

Road works ahead - major annual contracts awarded

Two key Council roading contracts for the 2014/15 year have just been awarded, with Downer NZ Ltd successfully tendering for both.

The Area Wide Treatments contract will cover rehabilitation work on about 3km of Kaihere and Rountree Roads near Ngatea – including clearing, earthworks, drainage construction, road construction and stabilisation, sealing, and marking. As well as labour and materials, the \$555,000 contract incorporates environmental maintenance and temporary traffic management.

A 1km section of Kaihere Road has already been upgraded under the 2013-14 Area Wide Treatments contract, and completion of a further segment is planned in the 2015-16 year.

The Council received eight tenders for the present contract. The highest price tendered was \$684,000. Downer's price was the lowest, at 86% of the cost estimated by Council.

Although the company hasn't completed any recent Area Wide Treatments for Hauraki District, it has a proven track record in carrying out several other road rehabilitation projects in the wider Waikato, and is our current road maintenance contractor.

Downer's \$1,872,171 tender for the annual Thames-Coromandel and Hauraki Districts Resurfacing contract was also accepted by the Council last week, subject to acceptance by the Thames-Coromandel District Council. The Hauraki portion of the works has been costed at \$460,000.

As noted by Councillors last week, this is well below the \$750,000 provided for in the Long Term Plan, and reflects our efforts to save money by obtaining maximum life from quality road seal.

The agreement between the two Councils to tender our annual resurfacing work as a combined contract, now in its ninth year, helps keep costs down by providing economies of scale and a more attractive tender package.

New twist on positive ageing celebrations

An annual tradition it may be – but there was no chance of “same old, same old” when Presbyterian support network *Enliven* partnered with Ohinemuri Rest Home and other community groups to organise this year's celebration of positive ageing in Paeroa. Some senior citizens even gave their dancing shoes a spin after a rock and roll demonstration.

“Positive ageing is all about staying active and social. *Enliven* is all about maximising independence and getting people involved in hobbies and activities that may have been put aside,” says support worker co-ordinator Margaret Raddatz. “If socialising or exercise become difficult for reasons such as ill health or lack of transport, people can become isolated and lonely. The October 9 celebration showcased activities that can be enjoyed regardless of age.”

More than 100 event-goers – including a group of rest home residents and caregivers – clearly enjoyed the rock and roll, pipe band entertainment, a flower arranging demo, a spot of tai chi, gentle exercise led by Sport Waikato, and a light lunch catered by Miller Ave School.

A first-time expo was also on the programme in the Paeroa Memorial Hall, with stalls hosted by local clubs, community organisations and service businesses. This was so popular that an encore is already being planned for next year, and inquiries from potential participants are welcome, says Margaret.



Rock and rollers get into the spirit of the occasion.

In Ngatea, a celebration of positive ageing was arranged by the Lions Club last Thursday, likewise marking the International Day of Older Persons which is officially observed on October 1. The Council was delighted to support these events: with an increasing population of over-65s, we have plenty of reason to acknowledge the importance of our older residents and their contributions across the Hauraki District.

A third celebration will shortly be held in Waihi. Any community groups interested in being involved should contact the Council's Community Development Officer John McIver by phoning 0800 734 834 (from within the District) or 07 862 8609.

Calling all Kaiua Residents and Ratepayers

Get updated and tell us what you think!

Kaiua residents and ratepayers are invited to get together with Council representatives next Monday 27 October at our annual public meeting starting at 10.30am at the Kaiua Bowling Club.

The informal occasion is timed for Labour weekend to encourage holiday home owners to attend, says Councillor Gill Leonard. “Council staff will give an update of recent, current, and coming projects, including the cycleway progress. Community members are welcome to comment or to query any issues, so Councillors can find out what is working well and what is not.”

Community groups like the Kaiua Rural Fire Force, St John, and the Boating Club are also able to give a briefing on their activities, and the meeting will conclude over a cuppa and light refreshments. “It's an opportunity for locals to have a good chat about how things are going,” says Gill. “We enjoy catching up with this community.”

Ready to make a splash

Forecast for summer: cool fun and fitness in our District swimming pools!

The Waihi, Paeroa and Ngatea pools will open to the public on November 22, with provision made for swim clubs to start training from early November. The swimming season will run until March 22 next year.

We already have a great team of lifeguards in training or undertaking refresher courses. Nine of them are returning to duty, and eight new staff members were chosen from 59 high-calibre applicants. A number have been college head students and swimming club members, and all are looking forward to working in their home communities over summer.



Public Notice

Proposed Temporary Road Closures

NGATEA CHRISTMAS PARADE

Pursuant to the Section 11(e) of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that for the purpose of the **Ngatea Christmas Parade**, organised by Positively Promoting the Plains, it is intended to close the following roads to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder. During the proposed period of closure provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would otherwise use the road, to use alternative routes.

Period of closure: Thursday, 11 December 2014, 6.30pm to 7.30pm. In case of weather issues the event will be held on Friday, 12 December.

Roads to be closed: River Rd from HDC Yard to Orchard West Rd; Orchard West Rd from River Rd to Darlington St, NGATEA.

PAEROA SANTA PARADE

Pursuant to the Section 11(e) of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, notice is hereby given that for the purpose of the **Paeroa Santa Parade**, organised by Positive Paeroa, it is intended to close the following roads to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder. During the proposed period of closure provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would otherwise use the road, to use alternative routes.

Period of closure: Friday, 12 December 2014, 5.30pm to 7.00pm.

Roads to be closed: SH2 (Normanby Rd and Belmont Rd) from Victoria St to Marshall St; Princes St, Queen St and Wharf St; Willoughby St from Arney St to Corbett St, PAEROA.

Alternative provision for ordinary vehicular traffic will be made with signs, cones and barriers to redirect traffic on detour.

It will be an offence under the above regulations for any person otherwise than under authority of an authorised permit to use the road for ordinary vehicular traffic during the proposed period of closure.

Any objections should be directed to Technical Services Business Unit Administration on 07 862 8609 or info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz by 7 November 2014.

LD Cavers
 Chief Executive
 Hauraki District Council

Note: The Waihi Christmas Parade notice was advertised in the Waihi Leader newspaper on Thursday, 23 October 2014.

Workers come to blows

We can measure local rainfall, and even sunshine hours – but keeping tabs on the wind is a bit harder. How much? How strong? Which direction?

We do know that this winter has been exceptionally windy, gauged by the amount of remedial work needed to street and reserve trees and vegetation.

“From July onward, we've received a lot more than usual wind-related service requests,” says Parks and Reserves Manager Steve Clark. “Our staff and contractors have been kept busy across the District.”

