

District Plan Issues - Matters Relating to Waihi Ward

A number of changes are proposed that affect Waihi, Whiritoa, Waikino and the Karangahake Gorge. A brief description of the areas that are proposed to be changed is given here but if you want detail have a look at the draft plan on the Council website after October 14th and come along to one of the open days that we are having that are detailed at the end of this article.

For Waihi the main changes proposed include:

- The Town Centre Zone, which caters for a wide range of possible activities, is proposed to be extended to include some of the current light industrial zone.
- Rural Residential is proposed to be called Low Density Residential Zone – in the Lawrence Road area the same density will apply as at present, but higher densities will apply elsewhere.
- Where there are undeveloped residential areas structure plans have been developed to ensure rational development of those areas.
- Martha Mineral Zone is proposed to be extended to provide for rehabilitation and closure (but not mining).
- The existing extended Martha Mineral Zone is proposed to be removed from properties no longer required for the Martha Mine.
- Design guidelines are to be introduced for main street areas.

For Waikino the main changes proposed include:

- Some of the western end of Waikino is proposed to be included in the Karangahake Gorge Zone.

- An additional area of Low Density Residential zoning is proposed north of Victoria Street.

The Karangahake Gorge Zone is a new zone designed to protect the landscape, heritage and other unique qualities of that area. The rules in this area largely relate to earthworks, vegetation clearance and the design of buildings.

For Whiritoa the main proposed changes proposed include:

- The coastal hazard protection line location is proposed to change slightly to 35 metres from the foot of the dune. In this area the building of new structures will be non-complying. Most of this land belongs to Council but a few landowners are potentially affected.
- The present Coastal Policy Area is proposed to be replaced by a Coastal Zone with more precisely defined boundaries.

Council will send letters to affected landowners after the 9th October telling them about the proposed changes.

Check out the proposals on the Council website after the 14th October – www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Please come to one of Council's open days to discuss the proposed provisions of the Plan with staff and councillors:

Waihi Memorial Hall Foyer
20th October, 12 noon to 6.30pm

Whiritoa Emergency Management Centre
26th October, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Waikino Station Café
21st October, 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Elected Member's Diary

Meetings for the week: Wednesday 7th to Tuesday 13th October 2009

- Tuesday 13th October – Ward Committee meetings



Public Notices

CONTESTABLE SOCIAL FUND 2009

Applications for funding assistance to social service sector projects and initiatives are now being received.

The Contestable Social Fund is the direct or indirect financial support provided by Council to enable social service type community groups, organisations or individuals to contribute toward achieving Community Outcomes as identified in the Hauraki Community Plan.

The fund focuses on activities that enable organisations, individuals, their families, hapu and communities to set goals and achieve them – these include factors such as education, health, the strength of community networks and associations, financial and personal security, rights and freedoms and level of equity, within the Hauraki District Council area.

The policy and application forms are available from Council offices at:

- William Street, Paeroa
 - Seddon Street, Waihi
 - Orchard Road, Ngatea
- and on our website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Applications close 4:00pm Friday 30 October 2009

for further information contact:

Community Development Officer
Hauraki District Council
07 862 8609
toll free within district 0800 734 834

2009 GENERAL REVALUATION

The Rating Valuation Roll for the Hauraki District Council has been revised as at 1 July 2009. It will be open for public inspection during office hours at the Hauraki District Council offices, Williams Street Paeroa, Orchard Road Ngatea and Seddon Street Waihi for the period 7 October 2009 to 19 November 2009. The valuations will also be available on Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz

Objections must be received at one of Council's offices by 4.30pm on 19 November 2009.

It is easy to see that there was a boom in property, in particular subdivision, in 2008 that has left something of a surplus of sections on the market so subdivision has slowed dramatically but housing has picked up again and land use is tracking along normal lines. Let us hope that this is a sign of improvement in the economy.

L D Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

Kauri Planting Hutchinson Reserve

A proposal to plant a grove of Kauri trees on the Hutchinson Reserve has met with favour with the Paeroa Ward, subject to confirming the location of such plantings.

The Hutchinson Reserve is an area of native vegetation that was donated to Council several years ago. Council is actively working on the fencing and pest eradication of the area and there are plans to establish a day camp there for educational purposes, together with walking tracks through the bush.

Any areas of kauri to be planted must fit in with these plans. Ward members are to meet with the Kauri Trust to discuss the possibilities.

Vandalism In Ngatea

Recently there has been a spate of vandalism in Ngatea with the Hauraki Plains Memorial Wall being targeted.

Council's Parks and Reserve Manager, Steven Clark, reported that the blocks surrounding the gardens had been removed and thrown against the memorial wall damaging the slate plaques, surrounding gardens and spot lights.

The Council and community are proud of the Memorial Wall and Council is appealing to the public that if they see any persons intentionally damaging property to please report their observations to the NZ Police or to Council.

Council has noted that this sort of vandalism increases during the holiday periods and though sightings of these acts are sometimes reported to the authorities, as yet no one has been apprehended.



Economy Indicators

You could be excused for being of the "Recession – what recession?" brigade if you look at the figures for land use consents and building consents from our District.

While the numbers of subdivisions are down hugely from the past two years, the building consents and land use consents are holding on a par with previous years for July, if you discount last year, which was a boom year.

Walking & Cycling Strategy update

If you see a clutch of councillors wandering en masse about your streets, they are not out to benefit their health but to have a look at the priorities regarding the proposals for work that implements the Walking and Cycling Strategy.



A list of proposals has been presented to ward members but councillors thought it would be better to have a look at these "on the ground" before any decisions are made on what projects should have priority.