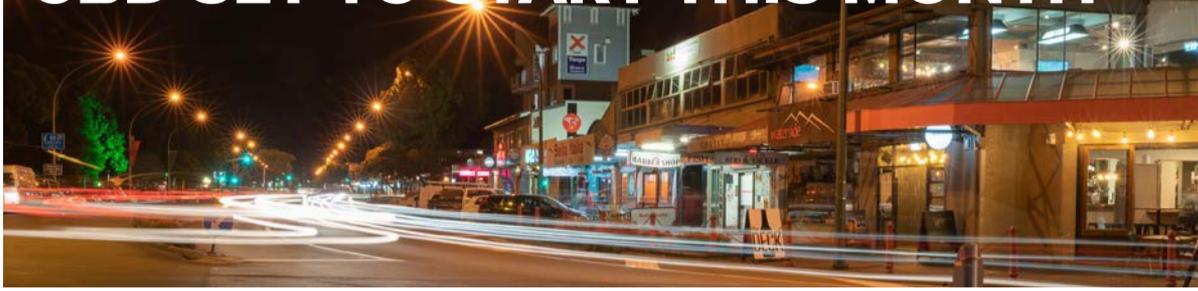


TRANSFORMATION OF TAUPŌ CBD SET TO START THIS MONTH



A \$20 MILLION transformation of Taupō's Central Business District is set to get underway this month.

The four-phase project, which is Government funded, aims to transform our public places into people spaces, to drive economic growth. It is also expected to provide 92 full-time equivalent positions during the delivery of the project.

The first phase will begin on Monday, August 10, with the upgrade of the Ruapehu and Tuwharetoa Street intersection. This work is expected to take 16 weeks with the upgrade of the Gascoigne and Paora Hapi Streets and Horomatangi and Ruapehu Streets to follow.

Other phases include the transformation of Tongariro Street from the Spa Road roundabout to Lake Terrace and from Lake Terrace to Titiraupenga Street, and the development of an alfresco dining environment in Tuwharetoa Street.

Chief executive Gareth Green said the project has been part

of Council's strategic planning since 2004 with two structure plans having been designed for the Taupō Town Centre, following consultation with the community.

"Council made the application to Crown Infrastructure Partners on the basis that communities need to have vibrant, attractive, liveable places to attract a skilled workforce.

"Taupō is blessed with outstanding natural assets but these need to be balanced with a quality urban environment. Good community infrastructure along with quality commercial activity contribute to the "look and feel" of the community and we hope will encourage people to linger longer in the heart of our town," he said.

The project is expected to take approximately two years to complete, with council looking to work in with the community and businesses to ensure the timing of the different phases work around events and busy times of the year.



DOGS IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

BARKING IS A normal and healthy means of communication for a domestic dog. However, when the barking is not responded to in the appropriate manner it may become a nuisance.

Under the Dog Control Act 1996, a dog is allowed to bark but not so that it creates a nuisance by persistent and loud barking or howling.

If you are being affected by barking or howling, we recommend talking to the dog owner, as your first step. Often dog owners are unaware their dog is creating a nuisance and will make a conscious effort to remedy the problem.

Another option is to report the barking dog to us. You can do this by giving us a call on 07 3760899 or filling out our Contact Us form online.

If you are a dog owner and suspect your dog is barking while you are away, have a chat with your neighbours and ask them to monitor the barking while you are not home.

For more information including tips and tricks for how to stop your dog from barking, please head to taupo.govt.nz/dogs.



PLANTING DAY A SUCCESS

LOCAL HAPŪ RECENTLY joined with council parks and reserves staff for a planting day on Lake Terrace.

A number of native trees were planted along the lake edge, to further enhance and protect the natural beauty and environment of the whenua (land).

The planting was attended by strategic relationships manager David Rameka and Taupō District Mayor David Trewavas, who were only too keen to lend a hand too.

"It was fantastic to see some of our local hapū members here to plant out this area," Mr Trewavas said.

"We are all stewards of our natural environment and it's great to be able to help look after it with planting for future generations to enjoy too."

HAVE YOUR SAY ON COUNCIL'S DRAFT TRANSPORT STRATEGY

WE ARE NOW calling for feedback on council's draft Transport Strategy. This will help us to understand the community's transport services and infrastructure needs.

The draft Transport Strategy sets out a number of key themes and ideas that we hope will start the conversation to help inform council's long-term direction and priorities.

Mayor David Trewavas said it was important to hear feedback from the community on the draft strategy.

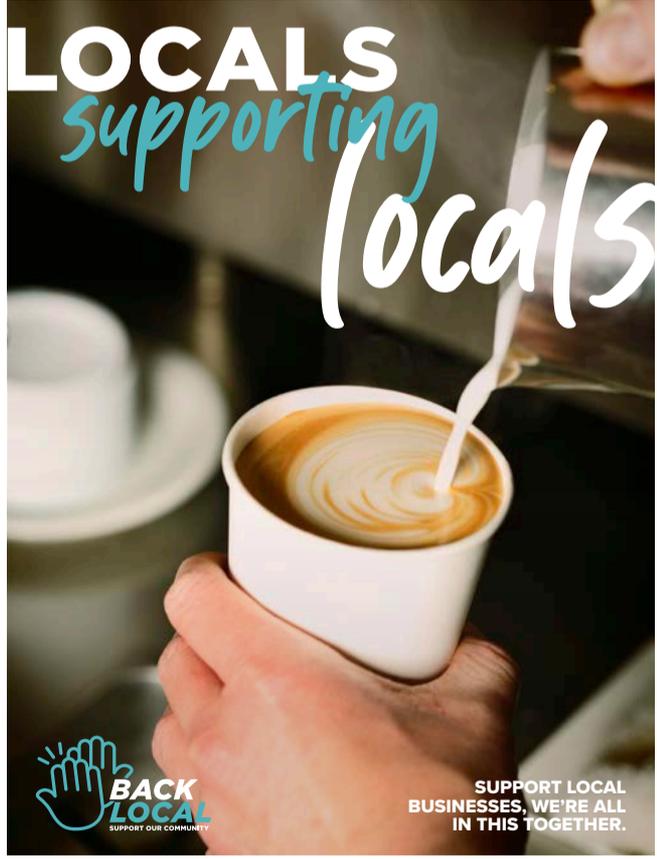
"Our top priority is safety for our users, but on top of that there are a number of other priorities that we'd like your feedback on – from creating a cycling and walking friendly district to ensuring resilient infrastructure and supporting a vibrant district," he said.

"We are also asking a number of questions covering safety on rural roads, intersection and traffic flow, how to better support vibrancy through infrastructure, pedestrian and cycling connections and crossings."



Feedback on the draft Transport Strategy is open from midday, Tuesday, August 4 to 5pm, Friday, September 4.

For further information on our priorities you can head to taupo.govt.nz/transportstrategy.



SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES, WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.



Mayor David Trewavas | Mayor Deputy Christine Rankin | Kylie Leonard | John Boddy | Kathy Guy | Anna Park | Kevin Taylor | Yvonne Westerman | John Williamson | Tangonui Kingi | John Mack | Kirsty Trueman