



## GET READY FOR EMERGENCY MOBILE ALERTS

Emergency mobile alerts are coming and will offer a new, instant way of learning about emergencies no matter where you are in New Zealand.

The alerts will be launched at the end of this year, and are another tool in the Civil Defence toolbox that will help keep people safe in the event of an emergency. You don't have to sign up for it or download an app – the alerts will appear on compatible phones without you having to do anything.

Messages about emergencies will be sent by authorised agencies only and can be targeted to areas affected by serious hazards.

Our emergency manager Ian Connon (pictured) said it was important for people to remember that when the alerts were launched later this year, they would not replace other methods of emergency communication.

"It's still important to stay up to date during an emergency by listening to local radio stations, talking with your neighbours and following information online so you can access the best and most comprehensive information," he said.

"The alerts are just another, quick way of letting people know they may be in danger and to act fast."

Emergency alert capable phones are listed on [www.civildefence.govt.nz](http://www.civildefence.govt.nz), where you can also find out what the alert sounds like, how it works and more.



## TRAFFIC CONGESTION INVESTIGATION NEARS COMPLETION



A report on the investigation into traffic movements through the northern part of Taupō's CBD and congestion at Norman Smith Street is nearly complete.

The investigation was fast-tracked following ongoing frustration with the current situation, and the 2017/18 Annual Plan includes \$100,000 to explore options to remedy this congestion.

Operational services group manager Kevin Strongman said the council's awareness of queues of traffic at intersections including Norman Smith Street and the Spa Road roundabout necessitated the investigation, and a traffic consultant was engaged to identify options and look into traffic movement as well as factoring in projected population and visitor growth.

Our team also carried out consultation with community groups and interested parties including Mercury, Taupō Residents and Ratepayers' Group, Kinloch Residents' Association and Acacia Bay Residents' Association about the issues they face with northern access into town.

"We wanted to find out the causes behind the congestion and identify any and all appropriate solutions," Mr Strongman said. "And of course it's important we balance the traffic needs in this area with the cost to the ratepayer of any projects that could help improve the situation."

The investigation's findings will likely be delivered to councillors in the next few months, with options for the council to consider for inclusion in the next Long-term Plan that comes into effect in July next year.

## » What's on?

- 22 Nov Saturday Night Fever – The Musical, Great Lake Centre
- 24 Nov Criterium – Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge, Taupō
- 25 Nov Huka MTB – Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge, Taupō
- 25 Nov Lake Taupō Cycle Challenge, Taupō
- Until 4 Dec Playing in Paradise exhibition, Taupō Museum

For more information on Taupō District events visit [www.GreatLakeTaupo.com](http://www.GreatLakeTaupo.com)

## NEW BOARD MEMBER SWORN IN



**Turangi-Tongariro Community Board (L-R):** Deputy chairperson Te Takinga New, Karen Donlon, Wally van der Aa, Sharlyn Holt, chairperson Andy Hema, Pauline Jenkins-Lyons, Tangonui Kingi, and Maggie Stewart.

New Turangi-Tongariro community board-member Pauline Jenkins-Lyons was sworn in this week, returning the board to a full complement of members.

The position was made vacant following the resignation of Sally Nelson, and a by-election was conducted in October. Ms Jenkins-Lyons won the vacant seat with 514 votes, ahead of the next highest polling candidate Clint Green, who had 374; the voter return was 43.85 per cent, being 1402 votes.

Ms Jenkins-Lyons says she ran for the board because of her planning background and previous involvement in projects that she wanted to see come to fruition. She said she was excited to be a part of the new board, particularly in regard to the recently drafted Turangi Economic Development Strategy.

"For me, it's about making Turangi a better place to live, work and play. I can't wait to get started," she said.

## COFFEE IN KINLOCH WITH THE MAYOR

Would you like to talk to the mayor about an important issue? Or have you got some good ideas you'd like to share with him or our chief executive? Come along to the **Tipsy Trout in Kinloch, next Friday, November 24** to have a chat and a coffee with Mayor David Trewavas and council chief executive Gareth Green. They'll be at the café from 10.30am to 11.30am and are looking forward to meeting you. There's no need to RSVP, just turn up on the day. See you there!



Email your elected members at [councillors@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:councillors@taupo.govt.nz) » For more information call 07 376 0899 or go to [www.taupo.govt.nz](http://www.taupo.govt.nz)



Mayor David Trewavas, Deputy Mayor Rosie Harvey, John Boddy, Barry Hickling, Rosanne Jollands, Tangonui Kingi, Anna Park, Christine Rankin, Maggie Stewart, Kirsty Trueman, John Williamson