



## TAUPŌ LOCALS SHAPING THEIR TOWN

**WORK ON THE Taupō Town Centre Transformation project is not only getting locals on the tools, it's also giving them the opportunity to help shape their town. The project has been part of council's strategic planning since 2004 and thanks to a \$20.6 million government investment, it's now coming to life, with contractor Downer Group currently working on intersection upgrades along Titirapunga Street.**

Downer's construction manager Tui Pitiroi said the team is proud to be a part of a project that would have a huge impact on Taupō.

"I'm a Nukuhau boy and we all call Taupō home so this is an opportunity for our team to give something back into our community. We have a really great team working on this project," he said. "We have three staff who joined us after being unemployed and another three who are completely new to the industry."

"This project means long-term, sustainable employment for locals, but more than that it's an opportunity for us to be a part of shaping our town – and we're really happy to be able to play a role in that."

The intersection upgrades will change the flow of traffic around Taupō, with priority given to traffic travelling along Titirapunga Street, and will be followed by the transformation of Tongariro Street, and turning Roberts Street and Lake Terrace into a more people-friendly environment.

"I genuinely feel this project will be a game changer for our town and a real success," Mr Pitiroi said. "At Downer we build our teams as a whanau and concentrate on delivering quality workmanship that we can all be proud of. For us, it's fantastic to be bringing that to this project and be able to give something back to the community at the same time."

## BYLAWS ADOPTED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY

**WE HAVE ADOPTED a range of bylaws after feedback from the community. The bylaws cover the control of dogs and other animals as well as the management of litter and public places. They were adopted last month and will come into force on July 1, 2021.**

A formal consultation was held at the beginning of the year with 65 submissions received from the community.

Policy manager Nick Carroll said it was great to see positive community engagement.

"Council bylaws and policies guide the way we live, work and play across our district, and exist to promote

a friendly and peaceful environment for us all to enjoy. So, it's important we get it right and listen to the community.

"After considering the submissions, we have made some changes to the draft bylaws before adopting them. These include removing cats from the list of animals covered under the Animals Bylaw, and the Jarden Mile Reserve and stormwater gully from the list of proposed dog exercise areas," said Mr Carroll.

The adopted versions of the bylaws will be published and made available at [taupo.govt.nz/rules-regulations-and-licenses/bylaws](http://taupo.govt.nz/rules-regulations-and-licenses/bylaws).

## FOOTPATH UPGRADES GETTING UNDERWAY AROUND THE DISTRICT



**A SERIES OF footpath upgrades will soon get underway in Waitahanui, Tauranga-Taupō and Whakamaru. The programme has a budget of \$470,000 and infrastructure manager Denis Lewis said they will be welcome additions to those communities.**

"In Tauranga-Taupō we'll be putting in 500m of path adjacent to State Highway 1, 150m adjacent to State Highway 30 (Whakamaru Road) in Whakamaru, and 350m along the highway in Waitahanui," he said.

"All of these projects will involve pedestrian barriers and erosion control work, as well as some retaining walls, to accompany the footpaths. As our communities are growing we are seeing increasing pedestrian traffic in these areas, so it's great to be able to get started on these projects and make our roads safer."

Work is scheduled to get underway in May and is to be completed by end of June, though this type of work is weather dependent. Traffic management will be in place during the works. Drivers and pedestrians are asked to use caution around the work sites.



## BUILDING MORE RESILIENT WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TURANGI

**THE TURANGI WATER mains renewal programme is to be extended, with a further 3.5kms of mains to be installed this year. 4.4kms of new pipes are currently being installed along Taupahi Road, following on from an extensive renewals programme that saw 4.5kms of pipes installed in the Puataata Road and Rangiamohia Road area in 2019.**

Network operations engineer Paul Pettman said that additional budget had now been allocated to allow the renewals programme to continue in the Kutai Street, Koura Street and Poto Street areas.

"This project is really making our water system much more resilient in Turangi," Mr Pettman said.

"This is a major project for Turangi and we were scheduled to have the current works project completed by August. With the project now extended to Kutai Street, Koura Street and Poto Street areas, we will have our contractors on site for several more months, so we're asking the community to use caution around the work sites."

