

PUBLIC NOTICES

RATING INFORMATION DATABASE

The Rating Information Database for Hauraki District Council is available for public inspection during office hours of 8.00am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday at the Council offices at William Street, Paeroa; Orchard Road, Ngatea and Rosemont Road, Waihi.

The Rating Information Database is also available on Council's website www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz. Ratepayers may object to information in the Rating Information Database where information is incorrect or has been omitted. Objections must be in writing and posted to -

Rating Information Database
Hauraki District Council
PO Box 17
Paeroa 3640

LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS FOR DRAFT 2014/15 ANNUAL PLAN

The Hearing of Submissions will be held at the Hauraki District Council Chambers, William Street, Paeroa on Wednesday, 28 May 2014 from 1.00pm onwards for the Draft 2014/15 Annual Plan.

The public may attend to listen to the hearing proceedings. Only those persons that submitted on the Draft Annual Plan and indicated that they wished to speak in support of their written submission will be permitted speak.

A Summary of Submissions document that includes a copy of all submissions received with a brief summary and staff comment for each submission is available to view at the Council offices in Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi.

LD Cavers
Chief Executive
Hauraki District Council

'One-size' earthquake bill doesn't fit all

Communities like ours could face multi-million dollar costs to comply with "excessive" new earthquake legislation and Mayor John Tregidga, along with other members of the Waikato Mayoral Forum, is calling for some common sense.

The Government's Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Bill proposes a significant toughening of building rules to boost community safety. In its emphasis on nationwide consistency, it doesn't include a risk assessment process allowing for differences between regions.

"The bill should be risk-based," believes the Mayor. He says the Waikato is generally an area of very low seismic risk, and within the Hauraki District, buildings are mostly single-storey.

"We do have the Kerepehi fault line, which has been dormant for hundreds of years although in earthquake terms we need to think in thousands of years. Tremors are occurring, too deeply to be felt, and just as in Christchurch which was also considered low-risk, earthquakes are hard to predict. However, the chance of dying in an earthquake here should be compared with the risk to life in other areas. There's more chance of being killed by a lightning strike."

The Mayoral Forum accepts the need for better protection under law, but considers the current proposals "excessive", says chairman Allan Sanson. It estimates that a typical rural district would face extra building assessment costs of \$3 to \$4 million, plus ongoing annual administration expenses and the cost of upgrading Council-owned buildings.

The Mayor describes the proposed legislation as "a total over-reaction" to Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission recommendation. "It doesn't warrant millions of dollars of ratepayer money, and the sheer cost of [private as well as public] building upgrades means that many owners would never get their money back. Cities where there is good demand for leases can't compare with rural towns where there is negligible growth and high rents are out of reach."

The bill, which passed its first reading in March, requires councils to identify buildings that are earthquake-prone by assessing all non-residential buildings and all multi-unit, multi-storey buildings in their districts within five years. Earthquake-prone buildings will then have to be strengthened or demolished within 15 years.

"In that time I hope some common sense will prevail," says the Mayor. "I would expect some changes."

The Mayoral Forum has made a formal submission on the bill, asking for further investigation into earthquake probabilities and risks. Otherwise, it warns that high costs of upgrades could lead to widespread demolition of buildings in town centres across the Waikato and potentially jeopardise the economic future of communities.

Hauraki District Council has also supported a submission by Local Government New Zealand, for which the Mayor is the Zone 2 (greater Waikato and Bay of Plenty) representative.

"This legislation is a hot item on our agenda, and I will be actively advocating on behalf of rural and provincial communities," he says.

New citizens at home in Hauraki

Welcome to Hauraki

Seven people who have made New Zealand their home last week officially became Kiwi citizens.

Sworn in by Mayor John Tregidga at a ceremony in the Council chambers were Jacques Kisling and Ken and Lynette Thompson from South Africa; and David and Julie Hallums and John and Margaret Stubbenhagen from Britain.

Some have lived and worked in the Paeroa and Waihi communities for many years.



Above: Newly sworn in Citizens - David and Julie Hallums

Dont' burn that treated timber

Most residential construction in New Zealand uses pinus radiata timber, which is a perishable fast-growing softwood not naturally resistant to insects and fungi. To enhance its resistance to pests it is treated with a toxic chemical Copper Chrome Arsenate (CCA).

The house construction process results in off-cuts that need to be disposed of to Council's transfer station. There is however the temptation for home owners or builders to use the wood as a source of firewood.

Please do not burn treated timbers in the open air or in a wood burner, as doing so will release toxic fumes into the air and pose a health risk to anyone who may breathe the contaminated air.



Sign language gets attention

Temporary roadside billboards trialed over the Easter and Anzac weekend proved very effective in advising of holiday schedules for kerbside rubbish and recycling collections. The signs were erected at 10 sites on the approaches to Ngatea, Paeroa, Waihi and Whiritoa, in an effort to make visitors and residents aware of some changes to the usual services.

We know the message got out, because most kerbside bags and bins were left out on the correct days, and we didn't have an issue with complaints. Thanks for taking notice!

We plan to bring out the boards again prior to Queens Birthday weekend, and at other future times when there are changes to regular 'rubbish days' or high numbers of visitors are expected.

Warm up Hauraki Project

The Hauraki District Council, Autex Industries Limited and PowerShed Management Group (The Insulation Company), want to help those eligible for 100% free insulation.

Warm Up Hauraki is a unique project with the aim of insulating as many low income high health needs houses in the Hauraki District as possible.

This stage of the programme is focusing on homes in Kaiaua, Waihi and Waikino area, targeting families with high health risks.

We are proud to be able to offer Hauraki residents that fit this criteria a fantastic opportunity - so register now.

To be eligible for free insulation you will:

- live in a home built before 1 January 2000
- have a valid Community Services Card or be eligible for one
- own your own home or rent privately (not a Housing NZ home).

To register:

- phone the Hauraki District Council on 07 8628609 or 0800 734 834, or
- visit a Hauraki District Council office, or
- post your name, address, contact phone number and state that you have a current Community Services Card to the Hauraki District Council, PO Box 17 Paeroa, or
- email - info@hauraki-dc.govt.nz.

