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COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 14 JUNE 2019

WE WILL SOON HAVE A NEW HOME!

THE DEVELOPMENT OF a new administration building in Tuwharetoa Street was confirmed by Council last week.

Over 600 written submissions and more than 20 presentations from people taking the opportunity to present their thoughts to council face-to-face were taken into account as Council went through the decision-making process.

Following a robust debate, the decision for this site was decided, including floor space for alternate uses including a café and bus facilities, and the building to be built to IL4 standard, the minimum required for a post-disaster facility.

To address concerns raised around car parking, 80 new in berm car parks will be created in close proximity to the site and the build also includes two levels of underground parking, resulting in a sizeable gain over the parking that currently exists. Work on the in-berm car parks will start in the next financial year.

These car parking elements were included in two separate Tuwharetoa Street options, which received 221 submissions – or over 34 per cent overall, slightly

behind the 37.98 per cent of submissions to return to the previous administration building at 72 Lake Terrace.

During deliberations the Lake Terrace site was not chosen by Council due to the location requiring a resource consent as it would be against the rules set out in the District Plan to rebuild outside of the CBD. This could prove to be a lengthy and costly process and is not in line with our vision of maintaining a vibrant town centre. It would also need to be publicly notified, with no certainty of success.

In addition to the new administration building, Council also decided a new museum and art gallery will be built on Tongariro Domain to create a 'cultural heart'. The intention is for two thirds of the museum and art gallery build to be funded from external funding sources.

▽ ARTIST'S IMPRESSION ONLY



EARLY BIRD ENTRIES OPEN FOR CYCLISTS

THE 43RD BDO Lake Taupo Cycle Challenge event takes place on Saturday November 30 this year and early bird entries are now open.

Now is a great time to get your friends together and commit to knocking off one of the many categories on offer – its not just about riding around the lake! Mountain bike races are again available, alongside the road bike options. There is something for everyone, regardless of your age or fitness level.

Event and entry information can be found at cyclechallenge.com.



NORTHERN CORRIDOR: NEW TRAFFIC LIGHT POLES INSTALLED

All the traffic signal poles are now up at the intersection of Norman Smith Street and Wairakei Drive, giving an idea of what the area will look like when it's finished in the coming weeks.

The traffic signals are part of a wider project to improve the intersection and northern entrance into town with minor alterations, safety and traffic calming measures.

The installation of the poles means all the cabling and ducting has been installed below ground and the fitting of the hardware on the pole tops, including the lights themselves, is now in place. These will not be operational until the project is complete.

Around the poles you will also see our contractors making minor pavement alterations and new traffic islands being constructed over the next few weeks.

» WHAT'S ON?

- Jun 16 Kinloch Music Group – Sunday Jam, Kinloch
- Until Jul 1 Matariki Hunga Nui, Taupō Museum

For more information visit www.lovetapu.com



A CATASTROPHE IS COMING...

Last year saw Taupō museum go to the dogs with the award-winning exhibition "A Dog Show". This year sees man's best friend in the dog-box as the museum gears up to host an influx of feline features instead, with a cat-themed exhibition planned.

The aptly named "CATalogue" will host all things to do with your pesky dog-bothering kitty. It will feature a collection of cat works using recycled materials from artists from as far away as the South Island, as well as locals. Expect cats and kittens to be well represented, as local brownies and girl guide groups have taken up the challenge to think of something outside the (litter) box and will be adding their own creations to the line-up. This will be a cat show for art lovers and an art show for cat lovers, with something for everyone.

There's no point us letting the cat out of the bag so to speak, so if you're keen to hunt out a cougar or cheetah or just see an upcycled tiger creation, Taupō museum will be the place to be! The exhibition runs from July 6 to August 12. No cats were harmed in the making of this article.