



Have your say Taupō District in 10 years

Have you had your say on our plans for the next 10 years?

The consultation document for our 2015-2025 Long Term Plan outlines some of the key issues we want feedback from the community on to help guide the Council's decision-making when it confirms the plan in June.

Aptly named Taupō District in 10 Years, the document outlines our financial and long term district strategy and what the Council believes is important to ensure the district remains a great place to live.

We ask how we should use the income from the Taupō Electricity (TEL) Fund, talk about the feedback we received from the community in September on some key issues

and our response, and outline some issues that might arise in the future.

The good news is Council is proposing the lowest rates increases in more than a decade in the plan. This is despite being required by law to build in projected inflation costs averaging around 2.86* per cent per year. A rates calculator to see what our plans mean for you and copies of the document are available at our offices and libraries and online at www.taupo.govt.nz.

There is also an opportunity to discuss our plans with the Mayor and Councillors at a drop in session in the Council Chamber on Lake Terrace on Wednesday from 11.45am to 1.15pm.

*All inflation projections are based on the Local Government Cost Index provided by Business Economic Research Limited (BERL) and approved by the Office of the Auditor General. The index differs to household CPI as it takes into account the cost of goods and services we need to run the Council such as bitumen, pipes and other equipment. For more information see the financial strategy in the consultation document.



It is important you have your say. Please send your feedback by 5pm on Tuesday, 7 April.

- Make your submission online at www.taupo.govt.nz.
- Send your views via email to 10yearplan@taupo.govt.nz
- Give us your feedback in writing. Drop it into one of our offices or post to Taupō District Council, Private Bag 2005, Taupō Mail Centre, Taupō 3352, Freepost No. 112497.

Trailwalker celebrates 10 years

Next weekend I will watch in awe as nearly 1000 people walk 100km around our beautiful district to raise money for Oxfam.

Walking 100km in under 36 hours isn't everyone's idea of a good time – but for the teams taking part in the Oxfam Trailwalker this year, it's all for a good cause.

The Oxfam Trailwalker is one the major events on our events calendar and this year celebrates its 10th anniversary – what an achievement. It has been in our district since its inception and to celebrate the milestone, participants will be walking a new, more scenic trail taking in the Great Lake Trail and a trail through the steam fields by Craters of The Moon.

Participants and supporters will also have the opportunity to attend a free finish line festival at Tongariro Domain featuring some of New Zealand's best emerging musical talents and other artists.

It starts at 10am next Sunday and will have awesome acts like Cornerstone Roots and Batucada Sound Machine entertaining throughout the day.

The event and festival will see thousands of visitors coming into town and I have no doubt we will show them some fantastic Taupō District hospitality during their stay.

The event sees teams of four walking 100km together, through the night and finishing at Taupō's Tongariro Domain sometime between 18 and 36 hours after starting.

Since the Oxfam Trailwalker started in 2006, over 10,000 people have stepped up to the challenge, raising over \$8 million to support Oxfam's work. Over \$610,000 has already been raised by teams this year, including our own team from local accounting business, Strettons.

Well done to them for flying the Taupō flag and their fit and enthusiastic team members who are doing it tough to raise money to fight poverty and injustice with Oxfam. I am sure you will all have something to be very proud of when you reach the finish line, and will no doubt have an experience you will never forget.

I wish the team at Strettons, and everyone taking part, all the best of luck.

If you want to support the cause and our local team you can visit www.oxfamtrailwalker.org.nz.

Mayor David Trewavas • dtrewavas@taupo.govt.nz



Get to know your neighbours

Want to get to know your neighbours and be in to win a prize? We are running a Facebook competition to bring Taupō District neighbours together for this year's Neighbours' Day.

All you need to do is put up a photo on Facebook of you doing something neighbourly and tag us in it. Mayor David Trewavas will select the best photo and it will be announced on our Facebook page. The winner will receive a \$200 Mitre 10 Mega voucher – just for getting to know their neighbours!

You can take a photo of anything you think fits the bill – the street barbecue you organised, you having a cup of tea with a neighbour, or any other neighbourly bonding activity.

Neighbours' Day Aotearoa is on 28-29 March, but entries for the competition open today and close 8 April. The winner will be announced on 10 April.

We would love to share your pictures so please make sure that you have gained permission from the people in your photo or from the parents/caregivers of those who are under 18.

Cenotaph paving underway

New granite panels and plaques are now up at the Taupō cenotaph, and paving work is underway.

The cenotaph, which sits outside the Great Lake Centre, remains fenced off while contractors work on the refurbishment. The work is being done to commemorate the centenary of World War I this year with the help of a \$144,000 grant from the government's Lottery World War One Commemorations and Environment and Heritage Committee.

The installation of the panels and plaques was completed earlier this month and contractors are now laying the foundations for the paving. It will be paved in red and black to resemble a poppy, and the official centenary emblem. The symbolic design will help it become an even more special place to remember those involved in World War I, and other conflicts that New Zealand has been involved in.

The refurbishment is a joint project coordinated by the council, with help from the Returned Services Association, Ngāti Tūwharetoa and the Taupō branch of the Society of Genealogists. The grant will also help fund educational activities to be hosted by Taupō Library and Taupō Museum. Work will be completed in the next few weeks.



Email your elected members at councillors@taupo.govt.nz

For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to www.taupo.govt.nz



Mayor David Trewavas
 Dep Mayor Barry Hickling
 Cr John Boddy
 Cr Bernhard Chrustowski
 Cr Rosie Harvey
 Cr Rosanne Jollands
 Cr Anna Park
 Cr John Williamson
 Cr Zane Cozens
 Cr Maggie Stewart
 Cr Kirsty Trueman

What's on

21 Mar	Eddie Dawkins Ride for Dementia, Northcroft Domain, 12.45-1.45pm
21 Mar	Baches to Beautiful Homes Tour, Taupō
24 Mar	Council meeting, Pouakani Marae, Mangakino
28-29 Mar	Neighbours' Day
4-5 April	Turangi Colours Art and Food Festival

For more information on Taupō District events visit www.GreatLakeTaupo.com