



HDC NEWS



Plan Changes

Another thing you have been hearing about for a long time is the Ngatea Plan Change. That is the application to change the District Plan to allow the rezoning of more residential land at Ngatea. This change, and one for a rezoning of the former Council depot site in Waihi to residential, have been planned for some time but have been held up for various reasons. The Ngatea one has been delayed because of the need to get information relating to floor levels that will be reasonable considering possible sea level rise due to climate change. These factors must be considered now in any Resource Management issue.

The delay in the Waihi change was to allow rehabilitation of the site including moving topsoil and replacing it with fresh earth to avoid any possible contamination of the land from its industrial use. It is also more efficient to lodge both changes together.

Any hearings associated with these proposed changes will be heard by independent commissioners, as in both cases it is the Council that is making the application.

Dog Control Policy 2007 Review

As part of the Draft Annual Plan 2007/08, the Dog Control Policy has been reviewed and is available for comment. The complete Dog Control Policy Review is available for downloading on Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz Submissions on the Dog Control Policy Review 2007 close on the 23rd April 2007.

Summary of Dog Control Policy Review 2007
Hauraki District Council's Dog Control Policy 2007 aims to promote the control of dogs in the interests of public safety and responsible dog ownership. The proposed changes to Council's existing policy includes:

- A change to the definitions of guide dog, hearing dog, companion dog
- A change to the definitions of General Dog Owner, Responsible dog owner, Working Dog Special Purpose Owner.
- The deletion of rural dog owner definition and working dog owner definitions as the General Dog Owner definition now encompasses these.
- Removal of all references to infringement notices to now refer to the Dog Control Act 1996.

Council appreciates your feedback and encourages you to make a submission on the Dog Control Policy Review prior to the closing date. If you have any questions about the review, please call Council on 07 862 8609 or 0800 734 834 (from within the District).

Ward Matters

Ngatea Hall

It has been decided to have a dedicated area for smokers at the Ngatea War Memorial Hall along the Eastern side of the building to try to encourage smokers not to congregate at the front of the hall where the debris from smoking accumulates and is not a good look for the entry to the building.

Swimming Pools

Both the Paeroa and Ngatea swimming pools have been having problems with unauthorised entry, out of hours. To help combat this problem it has been decided to install an electrified fence at a cost of \$5,500 for the Ngatea Pool and \$4,900 for Paeroa.

The leaks in the Ngatea pool have been repaired.

Vandalism of Toilets

Staff are looking into the feasibility of closing the Hugh Hayward Domain toilets at night due to a spate of vandalism. The thought is that groups using the Domain should be given a key so that they can open the toilets when the Domain is in use and lock them afterwards.

Landscaping the Museum

The Paeroa Lions Club have a proposal to landscape in front of the Paeroa Museum and have asked the Ward for assistance. The Ward Committee has decided to donate two seats towards the landscaping proposal.

Historical Society

The Paeroa and District Historical Society has requested help regarding the renovation of its building. The problem has arisen that if the building is to be modified or extended it will need to be brought up to earthquake proof standard. Members of the Ward Committee agreed to contribute \$1,500 from the Ward discretionary fund towards a report on the requirements and costs to bring the building up to earthquake proof standards.

Echo Walking Festival

Both the Paeroa and Waihi Wards have each given \$100 towards the Echo Walking festival, which offers guided walks in the Kaimai and Coromandel ranges.

Resurfacing Paeroa Netball Courts

The Paeroa Ward Committee has agreed to resurface the Paeroa netball courts with hotmix at a cost of \$30,000, the funding to come from the Paeroa Community Facilities Development fund. This is a fund that is built up from contributions from subdivisions so does not affect rates.

Motorbikes on Reserves

Numerous complaints from the public about motorbikes being ridden around Taylor's Reserve in Paeroa have resulted in the Ward looking at the possibility of an alternative place for young riders to go. The Parks and Reserves Manager is to meet with the riders in order to try to find an alternative venue.

Commonwealth Visitors

It may have escaped your notice but the Commonwealth Local Government Conference is being held in Auckland this year. Some time ago Councils were asked if they would consider hosting some of the overseas delegates to the conference and Hauraki offered to do so.

So for three days this week we are acting as hosts to the delegate from Tuvalu, an independent state in the Pacific, situated North of Fiji. The delegate will be hosted by one of the councillors and will be taken to see the sights of the District and surrounding areas.

On the 23rd we will also be receiving two other important guests of Local Government New Zealand, including the President, Basil Morrison. They will be staying for about four hours and it is planned to take all our guests to visit the Karangahake Gorge and the Waihi Mine on this day.

Appeal to the Local Govt. Commission

Hauraki District has presented its appeal to the Local Government Commission of Environment Waikato's representation review. Hauraki appealed the issue of the removal of a representative from our district and the splitting of our district for representational purposes in the Waikato Regional Council's review of representation for the upcoming Local body elections. At the time of writing no decision on the appeal had been announced.

Elected Members' Diary

Meetings for the week of 26th March to the 1st April 2007
Monday 26th March - District Plan Committee Meeting
Thursday 29th March - Full Council Meeting



Free Calling? Well, Not Quite

One of Council's perennial bones of contention with Telecom is that of the very small areas we have in our District over which free calling is available. Our attempts to have District wide free calling have always met with a determined "No". However, Telecom has just announced that for the sum of \$5.00 per month you can have unlimited calling to a neighbouring tolls district so if you make a lot of calls from say Paeroa to Thames, Ngatea or Waihi or from Waihi to say Katikati, Whangamata or Paeroa, it may be worth your while to join the scheme. Have a look at your last tolls bill and work out if you had more than \$5.00 worth of calls to neighbouring toll areas.



SITUATIONS VACANT H A U R A K I

POLICY ANALYST

Hauraki District Council is seeking to appoint a Policy Analyst to join our Planning and Environmental team at our Paeroa Office. Our central location is near Auckland and the Coromandel Peninsula with fantastic beaches and native bush walks at our doorstep.

This will be a challenging and interesting position with the main purpose being to provide robust policy advice on a wide range of issues and procedures to enable Council to meet its responsibilities and plan for the future. The role is instrumental in the development and review of policy to ensure compliance with legislation.

We would love to hear from you if you have:

- A Tertiary Qualification and relevant experience in corporate planning or business management
- Knowledge of the Local Government Act
- Ability to interpret legislation and think laterally
- A desire to be part of a friendly team

We can offer you:

- A user friendly workplace where we appreciate the need for Work-life balance
- A caring team environment with a Manager who will notice and reward you for your efforts
- Developmental training to enhance your career and work life
- A competitive remuneration package.

For Application forms and Job Descriptions please contact HR Advisors
Sue Greenville (07) 862 5024 or
Julie Sweeney (07) 862 5023
E-mail jobs@hauraki-dc.govt.nz or
Visit our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Applications close on 16 April 2007

