads segmenting them into patchy little areas.
One over arching committee that steers the direction of all of the other awesome community groups in Featherston so that we're all pulling in the same direction but not duplicating efforts...
School holiday program - St Teresas have a good after and before school program that works for commuting parents. However there is nothing in the south wairarapa that works with train times during the holidays - best option is The Pod in Greytown, however their hours are only 8am - 5:30pm so makes it hard to work in Wellington.
A Thai restaurant.
Affordable and educational child care for working parents
A vegan store.
A playground for little dogs (toy breeds) only so that they can play together safely without the big guys.
Ultra fast fibre broadband. Schools already have access to it. It should be rolled out to the wider Featherston community sooner rather than later.
Kebabs!
More trains (even just shuttle between Upper Hutt and Masterton during off peak). Footpath and off-road cycling for all ages. Markets in town squirkle

Garden centre
No more vacant lots on main st and rundown buildings
Security cameras and more bike racks at Featherston Railway Station
Multi use recreational area - to accommodate kids, teens, adults - playground, walking/cycling/horse riding track, dirt bike tracks etc - a destination for out of town-ers to visit as well as locals to enjoy
More Police
art house cinema
A nice bar
a good pub
A fence around the public playground - similar to the one in Pahiatua which feels safer than Featherston's even though theirs is in the middle of SH2.
Indoor horse arena.
Landlords or building owners around town being more accountable for all the derelict buildings.
heated pool all year round. you did ask :-)
A larger, cheaper supermarket (pak n sav). More places to eat at night (drive thrus, restaurants) A larger, more accessible petrol station
An inviting Visitors centre
Dog friendly places to walk
A good family friendly pub-restaurant
pizza delivery
Craft beer bar or somewhere to go to have a few drinks other than Everest or empire.
a covered in swimming pool for kids to use all year round instead of 5.30 pm closing at night it would need to open in evening
An inviting Main Street that encourages people to stop at the gateway to the Wairarapa.
Vegetarian friendly or vegetarian restaurant
Gym , high speed internet , regular events for families
more jobs for everyone
Unity within different community groups
An exercise gym area in the park.
Just more of what we have.
More help for people with disabilities there is nothin in south Wairarapa such as a group for people that are hearing impaired or people that suffer depression even a coffee morning would be good but the rents are too high to start up a group in each town.
A business/internet hub to make it easier for people who are employed in the city to work in Featherston some days.
Big community "whats on" x2 electric notice to inform everyone what is happening- from community swim relsy to events at Anzac hall.
I am not sure what to put here. Maybe I'll get back to you
UFB Fibre.
Indoor pool
Splash park
Windmills!!! Featherston is notorious for its wind, everyone I know hates it so why not instead of bickering about it utilise our natural resources and embrace our unique environment my putting in windmills making electricity for our beautiful community cheaper! And fully equipt gym and indoor pool
A frozen yoghurt shop
Development of the area where the fell engine runs, I think we could do better than a big lawn

Take away the existing access to SH53, that would allow more parks near Royal and traffic to visit and drive past other business

Rain gardens (google it) to deal with all the storm water issues. We've got massively wide streets with heaps of space for this sort of thing. Oh and footpaths :)

A classy bar/restaurant to take visitors /meet friends. Fingers crossed the Royal becomes that place!

Refuse station.

An airport. Or people to stop using "Feddy" or "Feathy" when talking about Featherston.

More entertainment for teens

A bigger library.

Better connectivity - we are WAY down the list for the government's fibre programme - but the school already has it, I think, so what if the council, vineyards, other businesses, private investors and a bit of government funding enabled Featherston to have its own fibre network put in? It could connect all council sites, including offices, libraries, public hotspots, etc. It could run irrigation systems on vineyards, traffic control around rivers and the hill, webcasts of council meetings, etc, and businesses and residents could pay a vastly reduced rate. The labour could come from local workers and even apprentices. Why not?

More things for young people to do, perhaps a youth centre where they can hang out and play games?

Community orchard, gardens, greenhouses, allotments, community fridge/freezer, foodbank, meals on wheels etc - a dedicated Collective that coordinates growing, rescuing, and distributing food to residents who need it and then available to rest of community so food is not wasted.
