



# HDC NEWS



## Regional Outcomes Consultation

The first round of consultation for the Regional Outcomes process was held at Ngatea recently. A turn out of around twenty people, mostly from the Plains and Paeroa, came to the workshop with only the Deputy Mayor representing Waihi, which was a disappointing attendance from this area. After introductions and an overview of the process, three groups were formed to do a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis of the region. After reporting back, the groups were then asked to work on how they would like to see the region in twenty year's time. After some difficulty thinking about the whole region not just the Hauraki area, all three groups came up with interesting lists. It was interesting to note that the major areas for improvement were social issues concerned with health, education, safety (crime rate) and employment.

After extensive consultation in this way a list of outcomes will be published and people will be asked to approve these by submission. A similar process is also underway for the District outcomes. Finally, when all these outcomes are decided on, they will form the basis of what all community agencies, government departments, Councils and the Government itself are supposed to be working toward.

Councils are to report every three years on achievement towards these outcomes. These achievements are not necessarily only by Council. Basically, Council is the monitoring officer in this process unless some of the outcomes are within its field. For example, if people had come up with the outcome that better water supplies were needed then Council would be expected to work towards that goal. If, however, it is better health services that are required, Council is not likely to get involved with this but will keep a watching brief on how the Health Board is achieving so that it can be reported on.

## Choosing Futures - Progressing Well

A successful hui with Thames Coromandel District Council and a number of Hauraki Iwi was held the first week of March. Councils staff are now working together to develop ways of improving consultation with Iwi.

Over the next week, participating primary schools throughout the District are invited to express their future aspirations for Hauraki District's future. A short story and an art competition will be available to all primary schools to enter and win some great prizes for students and their schools.

If you would like more information about Choosing Futures process, or would like to register to be involved in one of the two hour workshops, to be held in Paeroa 21st March, Waihi 22nd March or Ngatea 23rd March, please ring 07 862 8609

## Mining Matters

### ZONING AND LAND USE OPTIONS FOR THE HAZARD ZONES

Consideration has to be given as to what activities can be carried out on the land that falls within the hazard zones that were identified after the ground subsidence in Waihi a few years ago. Council has considered the report that has been made on this subject from a consultant planner and both Council and Newmont staff have reviewed the report and have discussed it with the consultant. Amendments have then been made. Discussions will be held with affected landowners with a view to preparing a recommendation to Council for either a change in the District Plan or a recommendation for zoning to be included in the District Plan Review, which is at present being initiated.

### Hauraki Plains Memorial Wall

Please Note: Applications for inclusion in this years engraving close 19th March. To date we have received 40 applications and the unveiling of these names will occur directly after the ANZAC DAY civic service

## District Plan Review

Council's District Plan is the plan that describes "what you can do on your property and what you can stop your neighbour from doing". It is the plan that operates under the Resource Management Act to determine sustainable development in our district.

Hauraki had one of the first operative District Plans under the Resource Management Act and has been using this plan to determine resource consents for many years now. Plans are designed to last about ten years and our present plan is up for review. With this in mind, Council appointed a District Plan Review Committee after the last election. The first workshop of this committee was held recently and the process involved in the review was looked at together with proposals to amend our existing plan to accommodate new residential zones in Waihi, which is very short of residential land. This last fact underlines how much a plan has to look into the future because it was not foreseen when our existing plan was written that there would be a shortage of residential land by this year.

The review is to be a complete one. This means that all changes that have been undertaken, regardless of how recent they are need to be reviewed along with provisions that have not been altered or reviewed.

The RMA requires that consultation must be carried out during the preparation of a District Plan including a review of that Plan. As well as looking at all the existing parts of the Plan it is necessary to consider things that have been added to the Act since our Plan became operative. These include the effects of climate change and historic heritage. Also significant are the case law interpretations of the RMA that have surfaced in recent years which may provide a different slant on things now. For example the interpretation of "indigenous biological diversity" has gained a different focus. Whereas, in our existing plan we were looking at small patches of bush for protection, it is now considered that the important things to be preserved are sustainable ecosystems containing both plants and animals.

While this process is just starting, residents will be aware that alongside this, is the process of determining community outcomes, a process required by the Local Government Act. It is becoming obvious that there is a danger of people getting consultation fatigue in all this. We must emphasise though that both processes are very important and should be seen as complementary. When the Community Outcomes have been determined the District Plan can reinforce these and assist the achievement of some of those outcomes.

The purpose of the RMA is to manage the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources in a way or at a rate that enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety while

- Sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
- Safeguarding the life supporting capacity of air, water, soil and ecosystems; and
- Avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.

These are the things that the District Plan is meant to promote so it's all pretty important and far reaching and we need the help of the community in getting the answers right. Keep watching this page and we will update you from time to time as to where we have got in the process and where your input is required.

## Mining Matters

### FAVONA DECLINE

Work has started on the construction of the decline (the tunnel down to where the gold is) for the new Favona mine in Waihi. No blasting has yet been done as work has been related to the entrance portal.

Two Council staff members have received training (along with mine staff) on the vibration monitoring system. This was an undertaking given at the time when Newmont Waihi Gold requested permission to change the type of vibration monitors used at the Martha Mine so that they would match those to be used on the proposed Favona Decline and Favona projects.

The Council will have online access to these monitors at both the Martha and Favona operations. The staff training has related to interpreting results online and in real time.

## Elected Members' Diary

Meetings for the week of the 14th to the 20th March:



Monday 14th:  
Reconvened Hearing

Tuesday 15th: Ward Committee meetings

Thursday 17th: Full Council

## Community Outcomes

The process to determine the outcomes people would like to see in their communities is well under way. Focus groups started last week on various issues and will continue until the 23rd of this month. People who are seen to have a stake or interest in various areas will have been invited to attend the groups, mostly held at the Paeroa Racecourse. Last week the topics included: business, economic development and tourism, health and rural issues. This week we are talking about youth, social services, education, leisure and culture. Next week the groups will look at ward issues with the Waihi and Ngatea groups being held in their respective Memorial Halls. If you have been invited to one of these meetings, please make an effort to come along and contribute your opinions as without good input from the public the results of the process are going to be flawed.

## Mining Matters

### COEUR GOLD FINAL CLOSURE

An application has been received from Coeur Gold for the approval of the final phase of the closure plan for the Golden Cross mine site. The document, which includes a proposal to replace the existing bond structure with an insurance instrument and a lengthy Post Closure Risk Assessment Document, is currently being assessed by staff and legal advisors prior to a meeting with Coeur Gold and Environment Waikato. Most of the issues relate to Environment Waikato but there are some matters that our Council needs to consider. A further report will come back to Council for its consideration after this meeting has taken place

## PUBLIC NOTICE



### LIQUOR BANS 2005

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Hauraki District Council Liquor Ban Bylaw 2004 that the consumption of alcoholic liquor, the bringing of liquor or of empty liquor containers and the possessions of liquor or empty liquor containers in the public places identified below is hereby prohibited during the periods identified below.

### LIQUOR BANS

#### Whiritoa

- All public places including Roads, Beaches and Reserves.

#### EASTER 2005

#### Dates and Times

During the Easter Public Holiday period being from 4.00pm Thursday 24th March 2005 to 4.00am Tuesday 29th March 2005 inclusive.

PENALTIES: ANY PERSON WHO COMMITS AN OFFENCE AGAINST THE PROHIBITION MAY BE CONVICTED AND FINED UP TO \$20000.00.

POWERS OF POLICE: THE HAURAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL LIQUOR BAN BYLAW 2004 AUTHORISES ANY MEMBER OF THE NEW ZEALAND POLICE TO ACT UNDER SECTIONS 169 AND 170 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002, INCLUDING THE EXERCISE OF THE POWER UNDER SECTION 170(2) TO IMMEDIATELY AND WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE SEARCH A CONTAINER OR VEHICLE.

L D Cavers  
Chief Executive