

# What's happening at your place?

## Message from CEO Rob Williams

**"Oh the times they are a changing...."** This is so true for Taupo at this very time, as the ETA changes the face of our town for ever.

I believe that Taupo District Council is the first in New Zealand to adopt its ten year plan and this is due in part to the imperative from Council to 'get it right'.

Getting it right, for us, has meant involving the whole organisation in a process which has truly been focused on long term planning, as well as engaging the community in meaningful discussion over the last 18 months. What a great experience this has been. I personally had the opportunity to meet with many individuals and groups within our community - and our staff were out and about like never before to canvass the public for their ideas and opinions.

Towards 2019, our ten year plan is a plan designed around people. It is focused upon communities and neighbourhoods and the way that we interact. As part of that desire to increase our community interaction we would like to create a more vibrant town centre for Taupo which draws people into the heart of the town. To do this we are taking a bold approach and will be using urban design principles to create interesting spaces in the CBD, establish a civic centre and enhance linkages to the river, lake and other public spaces.

This will assist in ensuring we remain an exciting, desirable tourist destination which can successfully compete with other towns and cities to attract the attention of visitors and provide a memorable experience for them.

We have some very exciting things included in the plan but we've also tried to ensure there is some reality when it comes to being able to pay for them. We recognise that global economic conditions impact upon the local market and the current volatility of the markets could mean some negative results for a few years. We must acknowledge that Taupo is not doing too badly overall compared to many in this climate when we look at some of the economic measures, but we cannot afford to be complacent. Our Councillors are conscious of the need to be prudent with forward planning and have put a treasury program in place to meet the requirements of this ten year plan in a fiscally responsible manner.

Notwithstanding the many challenges that we face, now and in the future, I believe this plan is exciting and visionary. It contains a number of fresh new ideas and ways of working that will hold our district in good stead over the coming decade. A decade which will be a turning point for Taupo District as it changes and grows and sets about protecting the things it values, our Lake, our lifestyle and our economic drivers including tourism, forestry, our energy resources and most of all our people the foundation of any community.

**Rob Williams**  
CEO

# **We've listened to you...**

Over the past 18 months we have been talking to you about what it is that you want the Taupo District to be known for in 2019. This has included feedback from a number of community consultation exercises including the Challenges for the future, the Towards 2019 questionnaire, the Council and Community Expo, public forums on the Development Contributions Policy and the Water Supply strategy to name a few.

## **Key issues in this ten year plan**

Over the last two ten year plans we have built a solid foundation for the District. The ETA is progressing, we are expanding our wastewater capacity, and we have a good understanding of the future of the District. This plan consolidates that work and we are now looking at strengthening our economic position and reinforcing the pride in the district.

## **Taking advantage of opportunities to revitalise and grow our District**

The construction of the ETA presents some exciting possibilities including creating a 'heart' in the town centre and better linkage to Lake Taupo and the Tongariro Domain. In conjunction with the Taupo Urban Area Industrial and Commercial Structure Plan we can revitalise the town centre and ensure we have the infrastructure in place to support growth.

Council will be working with Enterprise Lake Taupo to support and encourage economic development. We will have an emphasis on infrastructure, investment in the district and working with others to make things happen.

### **Creating a civic heart for the Taupo town centre - page 93**

Council is looking to help revitalise the town centre through the creation of a civic heart. Civic buildings can be real catalysts for drawing people to places and encouraging social interaction. We are really lucky as we already have the public library and the Great Lake Centre right in our town centre. We want to build a new civic administration centre to complement the existing facilities and the possible development of a new arts/heritage/cultural centre to meet the cultural needs of the community. There is the real potential to combine this centre and the new civic administration building as part of the new civic heart.

Having people around in public places is a real plus in terms of creating a feeling of vibrancy and excitement, it is also a real positive for retailers who see greater foot traffic and the general community who benefit from a place that feels safe, inviting and fun to be in. We think that by creating a heart for our town centre we will be able to achieve this.

There are a number of ways that this civic heart can be made a reality in the town centre. We are looking at potential locations and how best to design the civic heart through the Taupo Urban Commercial and Industrial Structure Plan. Once we have agreed on the right location future funding will need to be identified.

## Taupo Urban Commercial and Industrial Structure Plan - page 94

Taupo District 2050 (TD2050) identified areas for future commercial and industrial growth in and around Taupo town. To ensure that these areas are developed to meet the community's future needs the Council is developing the Taupo Urban Commercial and Industrial Structure Plan. The plan will set out where different activities are best located with enough flexibility to allow for future changes in the economy. It will also provide direction for how these areas will be appropriately serviced with infrastructure like roads and stormwater.

TD2050 has previously identified the Taupo town centre as the major commercial and retail centre in the district and a key community asset. One of the key things the structure plan will seek to do is provide some more direction on how best to revitalise the town centre. Creating a civic heart will be a key focus for the town centre part of the structure plan.

The structure plan will be developed with a range of opportunities for interest groups and the public to provide input. It is due to be completed in December 2009 at which stage the Council anticipates making a change to the district plan to facilitate development in the new commercial and industrial areas. The structure plan is also expected to result in physical changes to the town centre which will be implemented over time through things like planting plans and roading upgrades.

## Post East Taupo Arterial roading and enhancements - page 158

Proposals have been identified for changing the streetscape of both Tongariro Street and Lake Terrace to regain the linkages from the CBD to the domain and the lake. The form of these improvements is likely to include traffic calming through raised pedestrian platforms, chicanes and road narrowing, landscaping and lighting. The final layout is closely linked to the outcomes of the Taupo Urban Commercial and Industrial Structure Plan.

Other improvements may include a change of priority and/or change in configuration to a number of intersections to recognise the change in traffic flows that will result from the completion of the ETA. The intersections involved are Spa/Tauhara/Centennial, Tauhara/Miro and Kiddle/SH5. Spa/Tauhara is programmed for completion in 2010/2011 with the other two following later in the ten year plan. Proposals for other network improvements are linked to the outcomes of the structure plan.

# Our neighbourhoods, our future

With a solid foundation in place we can put more emphasis on what's happening at your place. Safer communities, living streets and better urban design are themes in this plan.

## Our neighbourhoods - page 77

The way our streets are designed should make it easier for everyone to be a part of their community, to be able to walk to convenient services and places such as parks or the dairy. Spaces that are shared and enjoyed by the community as a whole require a sense of ownership and pride on the part of the residents.

Council is planning to encourage residents in some of our older neighbourhoods to get involved in updating and improving them to create attractive, safe and liveable spaces which can be shared and enjoyed by the community and which create a sense of pride and ownership by the residents.

## Healthy homes - page 78

A significant proportion of the homes within the Taupo District were built pre-1978 before insulation became mandatory. Houses that are not insulated are cold and damp and this has found to contribute to a higher risk of respiratory and circulatory illness.

Council are part of the Taupo District Healthy Housing Steering Group (TDHH) which is a partnership between local and regional councils, health providers, local Iwi, community agencies and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Agency (EECA). The core objective of this group is to fully-fund the retrofitting of insulation in low-income, high risk households, with funding sourced from a number of agencies. The current geographical focus of this work is within the Taupo District. Although Council are a part of the steering group no funds have been committed to this project.

## Affordable housing - page 89

The Taupo Urban Area Housing Strategy was adopted in 2007 to address some of the issues arising from housing affordability. Progress has been made with the formation of the Lake Taupo Housing Trust and the partnership between local and regional councils, health providers, local Iwi, community agencies and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Agency (EECA) for an insulation retrofit programme which will commence in 2009. Other actions we will be working on in the coming years are a voluntary code of practice for private landlords, development of an affordable housing component as part of Council's urban land development and lobbying central government for changes to welfare structures.

## World Health Organisation safe communities' accreditation - page 78

Council is aiming to achieve accreditation as a Safe Community for the district by 2010. This will include implementing injury, safety and crime prevention strategies to reduce the cost to the community and ensure a safer place for residents and visitors.

# Using water wisely

Over time it will become increasingly expensive to treat and supply drinking water to the standard required by central government. We want to work with the community to encourage smarter use of water and utilise alternative sources like rainwater.

## Water Supply Strategy - page 165

Council recently adopted the Water Supply Strategy. This strategy sets out the key principles and policies for the development, improvement and maintenance of the 22 drinking water supply schemes operated by the Council throughout the District.

Legislative changes that came into force on 1 July 2008 mean that complying with the Drinking-water Standards for New Zealand 2005 (DWSNZ 2005) is mandatory and no longer a recommendation. To achieve this Council needs to upgrade all of its water treatment plants around the District during the next decade, starting with the supplies around Taupo and Acacia Bay.

This work will be expensive, and costs per ratepayer will vary between water supply schemes, but every attempt is being made to reduce the impact on the Council rates. This means that we all have to play our part to reduce the amount of water we use.

## Taupo – water treatment, storage and reticulation pumping - page 166

The Taupo Urban Area is the major growth area in the district, using 57% of the water take for the entire district. One of our roles is to provide water to the community and maintain capacity. To meet the current and future demand we need to upgrade the current water treatment, storage and distribution network in Taupo.

We have had to make some decisions about how much we treat the water. Drinking water quality for the Taupo supply is currently graded E (the lowest grading) because the main intake source, Lake Taupo, is classified by the Ministry of Health as an insecure catchment. Apart from chlorination and fluoridation, the water is not currently treated to remove protozoa (*Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*), cyanotoxins potentially produced by cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), or arsenic (current arsenic levels are close to the maximum acceptable value (MAV) as per DWSNZ 2005).

We are proposing a number of changes to ensure that storage and distribution requirements can be met. These proposals are:

- A treatment plant dedicated to each of the three water intakes (Rainbow Point, Lake Terrace and Acacia Bay) was considered. Due to site and water network constraints and high capital costs, treatment plants at Lake Terrace and Acacia Bay have been ruled out in favour of a centrally located site within the Taupo town area. We will need to install new rising mains and reinforce the existing reticulation to allow for distribution of the treated water from a single treatment site.
- A potential secured treatment site adjacent to Grace Crescent may be developed which will result in the disestablishment of the current intake and pump station at Rainbow Point. This is in anticipation of reticulation for growth to the south of Taupo town and to reinforce the supply from the Taupo Water Treatment Plant.
- The needs of Bonshaw Park and Waitahanui will be met from the Taupo Water Treatment Plant because of the deteriorating wells of Bonshaw Park and shallow wells of Waitahanui.
- Further investigations will be carried out into for a Brentwood/other peaking reservoir. These investigations will consider the feasibility of this option, including the site and capacity of the new Taupo Water Treatment Plant and the Water Supply Strategy.
- Computer modelling of the water supply network confirmed the need for a new reservoir based on the 2.2m<sup>3</sup>/day demand by 2008/09. However, the Water Supply Strategy recommended extending the storage life of the existing reservoir which means that building another reservoir can be delayed.

# So what's happening at your place?

## Taupo

### **Waikato River Pedestrian/Cycleway Bridge - page 156**

Council is planning the construction of a combined pedestrian/cycleway bridge across the Waikato River linking Nukuhau Reserve to Riverside Park. This link will provide significant opportunities for pedestrian and cycle access from the north western suburbs of Taupo to access both Riverside and the CBD without having to cross the control gates bridge. Design work will be undertaken in 2009/10 with construction due to start in 2010/11. Council is currently seeking a subsidy for the construction of the bridge.

### **Taupo Town Second River Crossing - page 157**

Council had planned to design and construct the second river crossing between 2007 and 2010 but delayed this project because Land Transport NZ (NZ Transport Agency) asked us to consider alternate transport modes to assist local traffic flows to the central business district once the ETA is built. Based on this information and a review of growth patterns we expect growth to occur at a lesser rate than originally predicted. Therefore the second river crossing has been deferred outside of this ten year plan. Council will evaluate the need for this crossing on completion of the ETA and on the predicted growth at that point in time.

### **Development of Lakeshore Reserves in Taupo - page 137**

The recently adopted Tapuaeharuru Bay Lakeshore Reserves Management Plan guides the future use, development and protection of those reserves located between Whakamoenga Point and Five Mile Bay. Implementation of the management plan will occur over the next five years. Works include completing the Great Lake Walkway; landscaping; enhancing furniture and signage; upgrading existing playgrounds and providing two additional ones; and upgrading toilet and changing facilities.

### **AC Baths refurbishment - page 126**

In 2003 we completed some upgrades to the AC Baths as part of the ongoing maintenance of this type of facility. During this upgrade we discovered some other problems (condensation and ventilation) which require remedial action and upgrading of dated equipment. We have integrated these actions into the refurbishment plans for the venue. These plans have taken into consideration the age of the venue as at 2012 (when we will begin the work) and environmental sustainability. It is anticipated during these works that the complex will not be closed.

### **Metereye smartspace system - page 149**

Vehicle Detection Sensor units which monitor individual parking bays for vehicle arrivals, stay and departures electronically, are being installed in Taupo CBD. The Metereye Smartspace system as being able to make the best use of existing parking bays in the CBD, provide a more enhanced ticketing system and will allow us to monitor short term parking. It will also help us to understand the traffic logistics around parking bay use and behaviour.

## **Gas Flare at Broadlands Road Landfill - page 183**

Landfills are one contributor of greenhouse gas. The emissions trading legislation therefore has some implications for our Broadlands Road Landfill. There is a cost to install the gas flare infrastructure. However as we will be able to burn off greenhouse gases we will be able to reduce the cost implications of meeting the legislation.

## **Taupo Dog Pound and SPCA relocation - page 150**

Taupo's existing SPCA building is in need of a major upgrade to provide a safe and sanitary environment for staff and animals. The TDC Dog Pound and SPCA are moving to a new site with one multi-purpose building. Council have been working closely with SPCA Taupo to design and plan the construction of the new building on Centennial Drive. It is anticipated that construction will begin in May 2009 and be completed by October 2009.

## **Other key projects that we are planning**

### 2009-2010

- Construction of a boat trailer park, additional car park at Whangaroa Reserve
- Development of Taupo Sportsground Management Plan

### 2010-2012

- Upgrade of the Acacia Bay toilets (beach front) and changing rooms
- Upgrade to existing Five Mile Bay toilets
- Replacement of existing Seacombe Park toilet facilities and changing rooms
- Review of management plans for Spa Park and Riverbank Reserve and Nukuhau Reserve
- Construct retaining walls at Wily Terrace and Acacia Bay
- Review of Tongariro Domain Reserve management plan
- Implementation of Taupo Sportsground Management Plan

### 2012-2019

- Investigate upgrades for the Tongariro Domain toilets and Superloo
- Investigate building toilet/changing rooms/services facilities building on Kaimanawa Park
- Investigate building changing rooms and toilets on Hickling Park
- Improvements to Owen Delany Park for Rugby World Cup 2011. Other changes to Owen Delany Park include the construction of a new indoor training and administration building.
- Upgrade water treatment, storage and reticulation pumping in Kinloch and River Road

# Turangi

## **Future of sports grounds in Turangi - page 126**

Over the years a number of community and sporting groups have used Turangi Park and McLaren Park. Council and the Turangi Tongariro Community Board want to know what the Turangi community needs and aspirations are for the future of these sports grounds. A feasibility study will be done in 2009/10 to determine the preferred location and types of facilities.

## **Future of the Senior Citizens Hall in Turangi - page 118**

Council and the Board are keen to hear from the community about options for the future of the Senior Citizens Hall. The hall has the potential to offer the community a place to gather and have a positive impact on the social wellbeing of the town.

Other key projects that we are planning

2009-2010

- Processing of Turangi Structure Plan including appeal resolution (dependant on private developer)
- Redevelopment of Turangi Airpark (if land is acquired)
- Feasibility Study for McLaren Park and Turangi Park

2010-2012

- Continue appeal resolution for Turangi Plan Change
- Redevelopment of Turangi Airpark (if land is acquired)

2012-2019

- Upgrade water treatment and reticulation pumping in Turangi
- Review of Turangi Reserves management plan

# Mangakino and Whakamaru

## **Redevelopment of Mangakino Service Centre and Library - page 100**

The Mangakino Service Centre is the key interface between the various operations of Council and the residents and ratepayers of the Mangakino – Pou a kani ward. These operations include parks and reserves, water, community halls, and community events. The redevelopment of the Mangakino Service Centre will provide for the integration of the office and Library services. It is anticipated that physical changes to the layout of the building will allow staff to service both the office and the library. This will reduce reliance on relief staff and will also provide a one stop shop for our customers. We are hoping to have the work completed in 2012.

### **Other key projects that we are planning**

#### 2009-2010

- Review of Mangakino and Whakamaru Reserve management plans
- Landscape development of Mangakino reserves
- Construction of walkway from Whakamaru Village to junction shops
- Covered containment for reusable materials at Mangakino refuse transfer station

#### 2010-2012

- Redevelopment of Mangakino Service Centre and Library
- Complete walkway from Whakamaru village to junction shops
- Landscape development of Mangakino reserves
- New toilet for Mangakino reserve
- Mangakino Street upgrade

#### 2012-2019

- Upgrade water treatment and reticulation pumping in Mangakino and Whakamaru
- Identify location and construct hard court area for basketball in Mangakino

# Lakeshore settlements

## Future of wastewater in lakeshore settlements - page 195

Environment Waikato has identified two main ways of reducing nitrogen levels in Lake Taupo. The Lake Taupo Protection Trust has been formed to achieve a reduction in nitrogen from pastoral land. Nitrogen from urban sources also needs to be reduced by 20%. Variation 5 of Environment Waikato's Regional Plan, regarding Lake Taupo includes a 'sunset clause' that will come into effect June 2011, whereby all existing on-site wastewater systems within the near shore zone will require resource consent.

In the 2006-2016 LTCCP, Council had programmed the possible reticulation and treatment of wastewater (for Waitetoko, Hatepe and Waihi) by 2012/13. Council undertook investigations as planned for these potential schemes. Providing schemes in small settlements can be very expensive so Council is exploring alternative ways of achieving further nitrogen reductions in lake shore settlements such as Waitetoko and Hatepe without necessarily providing a reticulated scheme.

## Other key projects that we are planning

### 2009-2010

- Covered containment for reusable materials at Whareroa refuse transfer station site
- Kinloch Reserve lakefront paving improvements
- Development and provision of play equipment for Omori, Pukawa and Kuratau Parks
- Provision of play equipment at Motuoapa Park
- Omori stormwater upgrade
- Begin minor upgrade of Omori/Kuratau/Pukawa wastewater treatment system
- Review of Motutere Reserve Management Plan
- Investigating options with Environment Waikato to achieve nitrogen reductions in lakeshore settlements.

### 2010-2012

- Hearings, decisions and resolution on Whareroa Plan Change
- Development and provision of play equipment for Omori, Pukawa and Kuratau Parks
- Complete minor upgrade of Omori/Kuratau/Pukawa wastewater treatment system
- Whareroa wastewater treatment plant upgrade
- New public toilets for Whiowhio Reserve
- Continue investigating options with Environment Waikato to achieve nitrogen reductions in lakeshore settlements.

### 2012-2019

- Upgrade water treatment, storage and reticulation pumping in Omori, Whareroa, Motuoapa and Hatepe
- Upgrade water treatment and reticulation pumping in Atiamuri

# Some other things happening around the District that you might be interested in

## Changes to Development Contributions Policy - Vol 2

The Development Contributions Policy (DCP) is the mechanism Council employs to gather funding from those undertaking major asset renewals or new developments to ensure those undertaking major works or new developments share the burden of the cost of additional network infrastructure. Combining Development Contributions with Council's other funding sources ensures that developers pay a fair share of the costs of providing the network infrastructure required to service their developments.

The policy was originally implemented on July 1st 2004 as part of the 2004-2014 LTCCP and now further policy development consistent with evolving case law and best practice recommendations has led to the following amendments within the 2009-2019 LTCCP:

- The methodology for calculating HEU for commercial accommodation has been amended.
- A new method for assessing Rest home contributions has been developed.
- A new Reserve Land calculation methodology has been developed.
- The Remission section has been replaced with a Review process.
- The inflation indexation section has been removed.

## Reduction in the level of service for reserve land and district parks - page 137

The provision of reserves is important to the long term social, economic, cultural and environmental sustainability of the Taupo district. The district has enjoyed a high Level of Service (LOS) for reserves compared to many other districts.

Prior to the formulation of the 2004 Development Contributions Policy (DCP) the LOS was approximately 20 hectares/1000 people. The Local Government Act 2002 (the legislation from which the DCP is formulated) established that the maximum contribution equated to approximately 12 hectares/1000 people for urban lands (7.5 percent land value for each new allotment). Council recognised that the historical LOS for new developments would not be affordable and therefore adopted the maximum contribution under the LGA as the LOS i.e. 12 hectares/1000 people. This was then divided into 8 hectares or the equivalent of 5 percent allotment land value for Local Parks, and 4 hectares or 2.5 percent allotment land value for District Parks.

Through the review of the 2006 DCP, the level of provision of reserves has been considered. This consideration has taken into account;

- Investigation into land values and what reserve LOS this equates to in line with the LGA maximum contribution
- Review of reserve acquisition since the 2004 DCP was adopted and
- Reference to draft policies contained within the reserves strategy currently being developed.

This investigation has been undertaken to determine a balance between what is obtainable and affordable alongside consideration of the value placed on outdoor recreational opportunities by the Taupo district community. This has led to a new LOS as follows:

Reserve Land (Local Parks)	7 hectares/1000 people
District Parks	<u>3 hectares/1000 people</u>
Total	10 hectares/1000 people

## **Taupo Land Disposal - page 196**

In 2006 Council negotiated the purchase of 360 hectares of land from Landcorp. The purchase allows us to expand our treated wastewater disposal capacity to meet increasing demand and allows the construction of the ETA through the existing Rakaunui Road land disposal area. The new land disposal site extends both sides of Broadlands Road with the northern piece also bordering View Road. During 2008, Council constructed a new pipeline and pump station to pump the water from Rakaunui Road up to the irrigation system at what we now call the View Road land disposal area. We have constructed a number of centre pivot irrigators covering 130 hectares of the land and the balance will be developed as demand grows. In the meantime we have leased the land for grazing.

## **Taupo Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade - page 196**

The Taupo Wastewater Treatment Plant, off the end of Motutahae Street, has reached its capacity. Council is therefore planning to expand the plant on the existing site. It is anticipated that this will be achieved by adding additional clarifiers, a trickling filter tower, an additional digester, a new sand filter and Ultraviolet disinfection. While this configuration does not have the lowest capital cost it has the lowest combined capital and operating costs over the 20 year life of the plant. The new equipment would be progressively installed as funding allows between 2009 and 2013. We are undertaking all the investigation work and the design at present. We are also seeking a Designation for the site as required by the Resource Management Act and are working with residents and interested parties to identify issues of concern.

## **Lake Taupo Erosion and Flood Strategy - page 178**

The Lake Taupo Erosion and Flood Strategy is currently being developed by Taupo District Council and Environment Waikato. The Strategy will provide greater certainty about how the two Councils will manage lake shore erosion and flooding risks around Lake Taupo and will set out the actions that the Councils plan to take and who will do what. Formal submissions have been received on the draft strategy with hearings and deliberations to take place over June and July 2009. Until the strategy is finalised Council is not able to determine what the specific actions may be, and the associated costs or timeframes.

## **Marketing Development Rate - page 105**

Taupo District Council collects a rate called the Marketing Development Rate (MDR) from all commercial, industrial and commercial accommodation properties in the District. The funding collected is used to market the District as a place for people to visit and live. It is paid by businesses and accommodation providers because the main benefit of attracting more people to the District is received by the businesses where those people spend their money.

Some organisations have expressed concerns over the fairness of this rate in relation to who pays it, who does not and the amount that each pays. Some examples have been cited where companies may pay only a small contribution to the rate due to their land value, but they receive significant benefit from the marketing activity. This led to the Taupo District Visitor Industry Forum held in early October 2008. The forum identified that further work was needed to find a fairer way of collecting funding for marketing the District.

This has led to the establishment of a Task Force, organised by Enterprise Lake Taupo and the interim Lake Taupo Tourism Advisory Board, who then made a submission outlining that consideration should be given to developing a workable method of generating voluntary contributions from the visitor industry currently outside the MDR process. Council is planning to develop some options for the MDR which will form part of the 2010/11 Annual Plan. If changes are made to the MDR this will necessitate an amendment to the Long Term Council Community Plan.

## **Developing future leaders - page 70**

Developing our future leaders is about empowering our young people to reach their full potential. The Taupo Youth Council provides a way to bring young people together so they have an opportunity to put forward youth opinions and recommendations about issues that concern them. Council will continue to look at options for bringing youth into the mainstream environment and will consider if the Youth Council is the best option or if there are other ways to achieve the same goal of develop our future leaders not only in Taupo, but also in Turangi and Mangakino.

## **Implementation of Economic Action Plan - page 88**

Council and Enterprise Lake Taupo have prepared an Economic Development Action Plan. The Action Plan contains a programme of actions that if implemented should help support economic activity in the District. It includes actions to be carried out by a range of organisations to help provide a solid basis for all businesses to grow and develop.

## **Opportunities presented by Rotorua Airport expansion - page 104**

Destination Lake Taupo have additional funding to help address the decreasing visitor numbers domestically and take advantage of Rotorua Airport becoming Trans Tasman. With Rotorua Airport less than one hour's drive away the Lake Taupo Region is a viable option for conventions and short stay, self drive holiday market including the lucrative ski and winter holiday markets. The additional funding will be complemented by regional partners to fund a coordinated, three year branding and tactical campaign in the target cities.

## **Community grants - page 77**

Council makes grants to various groups which are of benefit to the wider community. Some are made on a one-off basis, and some organisations receive ongoing grants which they distribute on our behalf. This includes Waiora House, Creative Taupo and Lake Taupo Sports Advisory Trust. Grants have also been made to Bike Taupo and the Lake Taupo Community Arts Festival. Council is currently reviewing the Community Grants Policy. It is anticipated that the policy will be adopted in 2009/10.

## **Rating options - page 71**

During the preparation of the ten year plan, Council held a number of workshops to discuss the implications of various rating alternatives. This included changing from a land value to a capital value rating system, and moving from two separate general rating areas to a single general rate across the district. Over the coming months Council will be developing a range of options for you to consider as part of the 2010/11 Annual Plan.

## **Disestablishment of Taupo District Economic Development Advisory Board - page 88**

Enterprise Lake Taupo was set up by the Taupo District Economic Development Advisory Board in early 2008 as a collaborative organisation to promote and support economic development in Taupo District. As the Advisory Board is no longer needed it will be disestablished.

## **Facilitation of an Ice Arena - page 88**

Preliminary investigations are underway into the possibility of an indoor ice arena in the Taupo District. Council would prefer to work with other parties such as a Trust or commercial venture to facilitate an ice arena. Council will decide the extent (if any) to which it is involved but options include assistance in the provision of land, if a sufficient business case is presented with appropriate funding. Alternatively, other parties would be responsible for funding the building and ongoing operational costs of an ice arena.

## **Rugby World Cup 2011 - page 126**

Council is very keen to host two teams and two live sites (Big Screen) during the Rugby World Cup 2011 (RWC 2011) tournament. The tournament will be held during September and October 2011 and will be a great opportunity to showcase the District to an international audience.

## **Rural Seal Extension - page 157**

Council is planning to seal approximately 5km of rural unsealed roads each year for the next ten years. This is double the distance we had planned in our 2006-16 ten year plan. This would see much of our main rural unsealed roads sealed by the end of the ten year period.

## **Regional Land Transport Programme (RLTP) - page 156**

This programme establishes the regional priority and funding for many district activities including all State Highway activities, local road improvements, walking and cycling and community road safety activities. The RLTP consultation period began after the consultation period for our ten year plan closed. Environment Waikato will approve the RLTP in June and it will then be forwarded to the NZTA for consideration as part of the National LTP. Decisions on the national programme are expected in August 2009.

## **Food Safety - page 150**

A new Food Bill to Parliament brings changes for operators of food premises. Each food premises operator will have a Food Control Plan, which will clearly outline how to provide safe food. Councils Environmental Health Officers (EHO's) will then audit the plan to ensure that the operators are complying with the plan. Once the new (and wider ranging) law is adopted, there will be a five year phase in period for food premises operators. We are awaiting accreditation as Food Act Officers prior to formal commencement of the programme.

## **Stormwater Strategy - page 190**

Council needs to plan for more frequent storms like those of April and July 2008. A stormwater strategy will be developed and will identify engineering solutions and education initiatives to achieve target outcomes in managing stormwater across all catchments, developed or undeveloped. Some new detention ponds have already been installed to contain, treat and slowly release stormwater instead of allowing it to find its own flow paths to the lake or river. New residential developments include stormwater channels designed to direct water away from homes and business premises.

The objective is to improve existing systems to minimise overland flow and flooding, sediment discharges, and ensure stormwater quality is within acceptable levels.

## **Waste Minimisation Act - page 183**

The new Waste Minimisation Act has several implications for Council and the community. The first is the introduction from 1 July 2009 of a \$10 per tonne waste levy on all tonnes of waste disposed to landfill. This provides an incentive for the diversion of waste and an estimated \$31 million fund to be used nationally for waste minimisation initiatives. Proceeds from the levy will be split with 50% going to territorial local authority's based on population, with the rest being placed into a contestable fund.

## **Changes to Fees and Charges for 2009/10 - page 231**

There are several changes to the fees and charges for the 2009/10 year. The main ones are in the areas of transportation, and wastewater and water connections. Changes to overweight vehicle permits have been made to reflect the impact of inflation. Increases to the wastewater and water connections are to reflect the actual cost of providing the service.

There have been some minor adjustments due to inflation for our Taupo Pensioner units and a minor decrease in the cost of library membership cards. There has been a significant increase in the cost of a family plot at the Taupo Public Cemetery.

Changes to the solid waste fees and charges are due to the new Waste Minimisation Act. This legislation requires that we introduce a levy of \$10 per tonne on all waste disposed to landfill. The Act intends that this levy shall be used to fund waste minimisation initiatives.

# Financial Summary

## Council's Financial Strategy

The Council's financial strategy is to keep rates affordable for the community.

The 10 year \$380m capital expenditure program leads to the loan book growing until 2012/13 and then levelling out. We have assumed that the market will be flat for the next three years and that only in the latter half of this LTCCP period that we will be able to maximise returns from the sale of surplus Council assets to repay loans. Debt is used as an intergenerational tool to match the value the community gets from the asset created.

The proceeds from these assets, the receipt of development contributions, together with the growth in rateable properties in these latter years, enables us to create this rate profile. If the growth does not eventuate and the community does not want these assets sold then rate increases will be substantially higher than those shown in this LTCCP.

This level of rate increase also assumes a subsidy from the TEL fund. Should a decision be made to use this fund for other purposes then a rate increase would result.

The Council is in a strong financial position going into this ten year period and has sound treasury management policies to build on this position.

# rates... where it goes



On average it costs each ratepayer \$2012 to operate these services...

## Wastewater - 22% \$443

- 350 km underground pipes, 16,538 connections, 6,651 manholes, 98 pump stations, 12 treatment plants and 13 disposal sites
- Upgrades and odour control
- Collection, treatment & disposal of wastewater
- safeguards environment & protects public health
- Reducing nitrogen inputs target by 2080

## Water Supply - 11% \$210

- 22 water supply schemes
- 570km of underground pipes, 35 pump stations, 65 reservoirs
- Fire fighting water flows\pressure provided at fire hydrants
- Continuous water testing\compliant with NZ drinking water standards

## Community - 21% \$430

- 3 Public cemeteries
- 57 rental units for older persons
- Aquatic facilities in Taupo, Turangi and Mangakino
- Community Events (Youth Awards, ANZAC Services etc)
- Community Grants
- Co-ordinating and encouraging arts & other cultural events
- Great Lake Centre
- Helping communities to be safe
- Indoor multi purpose Events Centre
- Mobile library bus
- Parks, street gardens, and reserves
- Providing and maintaining community halls
- Public toilets and Superloo
- Sportsgrounds
- Taupo Museum, Art Gallery and Ora Garden
- Libraries in Taupo, Turangi and Mangakino
- Public Art

## Transportation and Stormwater - 14% \$274

- 753km road, 272 km footpaths, 24 bridges, 31km culverts, 38km cycle ways, 97,000 m2 parking
- East Taupo Arterial
- Cycleways, bus shelters, footpaths, car parks
- Festive lights, signage
- Road safety and education
- Roads, chip sealing, paving, curbs, roundabouts, street cleaning
- Street lighting, mowing, signs, street landscaping
- Community education
- Flood protection
- 206km of stormwater pipe, 4,077 catch pits, 2,929 manholes and 4 pump stations
- Ensuring stormwater quality and quantity

## Democracy / Information - 12% \$235

- Advocacy on behalf of the community
- Committee meetings, policies and decisions
- Community planning and partnerships
- Corporate business systems and organisational development
- Elected representatives
- Preparing and auditing statutory reports
- Submission processes, community engagement, consultation

## Rubbish and Recycling - 5% \$108

- 5 Transfer Stations and 1 District Landfill
- Bins and litter collection in CBD and public reserves
- Kerbside refuse & recycling collection
- Waste minimisation program

## Economic Development and Marketing - 4% \$84

- Convention & event marketing
- Destination marketing
- Domestic and international tourism marketing
- Taupo & Turangi i-Sites
- Supporting Enterprise Lake Taupo (ELT)

## Regulatory Services and Emergency Management - 5% \$109

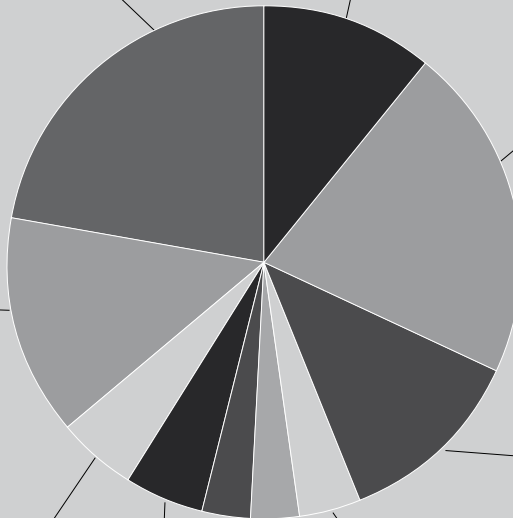
- Animal registrations, control and impounding
- Building consents
- Health and liquor licensing and inspections
- Land Information
- Noise control
- Parking control
- Resource consents and monitoring
- Civil Defence and Emergency Management
- Rural Fire Service

## Lake Water Quality - 3% \$68

- Lake Taupo Flood and Erosion Strategy
- Lake Taupo Protection Trust - reducing nitrogen levels by 2080

## Planning - 3% \$51

- Development Contributions Policy
- District Plan (plan changes and monitoring)
- Structure Plans
- Taupo District 2050 - Growth Management Strategy



## Current economic climate and inflation

Council is aware that the current economic conditions resulting from the world financial crisis will have an impact on our community. We are not in a position to predict the extent or length of this impact but have taken a conservative approach when preparing this ten year plan.

This plan has been compiled using forecast inflation rates over the next ten years, therefore the numbers shown in year 2018/19 have had approximately 30% inflation added or 3% per year.

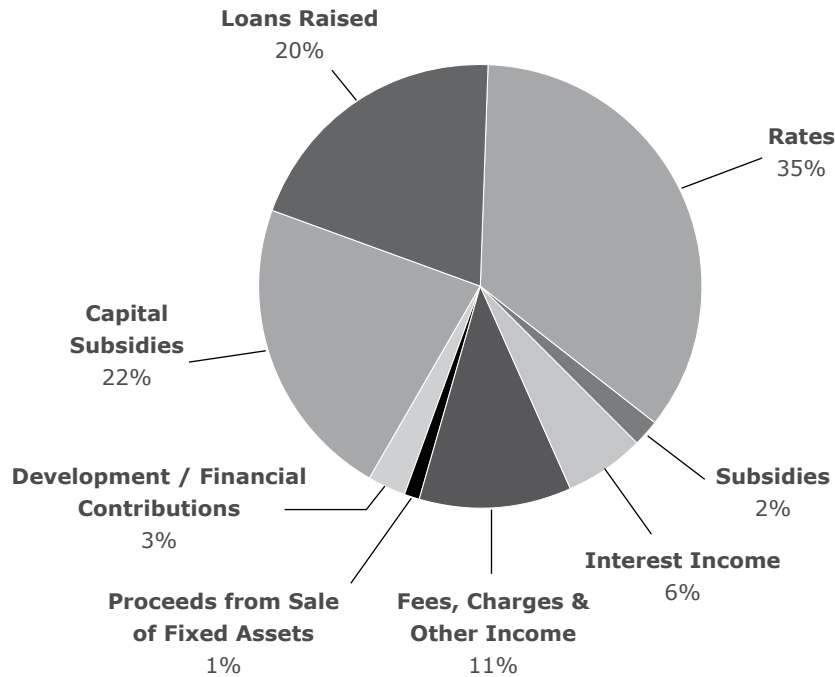
## Here are the major capital projects that we have planned for the next ten years.

As you can see 2009 to 2011 are big years for us, this is mainly due to the construction of the East Taupo Arterial, remembering that we receive a subsidy of 76.5% towards this cost from the NZ Transport Agency. Some other big costs are for wastewater treatment plant upgrades, district wide water upgrades to meet central government legislation and Council's own urban land development program.

Major capital projects for the next 10 years	2009/10 (\$000)	2010/11 (\$000)	2011/12 (\$000)	2012/13 (\$000)	2013/14 (\$000)	2014/15 (\$000)	2015/16 (\$000)	2016/17 (\$000)	2017/18 (\$000)	2018/19 (\$000)
District new toilets and improvements	0	392	149	273	112	58	0	0	0	0
Tongariro Domain redevelopment	290	227	202	76	22	17	18	18	34	19
Development Contributions Growth projects	560	706	1,752	2,135	2,432	3,232	2,741	2,218	16,605	1,417
New Landfill stages and Gas Flare	6	79	1,195	710	64	26	997	66	7	8
Taupo Urban Lands development	2,359	3,698	4,962	6,743	7,825	3,937	0	0	0	0
Lake Terrace traffic calming and realignment	0	22	89	0	560	0	0	1,806	0	0
Nukuhau/Riverside Park pedestrian bridge	274	1,131	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seal extension/Pavement reseals and renewals	1,994	1,902	2,071	1,459	1,929	1,820	1,581	2,238	2,174	3,106
East Taupo Arterial (ETA)	33,000	30,960	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
District wastewater treatment plants upgrade	5,790	9,880	5,374	3,084	6,832	9,672	4,334	4,559	2,153	6,324
District wide water treatment	2,328	7,155	8,480	10,035	9,842	11,036	7,997	7,454	3,770	4,073
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,601</b>	<b>56,152</b>	<b>24,274</b>	<b>24,515</b>	<b>29,618</b>	<b>29,798</b>	<b>17,668</b>	<b>18,359</b>	<b>24,743</b>	<b>14,947</b>

## How does Council pay for all of the things it is planning to do?

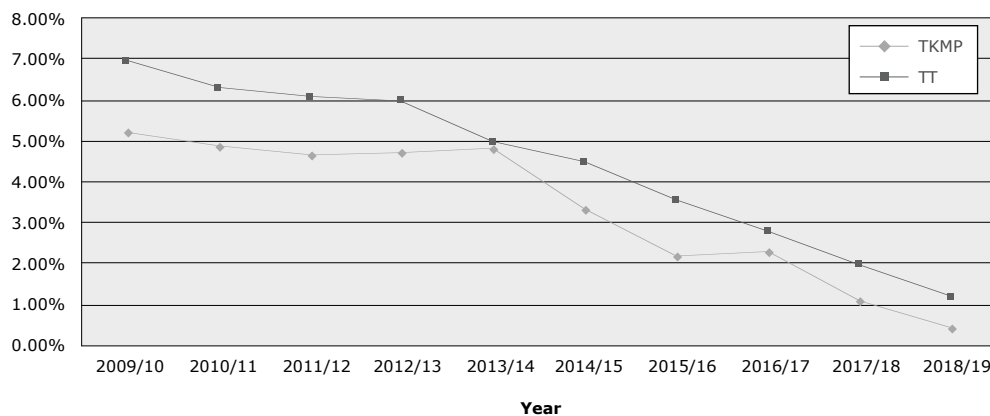
The graph below shows how the Council will pay for the services and projects it delivers to the community in 2009/10. As you can see 65% of our funding will come from sources other than rates.



## Average percentage rates increase over the next ten years

Council has worked hard to provide an affordable ten year plan. We are predicting rate increases for the TKMP (northern) rating area averaging 5% per annum for the TT (southern) rating area an average of 6% per annum over the first five years of the plan, with rates decreasing over the last five years of the plan.

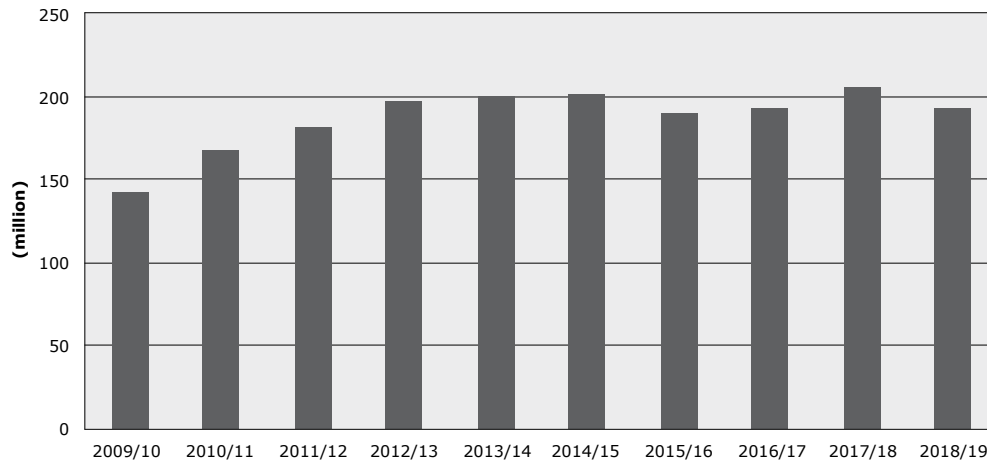
### Average property % rate increase (inclusive of inflation)



## Our debt profile over the coming ten years

Council is planning to spend \$380 million on capital projects over the next ten years. Much of the expenditure will be loan funded to ensure intergenerational equity. Council is forecasting its loan book will grow to around \$200 million by 2013/14.

**Taupo District Council Projected Borrowings**



## Summary - Cost of Service Statement

<b>Operating Funding Requirements</b>	<b>2009/10 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2010/11 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2011/12 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2012/13 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2013/14 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2014/15 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2015/16 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2016/17 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2017/18 (\$,000)</b>	<b>2018/19 (\$,000)</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>										
Targeted rates	16,562	17,894	19,515	21,052	22,451	23,810	25,339	26,743	26,817	26,704
Development and/or financial contributions	3,132	4,587	4,989	6,020	7,478	8,489	7,669	7,648	8,382	10,083
Property Sales	625	2,082	2,710	9,609	10,698	8,142	2,688	1,335	683	0
Vested assets	4,400	4,545	4,692	4,829	4,989	5,146	5,328	5,516	5,722	5,940
Other income	47,172	46,080	22,013	21,619	21,748	22,163	22,742	24,201	24,380	26,089
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>71,891</b>	<b>75,188</b>	<b>53,919</b>	<b>63,129</b>	<b>67,364</b>	<b>67,750</b>	<b>63,766</b>	<b>65,443</b>	<b>65,984</b>	<b>68,816</b>
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>										
Operating expenditure	47,341	49,424	51,306	51,947	53,533	54,820	56,583	58,753	59,997	61,253
Depreciation and amortisation	12,575	13,191	14,074	14,880	15,503	16,113	16,794	17,650	18,296	18,820
Finance costs	9,582	11,610	13,279	14,432	15,748	15,900	15,619	14,807	15,281	15,836
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>69,498</b>	<b>74,225</b>	<b>78,659</b>	<b>81,259</b>	<b>84,784</b>	<b>86,833</b>	<b>88,996</b>	<b>91,210</b>	<b>93,574</b>	<b>95,909</b>
<b>Net Deficit (Surplus) of Operations</b>	<b>(2,393)</b>	<b>(963)</b>	<b>24,740</b>	<b>18,130</b>	<b>17,420</b>	<b>19,083</b>	<b>25,230</b>	<b>25,767</b>	<b>27,590</b>	<b>27,093</b>
<b>Funded by:</b>										
General rates	26,823	28,321	29,653	31,259	33,213	34,776	35,494	36,366	37,956	39,452
Operating deficit (surplus) to/from reserves	(26,663)	(26,644)	(2,182)	(10,309)	(12,862)	(12,653)	(7,091)	(7,292)	(6,908)	(8,736)
Recognition of vested assets	(4,400)	(4,545)	(4,692)	(4,829)	(4,989)	(5,146)	(5,328)	(5,516)	(5,722)	(5,940)
Depreciation not funded	1,847	1,905	1,961	2,009	2,058	2,106	2,155	2,209	2,264	2,317
<b>Total Funding Applied</b>	<b>(2,393)</b>	<b>(963)</b>	<b>24,740</b>	<b>18,130</b>	<b>17,420</b>	<b>19,083</b>	<b>25,230</b>	<b>25,767</b>	<b>27,590</b>	<b>27,093</b>

## Summary - Cost of Service Statement

<b>Capital and Reserves Funding Requirements</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>
	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)	(\$,000)
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>										
Renewals	8,583	9,306	9,258	9,185	9,855	9,269	6,788	8,768	10,162	10,638
Growth (excludes ETA)	6,714	15,622	13,907	13,778	16,560	20,959	11,940	12,258	18,234	9,627
Growth - ETA	33,000	30,960	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Increase in level of service	7,997	9,928	10,177	11,495	13,893	7,680	5,996	7,529	6,245	5,238
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>56,294</b>	<b>65,816</b>	<b>33,342</b>	<b>34,458</b>	<b>40,308</b>	<b>37,908</b>	<b>24,724</b>	<b>28,555</b>	<b>34,641</b>	<b>25,503</b>
Loan Repayments	5,275	8,896	12,594	13,766	29,881	28,312	30,624	18,780	15,073	29,520
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>61,569</b>	<b>74,712</b>	<b>45,936</b>	<b>48,224</b>	<b>70,189</b>	<b>66,220</b>	<b>55,348</b>	<b>47,335</b>	<b>49,714</b>	<b>55,023</b>
<b>Funded by:</b>										
Loans Raised	24,174	35,143	26,824	28,663	33,715	29,890	19,274	21,909	27,288	17,482
NZTA and Other Subsidies	26,348	24,679	945	719	949	840	710	1,407	1,074	1,600
Transfer from Reserve(s)	11,047	14,890	18,167	18,842	35,525	35,490	35,364	24,019	21,352	35,941
<b>Total Funding Applied</b>	<b>61,569</b>	<b>74,712</b>	<b>45,936</b>	<b>48,224</b>	<b>70,189</b>	<b>66,220</b>	<b>55,348</b>	<b>47,335</b>	<b>49,714</b>	<b>55,023</b>
<b>Split of Capital Expenditure</b>										
Renewals	8,583	9,306	9,258	9,185	9,855	9,269	6,788	8,768	10,162	10,638
Growth	39,714	46,582	13,907	13,778	16,560	20,959	11,940	12,258	18,234	9,627
Increase in level of service	7,997	9,928	10,177	11,495	13,893	7,680	5,996	7,529	6,245	5,238
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>56,294</b>	<b>65,816</b>	<b>33,342</b>	<b>34,458</b>	<b>40,308</b>	<b>37,908</b>	<b>24,724</b>	<b>28,555</b>	<b>34,641</b>	<b>25,503</b>

