

MIRO STREET RESURFACING BACK ON TRACK

AN EXTENSIVE PROGRAMME to resurface parts of Miro street got underway earlier this week.

The programme was originally scheduled for earlier in the year but was postponed due to the COVID-19 Level 4 restrictions and was then delayed by winter weather conditions.

Infrastructure manager Denis Lewis said it was great to have the programme back on track.

"Miro Street was constructed in 1962 with a relatively shallow base of compacted pumice, which was adequate for the traffic it was handling back then but not for the heavy traffic that now travels through the industrial area," he said.

"There is considerable potholing and damage to the kerbing and channeling caused by heavy vehicles, so we are going to excavate the road and lay a much deeper base that can stand up to the loadings. We'll be reusing the pumice base and we'll be repairing the kerbing and channeling, as well as changing the layout of the Matai Street intersection."



The first section of road to be upgraded will be between No. 31 to No. 86 Miro Street, which will involve one lane with a stop/go signal at times and possibly detours around either Matai or Manuka streets. The work is expected to be complete by Friday, 23 October, weather dependent.



TAUPŌ TOWN CENTRE TRANSFORMATION – INTERSECTION UPDATE

THE CAMEX TEAM have been busy working on the Tuwharetoa / Ruapehu intersection upgrade, including working in the wee hours of the mornings, to minimise noise and disruption during normal business hours.

Last week, they removed kerbing and installed a new stormwater catch pit and pipework, however the weather put a bit of a dampener on progress towards the end of the week.

They're still full steam ahead though, with prep work for the site including saw cutting and cobble stone removal continuing this week. They are also looking at different ways to keep the project moving, even when the weather doesn't play the game.



NUKUHAU BOAT RAMP RAIL REMOVAL

FROM TODAY, THURSDAY August 27, part of the Nukuhau boat ramp will be closed for approximately two weeks, as work gets underway to remove the rails on the ramp.

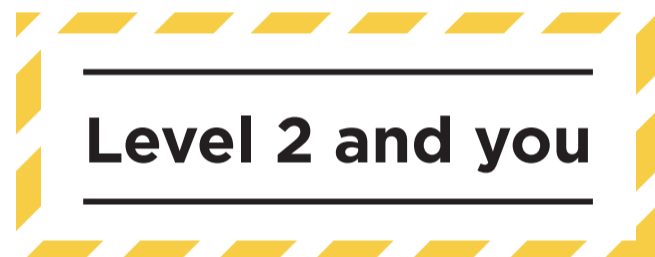
Historically, the rails were used to get larger craft into the water, however, these are no longer used so will be removed and the surface filled and concreted.

Facilities officer Heath Holdsworth is pleased the works are being done, with safety in mind.

"Council has received feedback that the rails are slippery and vehicles are losing traction on them so we're pleased to be able to get them out before summer and get the ramp up to scratch before we get to another busy summer," he said.

The ramp will be partially open during the works, which will begin next Thursday August 27, and is expected to be complete by early September.

Boaties are asked to please be patient when accessing the water during the project. Thank you for your understanding.



CHANGES IN ALERT levels mean changes to the way we do business, and we have introduced extra health and safety measures at our facilities to ensure we are doing everything we can to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Hand sanitizer is available on entry to all of our facilities, contact tracing is operating at each site and we are limiting numbers to 100 in our larger venues.

More information on our venues are available at taupo.govt.nz. For more on the national response go to covid-19.govt.nz.

ZERO TOLERANCE FROM COUNCIL FOR TREE VANDALISM

COUNCIL IS TAKING a zero tolerance approach when it comes to tree vandalism, in an effort to stamp out deliberate attacks on public trees.

In the most recent event, over 50 trees have had to be removed in Nukuhau, following deep chainsaw cuts to their trunks.

Taupō District Mayor David Trewavas said the attacks are disappointing and destructive, and something the council will not tolerate.

"The trees in our parks and reserves belong to all of us, and this deliberate and destructive vandalism is not on," he said.

"There is zero tolerance with this. Where we find unlawful tree felling and vandalism occurring, we will be doing everything we can to find the culprits and pursue all avenues available to hold them to account.

"This includes pruning trees on council land – this will not be tolerated. Please just get in touch with us as we have the expertise to ensure the proper arboricultural work is undertaken to ensure the tree thrives," he said.

There are a number of avenues council can take to hold those responsible to account. Under the Resource Management Act, where an unlawful act is carried out, such as the removal of



a notable tree without resource consent, offenders can be fined up to \$300,000 or sentenced to up to two years imprisonment.

For offending within reserves, a fine of up to \$100,000 can apply, or for tree removal from other Council land, a fine of up to \$20,000 can be imposed. Infringement notices can be issued for more minor offending, with fees of several hundred dollars.

If anyone witnesses vandalism or would like to report damage to trees on Council parks or reserves please contact our Customer Service Centre or the Police.



IT'S TIME TO GET CREATIVE!

CALLING ALL ARTISTS and creative groups in the Taupō District – do you have a stand-out idea for an arts or creative cultural project?

If you'd like a financial kick-start to help turn your idea into reality, applications for the Creative Communities Scheme and Creative Taupō Grant are now open.

Applications close on Friday, August 28.

Find out more and apply online at: bit.ly/TDC-community-grants.

