

TAUPŌ DISTRICT MOVES TO RED



IN LINE WITH the Government's COVID-19 directive, Taupō District Council facilities are now operating under the Red traffic light setting to help slow the spread of Omicron.

Our facilities are open while we are at this traffic light setting but there will be visitor limits and restrictions based on 1-metre social distancing.

Please be aware all visitors aged over 12 years and three months are required to use their My Vaccine Pass to enter.

When visiting our facilities please wear a mask and scan in. And please, if you are feeling unwell, get tested and stay home.

Kia kaha Taupō District. Let's work as a team to help slow the spread of this virus.

LEVEL 1 WATER RESTRICTIONS IN FORCE

IF YOU'RE TRYING to keep your garden alive in this very dry spell, please remember that we are currently at level one water restrictions throughout our district.

Hot temperatures plus additional people in the district have meant water use is almost double the usual amount. Our water team report that in the last month water use has gone from just under the daily average of around 20,000 cubic metres per day to more than 37,000 cubic metres of water per day.

Please be mindful that regardless of the lake level, our water treatment plants can only treat a certain amount of water per day and so we are asking everyone to continue saving water where possible.

Under level one water restrictions sprinklers and fixed irrigation may be used on alternate days only, depending on your street address. So if your address ends in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8 you can use sprinklers on even calendar days; if your address ends in 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9 you can use them on odd calendar days.

Thank you everyone for your water-saving efforts so far.

WATER RESTRICTIONS DISTRICT WIDE

LEVEL 1

Sprinklers on alternate days only

Hand-held hosing anytime

COMMUNITY GRANTS APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

ARE YOU INVOLVED in the arts in the Taupō District or the manager or coach of a youngsters' sports team?

Our latest round of community grants is open now and run until Friday 18 February.

Grants available in this round are for the Creative Communities Scheme, Creative Taupō Grant and the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund.

The arts grants kaupapa is to increase local participation in the arts community, increase the range and diversity of arts and culture available and enable and encourage young people and our tamariki to engage in the arts.

The Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund is for rural sports clubs and rural school teams with young people aged between five and 18 years who require help with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.

Check out the funding criteria and eligibility and get your application in by Friday 18 February at www.taupo.govt.nz/grants.



TONGARIRO STREET CHANGES IMPROVE ACCESS

THE FIRST STAGE of the Taupō Town Centre Transformation on Tongariro Street is complete, and Access Taupō members are looking forward to the next stages.

In addition to extra mobility access parks in Tongariro Street, two more will be created in the library car parking area to create a hub of four long term parks, something that Access Taupō had been keen to see.

"A hub of parks makes things a lot easier, and that is a good location," Chance Anderson of Access Taupō said. "But the biggest change from our perspective is not so much the parking, but the speed reduction that the new street layout brings. The new crossing points and drivers slowing down along Tongariro Street mean that the street is no longer a no-go zone."

Chance is looking forward to the next stage of the project which will transform the southern end of Tongariro Street and Roberts Reserve into a pedestrian-friendly precinct.

"The further speed reductions that those bring will be even better - with the current speed limit of 50km/h along the lake front, it means it's risky at the best of times for anyone with a disability or crossing with kids."



Council landscape architect Fraser Scott (left) with Chance Anderson of Access Taupō.

TURANGI STREET REVITALISATION PROJECT BACK



DESPITE WEATHER AND COVID-19 disruptions, the Turangi Street Revitalisation project made great progress last year - and the team were back on the tools in the first week of 2022.

This exciting project aims to revitalise Turangi streets by replacing tree-damaged kerbing and channelling. It was an initiative by the Turangi Tongariro Community Board and Taupō District Council, with \$6.5 million in funding awarded as a government "shovel ready" COVID-19 response project. Project manager Peter van Niekerk says the team has made excellent progress.

"Package 1 was completed in October last year," Peter

said, "and we are currently working in Maria, Te Iwiheke, Maratōa, Rea, Hera and Te Rewha Streets as part of Package 2.

"If the fine weather continues we should see Package 2 completed in the first week of March and will be looking for approval for Package 3, which includes Patikura Place, Rota Street, Toi Grove, Nehi Grove, Poihaere Street, Meri Grove, Raukura Street, Noni Street, and Te Whakarau Street.

"In December the team poured 750m of kerbing and channelling in a single day - which is an amazing result! - and we also have our water truck out and about regularly watering the trees we have replanted in the berms."

