



HDC NEWS



FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2015

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Council adopts its approach for 2015-25

The Hauraki District Council finalised and adopted its 2015-25 Hauraki Long Term Plan at its meeting of 24 June 2015. This is a major milestone for Council as it marks the end of two years of developing a proposed approach for the coming ten year period (considering many complex factors and scenarios), consultation with its communities, and inevitably making tough decisions on what to include in its final plan.

The Council presented its proposed approach through its Consultation Document in March/April this year, and it received 83 submissions and some very positive feedback from its communities. The Council wishes to thank all those who took part in the consultation process. As explained in the Consultation Document, the Council has a budget just like you do for your household or business, and of course, there is a finite amount of money for Council to spend on delivering its services. In some cases that meant Council had to make hard decisions about how to spend the budget during the next ten year period. Some of the key decisions that the Council made are outlined below.

While Council consulted on its Consultation Document and supporting information, it also consulted on its Financial and Infrastructure Strategies, its Rates Remissions Policies, Development Contributions Policy, Revenue and Financing Policy, and its Fees and Charges for 2015/16. These documents were also adopted by Council at its June meeting, and can be viewed on Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

Consultation Outcomes - What did the Council decide?

Economic Development

Through its Consultation Document, the Council wanted specific feedback from the community regarding economic development. In particular, whether the community supported the current economic development initiatives that Council funds, and whether there was support for the proposed new initiatives.

The Council debated all aspects of funding for the current economic development initiatives that were outlined in the Consultation Document as the 'economic development pie'. The Council found this a challenging debate as each of the economic development initiatives provides value in different ways for our District. The Council decided that the funding provisions in 2015/16 for the current economic development initiatives would largely be unchanged from what was proposed, and will be as follows:

- Hauraki Rail Trail funding (annual underwriting) - \$95,000
- Economic Development Business Unit - \$264,000
- Development Assistance/Grant - \$91,000
- Destination Coromandel - \$120,000
- Town Promoters:
 - o Go Waihi \$103,000
 - o Positive Paeroa \$114,000
 - o Positively Promoting the Plains \$17,000
- Visitor Centres:
 - o Paeroa Visitor Centre - \$58,000
 - o Waihi i-Site - \$91,000
- Battle of the Streets/Highland Games Tattoo - \$8,000

Proposed new initiatives

The Council decided that in the future it may consider making a financial contribution to funding an upgraded wastewater treatment plant at Kerepehi. The Council agreed that for now it would further investigate the options and costs for the development of a wastewater treatment plant at Kerepehi, and then further consult with the community regarding that proposal. The Council also decided to continue to pursue the "Food Hub" proposal for another two years, and review this as part of the 2017/18 Annual Plan process.

In terms of the Kaiaua to Kopu section of the Hauraki Rail Trail, the Council decided it would aim to continue with the proposed extension of the Trail from Kaiaua to Kopu. The additional funding sources for the development of this section of the Trail still remain uncertain, particularly given that the application for external funding from the Lotteries Special Projects Fund was recently declined. However, Council's \$1 million commitment from its 2014/15 Annual Plan remains available. At this time no extra financial commitment has been made by the Council to the project. The Council also decided that it will continue to fund the underwriting of the Hauraki Rail Trail to \$95,000 per annum.

Key Ward projects for the next ten years

Over the next 10 years, the Council will undertake many projects within our communities – those projects can range in scale from a new playground to a new water treatment plant. The following provides an overview of the key District and Ward projects. The complete list of Council's capital works projects for the next 10 years can be found in the full Long Term Plan, available on the Council website.

| Plains Ward Projects | Year | Total funding |
|---|---------------------------|---------------|
| New Kaiaua public toilets | 2017/18 | \$160,000 |
| Turua jetty redevelopment | 2016/17 | \$10,000 |
| Turua domain car park development | 2016/17 | \$15,000 |
| Pioneer Park BBQ | 2017/18 | \$20,000 |
| Hugh Hayward domain watering system and additional speed signs | 2015/16, 2016/17 | \$16,000 |
| Upgrade of the Ngatea swimming pool heating | 2016/17 | \$87,000 |
| Ngatea main street entrances | 2016/17 | \$41,000 |
| Waitakaruru domain bitumen reseal, war memorial entrance and gates upgrade, and car park renewals | 2015/16, 2016/17 | \$38,000 |
| Plains new footpaths | 2015/16, 2017/18, 2020/21 | \$67,000 |

| Waihi Ward Projects | Year | Total funding |
|---|---------------------|---------------|
| Waihi Cemetery fencing, new berm and ashes garden | 2016/17 and 2017/18 | \$48,000 |
| Morgan Park redevelopment | 2016/17 | \$512,000 |
| Gilmour Lake - lake edge footpath, signage, BBQ and parking on George street | 2015/16, 2016/17 | \$71,000 |
| Pohutukawa Reserve changing rooms conversion, outside shower, and surf club toilets | 2015/16, 2016/17 | \$20,000 |
| Victoria Park installation of bike rack and notice board, removal of tunnel at the play area, remove or revamp skate bowl and seating area, and upgrade dump station at toilets | 2015/16, 2016/17 | \$21,000 |
| Waihi kerb and channel | 2015/16 - 2024/25 | \$639,000 |
| Waihi new footpaths | 2015/16 - 2024/25 | \$464,000 |
| Planning and design of upper Seddon street streetscape | 2016/17 | \$50,000 |

| Paeroa Ward Project | Year | Total funding |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Pukerimu Cemetery ashes wall and major development | 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19 | \$297,000 |
| Hutchinson Reserve development | 2015/16 - 2018/19 | \$211,000 |
| Wharf street/Mackay street development | 2015/16, 2017/18 | \$517,000 |
| Primrose Hill walkway to summit, cenotaph area development and car park extension | 2016/17 - 2018/19 | \$159,000 |
| Paeroa new kerb and channel | 2016/17 - 2024/25 | \$582,000 |
| Paeroa new footpaths | 2016/17 - 2024/25 | \$689,000 |
| Brenan Field development including lighting | 2017/18 | \$101,000 |

Rates - The end result

Now that the Council knows the final work programme and budget for 2015/16, it can indicate with more certainty the average annual rates increases for the next year.

The average annual rates increase, excluding water rates, is 3.7% over the ten years of the Hauraki Long Term Plan. The average water rates increase over the ten years of the Plan is 2% per annum. Please note these are averages, and the actual increase will vary from property to property.

How can I pay for my rates?

Your annual rates account can be paid in a lump sum upon receiving your invoice, or in three instalments spread over the year in October, February and May. We accept payment by cash, cheque or credit card.

If paying monthly or weekly would appeal to your situation then contact Council to set up an instalment plan using direct debit or automatic payment. If you choose to pay by automatic payment, then you will need to remember to contact your Bank each year to amend your payments if your rates change. However, if you pay by direct debit the Council will make the necessary adjustment for you.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Adoption

2015-25 Hauraki Long Term Plan

Pursuant to section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002, notice is given that following the submission process and consideration of the submissions received at the hearings meeting held on 27/28 May, the Hauraki District Council's 2015-25 Hauraki Long Term Plan was adopted at the Ordinary Council meeting of 24 June 2015.

The Council would like to thank those who were involved in the submissions process and for providing valuable feedback to Council.

The adopted Long Term Plan is available to download from the Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz or you can request a copy of the Plan on CD by calling the Council on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District).

2015/16 Fees and Charges

Pursuant to section 83 and 150 of the Local Government Act 2002 and legislation enabling Council to set fees and charges, this schedule has been reviewed via a Special Consultative Procedure and was adopted at the Council meeting of 24 June 2015.

The new Fees and Charges will become effective from 1 July 2015.

Copies of the Hauraki District Council's Fees and Charges schedule will be available from 1 July 2015 from any Council office or library or it can be downloaded from Council's website at www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz, or phone Council for a copy to be mailed to you on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District).

Langley Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

Consideration of NZ Flag underway

If you're a New Zealander enrolled to vote, you can have a say in the design of the New Zealand flag. We encourage you to visit www.flag.co.nz or call into one of our District Libraries to find out how!

Ahead of two referendums, you have until **16 July to make design suggestions and tell the Government's flag consideration panel "what you stand for"** – what's most important to you that our flag should represent.

Based on this preliminary response, the independent panel will select a shortlist of four alternative flag designs. The 12 panel members are respected New Zealanders of different ages and backgrounds, such as sports identities Beatrice Faumuina and Sir Brian Lochore, together with businesspeople, local government and Defence Force leaders, and experts in the arts, academic and Maori studies, and flag history.

The designs they select will be the focus of the first referendum between 20 November and 11 December, with people asked to rank them in order of preference.

In the second referendum from 3 March 2015 to 24 March 2016, voters will choose between the top-ranked design and our current flag.

Both referendums will be held by post – everyone on the electoral roll will automatically be sent voting papers – and they will be binding. This means the Government must act on the majority vote; and the flag with the most votes in the second poll will be the country's official flag.

Pamphlets explaining the flag consideration process in more detail are available from the Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi libraries. We also have resources on display there to help people understand the background and make an informed vote.