

# connect

Weekly



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ  
Taupō District Council

COMMUNITY NEWS WITH TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL 13 DECEMBER 2019



## TAUPŌ DISTRICT REVALUATIONS COMPLETED

A REVALUATION OF property in the Taupō District has revealed a 20.8 per cent increase in total capital value since 2016 to a total of \$18.928 billion.

Legislation requires local authorities to review rateable values every three years and property owners will receive notices outlining the updated rating valuations from 12 December.

The new valuations have seen an average increase of 38 per cent for residential properties across the district, while pastoral farm properties have risen by an average 11 per cent. Industrial property rose 18 per cent with commercial and accommodation properties up 23 per cent. Lifestyle properties increased an average of 42 per cent. The only decrease was for dairy farms which were down 6 per cent.

The largest residential increase in average capital value

was in Mangakino (up 93 per cent), followed by Turangi (up 59 per cent), Kinloch (up 37 per cent), the Eastern Lakeshore (up 42 per cent) and Nukuhau (up 36 per cent). Residential property average increases in Taupō town centre rose 33 per cent, followed by Western Lakeshore (up 29 per cent), Acacia Bay (up 28 per cent) and Taupō town south (up 28 per cent).

The process for determining rating values is independently audited by the Office of the Valuer General and stringent quality standards have to be met before a revaluation is confirmed.

Property owners who disagree with the new valuation can lodge an objection up until January 23, 2020.

To find out more information about rating values in the Taupō District and how to lodge an objection visit [taupo.govt.nz/valuations](http://taupo.govt.nz/valuations).

## INVESTIGATION FINDINGS INTO LAKE TERRACE SPILL WELCOMED

We welcome the Waikato Regional Council's decision not to prosecute over the wastewater spill into Lake Taupō in July.

A water main broke just after 2pm on July 2 causing a large washout on the lakefront. About an hour later, the footpath collapsed and took out a wastewater pipe causing around 800,000 litres of wastewater to enter the lake. It was October before full restoration was complete and the road could reopen.

Waikato Regional Council announced earlier this afternoon that it would not initiate a prosecution following a thorough five-month independent investigation into the incident.

"This was a unique set of circumstances. Our investigation has determined that it would not be appropriate for any person or entity to face formal enforcement action," Waikato Regional Council Investigations Manager Patrick Lynch said in the announcement.

In this case, the incident was not foreseeable, was beyond anyone's control, and was adequately mitigated, he said.

However, despite the findings, Mayor David Trewavas is unreservedly apologising to Ngāti Tūwharetoa, the Waikato River iwi, affected businesses, and the wider community for the distress and disruption the incident caused.

Mr Trewavas said the spill was the biggest environmental disaster the council had ever faced.

"To see the hurt and anguish on people's faces following the spill was absolutely heart breaking," he said. "I shared that pain given the importance of the lake to our community. I felt absolutely powerless that, despite our quick response and pulling in all the resources we could immediately following the incident, what had happened could not be undone."

Chief Executive Gareth Green said staff had co-operated fully with Waikato Regional Council, and had provided all the technical information it had, including the results of laboratory testing of



the pipes. That testing showed the pipe material had at least 50 years of life remaining, and the installation had been done correctly.

"It was a harrowing experience for staff to be subject to such an intense investigation and I am incredibly proud that the actions of those staff have been independently vindicated, particularly when it showed the response exceeded what is considered to be best practice," he said.

To help alleviate any further risk, the repairs had seen the pipes moved away from the lakefront and work was continuing on the development of robust asset management plans and delivering on a comprehensive renewals programme. A new risk assessment tool was also being implemented to help the council identify key areas of risk on the lakefront to assist staff with their planning.

## SPRINKLER RESTRICTIONS

### ! WATER ALERT LEVEL 1

Only water your garden and lawn every second day (using the odds and evens system based on your street address).



### EVERY DROP COUNTS

As the district fills up with visitors and temperatures rise, demand for water increases dramatically.

Last year, we saw an increase in demand of 50 percent across the district in January and we are expecting a similar increase this year, so we are asking residents to act now to reduce demand.

From Monday, December 16, please only water your garden and lawn every second day (using the odds and evens system based on your street address). This applies to fixed sprinklers only. Hand held hoses can be used at any time.

VISIT [TAUPO.GOV.T.NZ](http://TAUPO.GOV.T.NZ) FOR MORE INFORMATION

## MANGAKINO SWIMMERS!

The Mangakino Community Pool is now open. Opening hours during school holidays are from 12.30pm–4.30pm. During the school term, the pool will be open from 3.30pm–5.30pm weekdays and 12.30pm–4.30pm on weekends.

Tickets are available from the Mangakino Service Centre or Ata's Bar & Eatery, and presented when entering the pools. Entry tickets cannot be purchased at the pool.

The pool season will run until Friday March 13, 2020.

## » TAUPŌ CHRISTMAS PARADE ROAD CLOSURES

The following sections of Lake Terrace and Tongariro Street will be closed on Saturday December 14 from 11.30am – 2pm and the section of Rifle Range Road from 6am – noon.

» **Lake Terrace:** from Tongariro Street to Kaimanawa Street

» **Tongariro Street:** from Spa Road to Lake Terrace

» **Rifle Range Road:** from Roberts Street to Lake Terrace

A detour will be in place along Spa Road and Kaimanawa Street.

## » WHAT'S ON?

- Dec 12 – 15 Volcanic Rumble, Taupō
- Dec 14 Mitre 10 Mega Trolley Derby, Riverside Park
- Dec 14 Taupō Christmas in the Park, Riverside Park
- Dec 14 Turangi Christmas in the Park, Tongariro School
- Dec 14 Mangakino Christmas Parade, Mangakino
- Dec 14 Taupō Christmas Parade, Taupō
- Until Dec 16 From the Inside exhibition, Taupō Museum

For more information visit [www.lovetapu.com](http://www.lovetapu.com)