

COMMUNITY HELPS SHAPE LONG-TERM PLANS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE DISTRICT

SHAPING
OUR FUTURE.
TAUPŌ DISTRICT LONG-TERM PLAN 2021-2031

OUR PLAN.
OUR TAUPŌ DISTRICT.

TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL is now finalising its Long-term Plan 2021-2031, following a month of consultation and engagement with the community.

Council received 474 submissions on its plans and priorities for the district over the next ten years and heard directly from 50 submitters as part of the process. Last week, council deliberated on its proposed plans, taking into account the feedback received.

Mayor David Trewavas said it was great to be able to hear from the community and thanked them for their input.

"It is so important that we are planning how we shape the future of our district in collaboration with the community, and listening to their voices. I'm proud to be a part of a council that has listened and we are moving forward with a plan that takes those voices into account," he said.

As part of deliberations, council voted to confirm the following major decisions, in line with feedback from the community:

- Leasing a building for council
 - Include funding for a new Turangi Recreation Activity Centre
 - Include funding for the rebuild of Waiora House
 - Do not include a new museum and art gallery in this Long-term Plan
 - Move to district-wide water funding
- Mayor Trewavas said council also voted on a number of

other amendments to the plan, based on feedback from the public. One of the major amendments included the decision to bring forward an investigation for the second bridge to year five of the plan.

Council also voted to include operational funding to address climate change as well as funding to enable affordable social, pensioner and papakainga housing.

"We listened to our community and partners – and in particular iwi – who raised this as a key issue for them and have directed officers to add these important initiatives into our long-term planning," Mayor Trewavas said.

As a result of these changes, the current projected average rates rise for the first year of the plan is 8.7 per cent.

"This is based on many factors including significant investments in core infrastructure required across the district, the zero per cent rates rise last year, as well as ensuring we are delivering services and projects that continue to support our district's forward momentum," he said.

These decisions will be formally adopted at a council meeting in June, alongside further decisions yet to be finalised, including the future of the Lake Taupō Protection Trust and council's Development Contributions policy.

For more information on the Long-term Plan 2021-2031, including the full list of resolutions from last week's deliberations, head to taupo.govt.nz/ltp.



UPGRADES TO WATER QUALITY ACROSS THE DISTRICT

AS PART OF the waters reform funding announced by government, council has received a grant of \$1.92 million to assist with upgrading six of our community water treatment plants.

The six sites include: Atiamuri, River Rd, Tirohanga, Waihaha, Whakamaru, and Whareroa.

The upgrades will lift the water quality of these small communities to meet the latest New Zealand Drinking Water Standards. It will include installing new ultraviolet treatment systems to provide an additional disinfection barrier for the water supplies.

The work is planned to start next month and be complete across all sites by March 2022.

We will be engaging directly with affected communities to ensure they are aware of the project and any potential impacts while the upgrades are taking place.

KEEP YOUR LOAD STRAPPED AND SECURE

A LOT OF us are taking advantage of the last of the sunny autumn days to tidy sections, finish renovations and clear garden waste before winter sets in. When you're heading to landfill to dispose of these responsibly, please ensure you tie down any loads securely or use a tie-down net.

Anything falling off vehicles and debris on the road is a hazard to other road users and has a negative impact on the environment.



WATER MAIN UPGRADE FAST TRACKED FOR ACACIA BAY ROAD

A WATER MAIN upgrade for Acacia Bay Road near the Te Urunga Place intersection has been fast tracked following a series of water main breaks.

The main was scheduled for replacement as part of a regular maintenance plan but networks operations engineer Craig Rhind said the recent breaks highlighted that this particular section of pipe was failing and needed to be replaced earlier.

"When repairing the recent mains breaks in this location it was obvious that the existing pipes were at the end of their service life. Fortunately, we've been able to fast track the replacement work to pre-empt any further breaks and will be putting in a polyethylene pipe which has a longer service life," he said.

"We'll be working under the footpath so will have a temporary pedestrian pathway in place and we are asking drivers to please drive with caution around the work site."

The work will get underway from Monday, May 24 and is expected to take up to four weeks depending on the weather. Residents will be notified if any water shutdowns are required to connect the new mains.



PAETIKI SHOPPING CENTRE WORK COMPLETE



LAST YEAR, WORK was undertaken at the Paetiki shops to make it a safer, more attractive and more user-friendly environment. Unfortunately, a portion of the works were completed incorrectly which resulted in the footpath and adjoining carparking area being installed at an incorrect level.

Our contractor has now removed and installed a new footpath and fixed the adjoining carparking area. The cost was absorbed by the contractor and was at no expense to the ratepayer.

Thank you for your patience and consideration for the workers during this project.

