Media Release

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

1 August 2013

Scented garden to be relocated

The scented garden created on Tongariro Domain in the early 1980s is to be relocated. The move is expected to improve the appearance of the area and increase useable space on the north domain.

The garden has deteriorated and has become dated since its creation. The relocation was suggested in the Tongariro Domain Management Plan in 2005.

The garden was initially donated by Soroptomist International of Taupō with the assistance of Taupō Lions Club. Aside from basic maintenance, the garden has remained unchanged since then. Its age and condition means it is no longer consistent with the look and feel of the rest of the domain, and it has become a safety issue with antisocial behaviour occurring within its confined spaces.

Organisers of the Contact Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge approached the Council about a possible removal or relocation of the garden to improve their use of the area during the popular event. The garden takes up about 200 square metres and impinges on the cycle challenge's starting area.

The scented garden will be removed at no cost to Council; Taupō Moana Rotary and Taupō Lions Club are volunteering their hours and resources.

District Manager of Parks and Open Spaces John Ridd says the relocation will be beneficial to a number of groups. "This is a chance for us to tidy up a less attractive part of the domain at no cost," he says. "It's also going to open the area up for events and create green space for everyone to enjoy."

Soroptomist Taupō has been consulted regarding the removal of the garden and Council staff will be working with the club to decide on an alternative, which Council will consider options for at a later date.

END

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