

connect



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 15 FEBRUARY 2019

TŪWHARETOA STREET PREFERRED SITE FOR ADMIN' BUILDING



During an extraordinary council meeting at Suncourt Hotel this week, councillors chose a council-owned building on the Tūwharetoa Street carpark behind Burger King as the preferred site for its administration building.

Leasing a building has not been discounted and when consultation takes place with the community in April and May, there will also be an invitation for developers to submit proposals for consideration.

The decisions were made as councillors discussed the four potential options to house our administration functions which included a long-term lease of a civic administration building in Taupō town centre, construction of a new stand-alone building on our old site at 72 Lake Terrace, a new stand-alone civic administration building on the site between 61 and 67 Tūwharetoa Street, or construction of a new civic administration building including a café, new i-SITE and 657m² of community space on Tongariro Domain adjacent to a new museum, as part of the implementation of the Taupō Cultural Precinct masterplan.

Councillors had initially chosen an area by the Great Lake Centre fronting Story Place as its preferred site and had a masterplan developed for the area, which included

a new museum. However, when put to the vote, a building on Tūwharetoa Street was the preferred option by eight votes to three. The proposal will include approximately 300m² of ground floor space for alternative uses such as a café or bus facilities, and construction of 80 in-berm car parks near the site. At this stage, two levels of underground car parking as shown in the Tūwharetoa Street Feasibility Report will be excluded due to cost.

Deputy Mayor Rosie Harvey, who chaired the meeting, said the council was required under legislation to indicate its preferred site to the community. It did not mean any of the sites had been completely discounted, it just allowed for the community to better engage in the consultation process, she said.

"It will be absolutely critical that we hear from all parts of the community when we ask people for feedback in April," she said. A consultation document was being prepared that would outline each of the options, their cost and impact on rates for the community to consider.

Following that, people would be given an opportunity to be heard by the council before a decision was made and the Long-term Plan amended.

» More information is available at taupo.govt.nz/cpp

WAIRAKEI DRIVE TARGET OF VANDALS

New speed signage worth about \$3000 advising motorists of newly introduced lower speed limits has been destroyed on Wairakei Drive and Karapiti Road.

Following the introduction of new speed restrictions on Wairakei Drive, 80kmh signage was installed in December. Eight signs have been broken off and removed from the roadside.

Road safety coordinator Dianna Harrison said the speed restrictions in the area were introduced with safety in mind.

"This area has been identified as a high crash area. We have taken steps to slow the traffic down due to the number of crashes we have had, especially with the increase in traffic over summer adding to the risk."

If you have any information on what happened to the signs, please contact Taupō Police.



» LAKE TAUPŌ CATCHMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Got something to say about erosion, plant and animal pests or biodiversity? Do you have ideas for improving the health of the local environment?

Join us at the Lake Taupō Catchment Committee being held on **Friday, February 22 in the Motutaiko Room, Suncourt Hotel & Conference Centre, 14 Northcroft Street, Taupō.**

The catchment committee is now beginning these meetings with a 30 minute public forum, so people living in the Lake Taupō catchment can share their ideas and concerns.

Public forum: 10am-10.30am
Committee agenda: 10.30am-noon

» WHAT'S ON?

- Feb 15-16 Traffic Management Great Lake Relay, Taupō/Turangī
 - Feb 16-20 The Small Print, Taupō Museum
 - Feb 21 Classical Journey, Great Lake Centre
 - Feb 21 The Frank Burkitt Band, Taupō Museum
 - Feb 22 Shiny Side Up talk series, Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park
 - Until Feb 25 Around the Mountains, Taupō Museum
- For more information visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com



IT'S GREAT LAKE RELAY TIME AGAIN!

It's that time of the year again, as teams of runners and walkers dust off their shoes and stride their way around the 155km perimeter of our great lake.

This event always proves to be popular with over 3500 competitors walking and running on our roads from 2am – 6pm on Saturday across various events. These include not just the relay itself, but also Length of the Lake Relay and solo events. For those really keen individuals, the Great Lake Solo race offers people a chance to complete a lap of the lake singlehandedly.

Please be aware all roads are open during this event, so motorists are advised to please take care.

» Traffic Management Great Lake Relay, February 15-16

Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

