



HDC NEWS



Revaluations and Rates

Even if you have not yet received your new valuations in the mail you can find out your revised valuation by going to the council website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz You can put in your valuation number or legal description or even just your address and the site will give you your new valuation.

Please do not panic when you find your new valuation is twice that of your old one. This does NOT mean that your rates are going up 100%.

Firstly, if the Annual Plan goes through in its present state (and you can make a submission to that) there will be a 4.9% rise in the District General Rate. This is because of inflation and extra costs to Council and would happen regardless of any valuation changes.

Secondly, if everybody's valuations went up say 100% all district general rates would go up by just that 4.9%. However, if the average valuation rise was 100% and your valuation went up 110% you would have a slightly greater than 4.9% rise. If, on the other hand, your valuation only went up 90% you would have a less than 4.9% increase.

In analysing the valuation changes it appears that the average valuation rise in Paeroa and Waihi is higher than the rest of the District, whereas in the rural areas, Ngatea and Whiritoa the valuation rise is somewhat less. But remember these are averages and there are some properties that do not conform to the average. It appears that unimproved land in Paeroa and Ngatea has gone up at an even higher rate - in some cases over 600% so there must be others that have increased less than the average.

You may object to your new valuations and the process is detailed for you on Councils website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz and will also be on your new valuation certificate.

The Meeting that Wasn't

In a first for the Hauraki District the other day the full Council meeting was cancelled for want of a quorum. The problem arose through a number of councillors and the Mayor apologising for being absent and two others being held up and apologising for lateness. The six councillors present waited patiently but were told that standing orders said that you only have ten minutes grace to start a meeting and if there is not a quorum by then the meeting cannot go ahead. The two late councillors arrived about five minutes after the allowable ten minutes.

The meeting was rescheduled for the following week.

Is the Earth Moving for You?

Now we've got your attention I will rephrase that to "Are you planning any earthworks?" If so, you should find out whether you need consent from Council.

There are reasons consents are required for moving earth. We need to ensure appropriate conditions are in place to protect neighbours from excessive noise, operating hours, depositing of spoil on their boundary, sedimentation run off, or any other undesirable result of the activity. Perhaps most importantly we must ensure that any change in the lie of the land does not affect other properties by altering the way water flows or ponds.

Each zone has different rules for the amount of earth that can be removed placed on or moved on a site without a consent. This amount varies from 30m³ to 100m³ depending on the zone, depth etc. Information on these rules can be obtained from any office of the Council or by contacting the duty planner on 07-862-8609.

Recently, a number of developers have gone ahead with quite major works without realising that consents were required from Council. Council needs to know in order to assess whether there will be adverse affects on neighbouring properties, including roads, and what is needed to mitigate any such affects. At the moment Council is considering whether to prosecute in a number of cases where people have acted first and thought about getting consent later. **YOU MUST NOT START WORK UNTIL YOU HAVE YOUR CONSENT FROM COUNCIL.**

The Regional Council, Environment Waikato, also needs to know and a consent will usually be required from them as well. Their concern is that of silt from the earth works getting into the waterways so they will be requiring silt traps and similar measures to ensure our waterways remain unpolluted.

We do not want to be grouches but if you do earth works without getting a consent you could well be prosecuted and the fines are quite substantial. This applies to the owner of the property and also to the contractors who are doing the work. So if the earth is moving for you get up to your nearest Council office and check out what you have to do.

Reviewing Electoral Boundaries

This year is the year that the boundaries of our electorates are looked at by the Representation Commission for use in the 2008 and 2011 general elections.

Changes to New Zealand's population mean that there will be one more general electorate and a number of current electoral boundaries will have to be redrawn. With the extra electorate the number of list seats will reduce by one so that the overall size of Parliament does not change.

The Representation Commission expects to release proposed electorate boundaries for public comment on the 3rd of May and you will have an opportunity then to make submissions until the 5th June. The commission will then conduct public hearings in July. For further information visit www.elections.org.nz

Elected Members' Diary

Meetings for the week of 9th to the 15th April 2007

Tuesday 10th April - Ward Committees

Thursday 12th April - Full Council Meeting



PUBLIC NOTICES

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME FUNDING FOR LOCAL ARTS

Applications for funding assistance to local arts projects and initiatives are now being received.

The scheme focuses on projects that increase participation in the range and diversity of arts, within the Hauraki District Council area.

Application forms are available from council offices at:

William Street, Paeroa
Seddon Street, Waihi
Orchard Road, Ngatea

Applications close 4:00pm Friday 27 April 2007

For further information contact Council's Community Liaison Officer.

CLOSURE OF ROAD TO ORDINARY VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

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 an event organised by Thames Valley Car Club Inc. the following road will be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic for the period indicated hereunder. During the period of closure the following provision will be made for ordinary vehicular traffic, which would otherwise use the road.

Period of closure: Sunday 14 April 2007 from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

Road to be closed: Golden Valley Road (Bjerring Hill) Waihi.

Alternative provision for ordinary vehicular traffic: No traffic shall be held up for more than 30 minutes.

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 period of closure.

SUMMARY REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES

The Draft Annual Plan 2007/08 is currently available for public comment from now until the 23rd April 2007. Contained within the Draft Annual Plan 2007/08 are a number of documents available for consultation including that of the proposed schedule of fees and charges for cemeteries, libraries and planning. Below is a summary of each of these documents. The complete documents are available for downloading on Councils website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

CEMETERIES

Council will also in time be constructing a new section of public cemetery at the Paeroa Cemetery. It is proposed that this new section of cemetery will produce 1315 plots. A new toilet block at the cemetery is also programmed to be installed.

A series of options have been identified for community consideration regarding the Cemetery fees and charges. The recommended option is to develop half the proposed extension as this would minimise initial capital costs. This option is estimated to cost \$383,000. It is expected to increase the availability of plots for an extra 28 years.

Fees for a burial would be required to increase to \$505 plus GST to cater for the operational costs and the increase in capital costs for the cemetery extension. Other cemetery fees are also proposed to be amended to ensure greater consistency between the Paeroa and Waihi cemeteries.

LIBRARIES

In order to improve the opportunities the library facilities provide, a new fee structure is proposed. A series of options have been identified and the recommendation is that a full review and change to the current structure of lending, rentals and revenue gathering.

PLANNING

Over the past three years Council has seen a continuing growth in the number of applications for Land use and Subdivision consents and it would appear that this continuing growth has also been evident in the 2006/07 year.

It is now appropriate that the Schedule of Fees and Charges is reviewed to reflect the continuing high level of development and to cater for the increased growth in consent numbers being processed along with the increase in public enquiries and administration generated by this growth.

If you would like to comment on the review of fees and charges, don't hesitate to call Council on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District) and ask for a submission form. Copies of the both the full plan, the summary and submission forms are available for download at www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

L.D. Cavers
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



PUBLIC NOTICES

PLAINS WARD

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION PARADE and SERVICE WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, 2007

Citizens are invited to attend the Public Commemoration Service to be held in the War Memorial Hall at 11:15am on WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, 2007

The Service will be preceded by the Parade, which will assemble in Pipiroa Road behind the RSA at 10:30am. Organisation Markers are requested to report to the Parade Marshal at 10:30am.

The Parade will commence at 11:00am proceeding to the War Memorial Hall via Pipiroa Road and Orchard West Road.

RSA Services Dress - Mufti and Service Medals Wreaths will be laid during the service

All organisations and persons wishing to present wreaths are asked to advise John McIver, telephone 0800 734 834 or 07 862 8609 no later than 4.00pm on Tuesday 17 April 2007.

JP Tregidga JP
MAYOR
Hauraki District.

IS Troughton
CHAIRMAN
Plains Ward Committee

PAEROA WARD

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION PARADE and SERVICE WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, 2007

Citizens are invited to attend the Public Commemoration Service to be held in the War Memorial Hall at 9:15am on WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, 2007

The Service will be preceded by the Parade, which will assemble in Marshall Street behind the RSA at 8:45am. Organisation Markers are requested to report to the Parade Marshal at 8:45am.

The Parade will commence at 9:00am proceeding to the War Memorial Hall via Wharf Street, Belmont Road and Normanby Road.

RSA Services Dress - Mufti and Service Medals Wreaths will be laid during the service

All organisations and persons wishing to present wreaths are asked to advise John McIver, telephone 07 862 9963 no later than 4.00pm on Tuesday 17 April 2007.

JP Tregidga JP
MAYOR
Hauraki District.

JM Bubb
CHAIRMAN
Paeroa Ward Committee

WAIHI WARD

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION PARADE and SERVICE WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, 2007

Citizens are invited to attend the Public Commemoration Service to be held in the Memorial Hall at 11:00am on WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL, 2007

The Service will be preceded by the Parade, which will assemble in Seddon Street beside the RSA at 10:45am. Organisation Markers are requested to report to the Parade Marshal at 10:45am.

The Parade will commence at 10:45am proceeding to the Memorial Hall via Seddon Street.

RSA Services Dress - Mufti and Service Medals Wreaths will be laid during the service

All organisations and persons wishing to present wreaths are asked to advise John McIver, telephone 0800 734 834 or 07 862 8609 no later than 4.00pm on Tuesday 17 April 2007.

JP Tregidga JP
MAYOR
Hauraki District.

SG Baker JP
CHAIRMAN
Waihi Ward Committee

L.D. Cavers
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

