



HDC NEWS



It's upgrade time in Turua



Road improvements now underway!

Work has begun on upgrading a large section of Hauraki Road in Turua. This work involves:

- Improving road contour
- Additional road markings
- Safety improvements, such as traffic islands
- New footpaths
- New pram crossings (smooth transition area from footpath to road)

What a mess!
Digging up the ground to lay new water pipes can be a messy business, and you may be wondering why we're not fully reinstating driveway, road reserve and footpath areas as we go.
As the road improvements are in the same general area, it makes sense to leave the final reinstatement until after all work is finished.

When will this work be finished?
At this stage we're on track to have the work completed by Christmas, however, this will depend on the weather and other factors. We expect things to go relatively smoothly, but if for any reason we do encounter delays, we'll keep you updated.

Water main upgrade nearing completion

The installation of a brand new water pipe from Bagnall Square to Matai Street is now almost complete. The new pipe is made from plastic with stainless steel and doing its job for at least another 80 to 100 years, which will see most of us out!

How will this work affect me?

There will be some temporary disruption to road traffic and pedestrians over the next few weeks.

A traffic plan is in place and the contractor will try to maintain two-way traffic as much as possible, however please allow extra time for your journey over this period, just in case.



Changes to pokie machine rules

A review of the District's gambling rules has resulted in some changes, including an additional rule to allow businesses with pokies machines to move premises in some circumstances.

"Basically, it would mean that if an existing premises is sold, or no longer available the business could potentially be relocated," said Mayor John Tregidga, "the current policy has no provision for this, which we believe is unfair in some cases."

This addition doesn't change the Council's 'sinking lid' approach to pokies, which states that when existing gaming venues and machines cease to operate they can't be replaced.

"Our gambling policy acknowledges that while gambling can be an enjoyable activity it can also be addictive and that this has a significant negative social impact on some of our families," said the Mayor.

The decision was made after considering all community feedback on the subject.

Other decisions:

- The wording of the policy was changed slightly in relation to the proximity of gambling venues to Council playgrounds.

The new wording means that gambling venues must be at least 50 metres from the edge of the playground, rather than from the legal boundary of the playground site. This was changed because some playgrounds are located at one end of a very large site such as at the Paeroa Domain, Hugh Hayward Domain in Ngatea, and Waihi's Morgan Park.

- A cap of nine gambling venues in the district has been retained. As we currently have nine venues this means no new venues will be given consent to operate.
- A cap of 69 pokies machines has been retained. The existing venues have consent to operate 123 machines, which means we won't give consent to any more until we get below our cap.

Just a reminder:

- While we can set rules about the number of machines and venues allowed consent in the future and where they can be located, we can't change the rules about venues that already have consent to operate – that's up to central government.

You can view the new policy at our offices or on our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/Policies

Booze banned at Dickey Flat campsite

A permanent, year round ban on alcohol at Dickey Flat campsite has been approved by Council and comes into effect today.

The ban is the result of a wider review of Council's Alcohol Control Bylaw, which outlines the rules around alcohol use in public places.

Mayor John Tregidga says the Council proposed the ban due to problems with booze fuelled crime and disorder at the campsite.

"There is definitely an issue with the behaviour of some Dickey Flat campers, which of course is made worse when alcohol's involved, so we totally support the Police and Department of Conservation who want to see this become an alcohol free area," he said

Other decisions made by Council after considering all community feedback:

- A proposed year round alcohol ban in public places in Whiritoa was canned following an overwhelming response from the community. The existing seasonal ban during traditional Christmas and New Year periods will remain in place.
- current alcohol bans in public places in Waihi, Ngatea and Paeroa will stay in place
- the Waihi ban will be extended slightly to include the 100km/hr speed limit area on Parry Palm Avenue from Dean Crescent toward the town centre.

Just a reminder

Alcohol bans:

- do not apply to the transportation of alcohol in unopened containers.
- do not apply to social gatherings on private property.
- are enforced by the New Zealand Police, not Council.

Dispensation to an alcohol ban can be sought from the Council for specific events where people may want to provide alcohol, e.g. for a wedding ceremony. If a special alcohol licence has been issued for the sale of alcohol at an event, then dispensation to the Bylaw is automatically given and a further application for dispensation is not required.

Public notice

Adoption of Alcohol Control in Public Places Bylaw 2017

The Hauraki District Council recently reviewed and publicly consulted on its Alcohol Control in Public Places Bylaw contained in Part 3: Public Safety of the Consolidated Bylaw. The reviewed Bylaw was adopted at the Council meeting on 25 October 2017 and will come into operation on Friday, 10 November 2017.

You can view the Bylaw on the Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz or a copy can be obtained from the Council offices or by contacting the Council on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District).

LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

FREE PUBLIC SEMINAR

HOW TO STAY SANE IN A CRAZY WORLD



When?

Paeroa
11 November 2017
9.30am to 3.30pm

We know rural life isn't all sweet meadows and buttercups. This year has been especially challenging for some of our farmers.

Event location will be provided upon registration by contacting 0800 080 339. For more information contact Henck van Bilsen on henck.vanbilsen@waikatodhb.health.nz

Too many of us struggle with common emotional and psychological problems on our own and expect that it will pass on its own. But we don't have to. Waikato DHB's rural mental health and addictions service is offering free one day public seminars on wellbeing and mental health. Come along and learn how to:

- Develop more balanced thinking
- Break the worry cycle
- Be kind and compassionate to yourself
- Use communication to make life better for you

Anyone over the age of 18 interested in learning skills to combat problems of stress, anxiety, depression or addiction can attend.