



HDC NEWS



Waihi Gold Discovery Centre Progress

Council has approved the use of the road reserve that is the paper road that would be an extension of Mueller St to give access to the proposed Discovery Centre at the top end of Seddon St Waihi.

It has also agreed to extend the Streetscape footpath up Haszard St to the point where the proposed exit from the Gold Discovery Centre Car park would be. This would link the areas together as being part of the Main Street. Council will also investigate the possibility of extending the service lane behind the Seddon St shops in the vicinity if this can be done at the same time as any other earthworks that are required for the project.

Application for resource consent for the project is due to be lodged shortly and it is understood that the effects of the project in terms of non compliance with the District Plan are likely to be relatively minor. The consent is likely to be processed with notification limited to those people who are likely to be affected by it. This means that they will be the only ones able to submit either positively or negatively to the consent application.

The key issues relating to the site are the geo-technical issues such as rock quality, strength and fault lines. It is expected that all these issues will be able to be resolved with engineered solutions.

The other issue that Council will need to consider as the project develops is whether more public toilets will be required in the vicinity. Although the centre will have toilets, they will not be open when the centre is not operating so the question will remain whether the Haszard St toilets are close enough for the many tourists who will undoubtedly frequent the area.

Councillors will leave that decision to a future date.



PUTTING THE WALKING AND CYCLING STRATEGY INTO ACTION



A few weeks ago, we reported on the ideals that the Walking and Cycling strategy is designed to promote.

The next question that the strategy deals with is how to actively promote those ideals.

Establishing walking and cycling as viable modes and developing a safe friendly walking and cycling network:

- **Engineering** – Physically improving walking and cycling environments to make walking and cycling easy and attractive. This can be done by development of primary pedestrian routes and proposed cycle routes through our major towns and connections to the recreational routes such as the rail trail and Ohinemuri walkway.

- **Education** – Educating both the public and decision makers on the benefits of using active modes as a part of their transport mix. Running road safety programmes for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists can assist in this.

- **Encouragement** – Encouraging users to change their transport habits, both through promotion of walking and cycling as desirable and valued modes and also by enhancing the walking and cycling environment. As a network of cycle and pedestrian routes become a reality this should encourage people to use them.

- **Enforcement** – Enforcement of traffic laws and addressing personal security issues to improve the safety and viability of walking and cycling.

Reducing the number of short car trips:

- Focus on pedestrian facilities within the 500m Central Business Area cordons in Paeroa and Waihi

- Remove barriers to accessibility on routes that wheelchair and mobility scooter users would like to use

- Focus on primary cycling and pedestrian routes into our main towns to encourage commuter and leisure trips into the main centres.

Enhancing public health, fitness and tourism

Encouragement of walking and cycling will improve health and fitness. Development of networks that are attractive and link to recreational routes will appeal to tourists.

Reducing the adverse environmental effects from land transport.

Clearly a reduction in short car trips will improve the environment.

Elected Members Diary



Meetings for the week:
Wednesday 26th August
to Tuesday 1st September
2009:

- **Wednesday 26th August** – Full Council Meeting

Less Sickness a Positive Sign

To date the 2009 calving season has resulted in fewer numbers of zoonotic diseases. There have been two cases of campylobacteriosis in meatworkers and two cases of salmonellosis in preschoolers. No cases of cryptosporidiosis have been reported as at 18 August 2009 which is very encouraging.

The need to take proper precautions at calving time and when working with sick calves is again appropriate; this includes the wearing of protective gloves as well as thorough hand and forearm washing.

If you wish to get further information about other details on these diseases as mentioned above, please don't hesitate to call the Hauraki District Council on 07 8628609 or 0800 734834 (from within the District – excluding calls from cellphones) or pick up a pamphlet from your local medical centre.

Morgan Park Subsidence

Further investigations have taken place into ways of dealing with the stormwater pipe collapse at Morgan Park in Waihi.

These investigations have revealed that the pipe is in worse condition than was originally thought. Investigation has been difficult because of blockages to the pipe and the fact that it is six metres below the surface.

A considerable length of the line will need to be replaced. This time the new line will not be laid quite so deep.

Ngatea and Paeroa Pools

Lifeguards and prospective lifeguards will be in big demand at Hauraki District Council shortly.

The Community Facilities team is gearing up for its swimming pool season, with both Paeroa and Ngatea pools due to open in a couple of months.

In Human Resource terms, that means finding around 10 seasonal employees to work as lifeguards at the pools on a roster basis for the duration of summer.

The pools, which are both now heated, usually open around the end of October and the season runs through until April.

Ideally, that means attracting people who want a full 6 months of work, however working for part of the season is also an option.

"We often have applications from students returning home from university for the school holidays and this is an ideal job for them," says Sue Greenville, Human Resources Advisor at the Hauraki District Council.

"However, with the swimming season extending beyond the traditional university holiday period, it can sometimes mean additional resources are needed to cover the weeks before students break for the holidays, or after they have gone back to university."

While qualified lifeguards are preferred, the Council does offer lifeguard and first aid training to those who don't yet have a lifeguard qualification. All lifeguards are provided with the traditional lifeguard uniform.

The main criteria is that applicants have a mature, confident personality, are fit, strong swimmers and preferably aged 18 years or older.

"Lifeguarding provides an opportunity to be flexible with working hours because the pools are open seven days a week and roster systems are worked," Sue says.

"It can be a really satisfying job for those who enjoy the outdoors and it is a great way to earn some money in a short-term role."

Recruitment for lifeguards will begin shortly – any enquiries should be directed to Sue Greenville (sue@hauraki-dc.govt.nz) or Julie Sweeney (julie@hauraki-dc.govt.nz) at Hauraki District Council.