



NEW RELATIONSHIPS SPECIALIST TO SUPPORT DISTRICT-WIDE ENGAGEMENT



DAVID RAMEKA IS no stranger to local government and no stranger to Taupō. With a surname like Rameka it's no surprise that our new Strategic Relationships Manager was born and bred here, and after a number of years living and working away from the district, he is happy and excited to be back home.

"Part of my role within Council is to support engagement and building or consolidating relationships with iwi, hapu, marae, and the Māori community. In the short time I've

been home, I've noticed there's lots of activity happening, so it's an exciting time to be in this role," he says. "I'm keen to ascertain how my role – and working alongside my colleagues – can contribute to positive outcomes for the wider Taupō community."

"Another aspect of my role includes working with and supporting my Council colleagues in liaising and engaging with iwi, hapu, marae and Māori across a range of issues impacting on those communities – so that it becomes business as usual, and a priority for us."

After finishing his schooling in Taupō, David attended Waikato University, and then his first work role was as a social worker here. He's also worked in various roles across the Māori Health sector, for an iwi organisation, as an advisor for the Lottery Grants Board, in local government in Auckland with their Māori Strategy and Governance team, and then with the Southern Initiative, which focussed on enabling transformation across South Auckland.

Part of his Southern Initiative role included leading engagement and relationship development with the 12 iwi entities that indicated they have interests across South Auckland, and he's looking to utilise the learnings, networks and experience gleaned from his previous roles in his current role with Taupō District Council.

"The call of home has become stronger for me as I've gotten older, it's where I grew up. I'm grateful for the opportunity to return to live and work back home after being away for a long time, and I'm looking forward to contributing where I can."

EXTRA CAR PARKS FOR CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

MORE THAN 80 additional car parks will be added to Tūwharetoa and Roberts Streets in time for the summer season.

Work has started on the new in-berm carparks and is expected to take six weeks. During that time, a traffic management plan will be in place.

Infrastructure manager Denis Lewis said there would be a net gain of more than 80 parking spaces.

"Council is providing these extra parking spaces in response to feedback from the community. They will be all-day spaces and should go some way in helping alleviate the parking situation around the central business district, particularly over the busy summer season."

IRONMAN ANNOUNCES NEW COURSE FOR DECEMBER 70.3 EVENT

IRONMAN NEW ZEALAND has announced a new trial course for the December 70.3 event.

Mayor David Trewavas said the trial course would start from the Taupō Yacht Club for the swim leg of the race. The bike course would head through Taupō along Rifle Range Road, Taharepa Road, Vaile Road, Halcrow Road and Homestead Road. The run course would be along the lakefront, finishing at Tongariro Domain.

"The December 7 2019 and March 7 2020 events are allowing us to trial a few new opportunities in the lead up to the world's and better ensure athlete safety," he said.

Residents and businesses on the affected route have been informed.

For more detailed information on the changes, go to ironman.com/triathlon/events/asiapac/ironman-70.3/taupo/athletes/course.

TAUPŌ COMMUNITY PATROL

THANKS TO THE volunteers at Taupō Community Patrol who give up their time to patrol residential, business and commercial areas and keep an eye out for any suspicious or disorderly activity.

The team work closely with Police to ensure Taupō is a safer place for all of us and now they want your help too!

The patrol team are seeking input to a new design for their patrol vehicle.

If you have a keen eye for design and have some ideas of your own to contribute, they're inviting keen photographers to submit their designs. The winning entry will be displayed on the car.

For more information and application forms e-mail TCPphotocomp19@gmail.com.



#TAKE THE LEAD



Our aim is to balance the needs of dogs and their owners, while minimising any potential danger, distress or nuisance to the community and environment.



DOG FRIENDLY WALKING AREAS

One of the joys of owning a dog is taking them out for a walk on a great day!

Did you know we have lots of designated areas where dogs can be exercised freely off the leash? You are able to let your dog run free in these areas if you can control them with a call or whistle.

Our aim is to balance the needs of dogs and their owners, while minimising any potential danger, distress or nuisance to the community and environment.

Please remember the following when exercising your dog:

- » You must always carry a leash with you.
- » Always pick up and appropriately dispose of your dog's droppings.
- » Your dog must always be under proper control – you must be aware of where your dog is and what it is doing. Ensure the dog responds to commands and prevent it from endangering or causing distress to people, other animals or any wildlife.
- » Dogs are not allowed in any children's play areas.
- » Bitches that are in season are not allowed in public places.
- » Remember to look for any signs that indicate dog restrictions, such as leashed or prohibited areas.

For a full list of both on-lead and off-lead exercise areas go to taupo.govt.nz/takethelead.

» WHAT'S ON?

Nov 1 Starlight Cinema Fireworks & Laser Extravaganza, Owen Delany Park

Nov 2 The Taniwha, Whakamaru

Nov 3 Greenlea Rescue Helicopter Open Day, Taupō Airport

Until Nov 4 From the Inside, Taupō Museum

Nov 1 - Dec 9 Truth, Nature, Self, Taupō Museum

For more information visit www.lovetaupo.com