



# HDC NEWS



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## Council wins Local Government Excellence Award for Cycleway project

The Hauraki District Council has been awarded the inaugural MartinJenkins Excellence Award for Local Economic Development for the development of the 77 kilometre Hauraki Rail Trail cycleway which extends from Waihi to Thames and Paeroa to Te Aroha.

The Award was presented to the Mayor of Hauraki District Council, John Tregidga MNZM JP and the Hauraki Rail Trail Cycleway Project Manager, Adrian de Laborde at last night's Local Government New Zealand Conference dinner held in Nelson by Michael Mills, a Director of MartinJenkins, who sponsored the award.

The Mayor John Tregidga said that "I am absolutely delighted that we have won this award. It acknowledges that this Hauraki District Council project has improved economic and recreational opportunities for local businesses, residents and visitors, and has contributed not only to our District but also the wider region."

In accepting the award the Mayor acknowledged the funding contribution from the Government as part of its national cycleway initiative and the funding and commitment to the project from the Hauraki, Matamata Piako and Thames-Coromandel District Councils. "This is an excellent example of the benefits that a shared vision and collaboration on a project can bring," he said.

The Mayor also acknowledged the outstanding work of the project manager and his team in completing this significant project on time and within budget.

The Project Manager, Adrian de Laborde, said that "the success of the funding, design and construction elements of the project were the result of a fantastic team effort by all those involved. The success of the project was ensured with the leadership and vision displayed by the Councils in supporting the development of this cycleway."

In announcing the Hauraki District Council's selection as one of the finalists, the President of Local Government New Zealand stated that "these awards give national recognition to the strong impact projects driven by local authorities can have through community, infrastructure and economic development." He further stated that "cycleways across the country are known to bring valuable economic benefits and the Hauraki Rail Trail is a prime example of that."



Adrian de Laborde and Mayor John Tregidga proudly receive the Award.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### REMINDER TO DOG OWNERS REGISTER YOUR DOG NOW!

Council is urging dog owners in the Hauraki District to register their dogs to avoid the extra payment.

This reminder gives you an opportunity, if you have not already done so, to register your dog(s) before 31 July 2014 and avoid penalty fees.

Dogs remaining unregistered after 31 July 2014 will incur the 50% penalty fees and are liable for an infringement fine of \$300.

So be in quick to pay your dog registration before 31 July 2014.

LD Cavers  
Chief Executive  
Hauraki District Council

### Last chance to make a submission!

The submission period will close at 4.30pm Monday 28 July 2014 for the:

- Draft Class 4 Gambling Venue and New Zealand Racing Board Venue Policy
- Draft Local Approved Products (Legal Highs) Policy.

Submission forms are available at the Council service centres at Ngatea, Paeroa and Waihi – or submit online at [www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz](http://www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz).

Your submission can also be emailed to [submissions@hauraki-dc.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@hauraki-dc.govt.nz), or posted to PO Box 17, Paeroa 3640.

### Year's final Ward grants approved

The Paeroa Lions Club, two Hauraki Plains sports facilities, two Waihi festivals, and the Hauraki Rail Trail Charitable Trust have benefited from the Council's final Ward discretionary fund grants for the 2013/2014 financial year.

Two grants to the Paeroa Lions Club were approved: \$300 to spray toe toe and plant native trees in Hutchinson Reserve; and \$1,000 toward the annual community fireworks display organised by the club.

In the Plains Ward, \$1,800 was granted to the Mangatarata Bowling Club to contribute to the purchase of a new dishwasher. A grant of \$1,000 was made to the Thames Valley Turf Trust toward re-wallpapering its hockey pavilion.

In Waihi, assistance of \$1,400 was approved, to the Hauraki Rail Trail Charitable Trust for rail trail signage from Waikino to the Waihi town centre.

Waihi Central School received \$300 toward the sound system for its community Matariki festival. A \$500 grant towards waste minimisation initiatives and compliance costs will help the 2015 Sundaise Festival – a celebration of music, art and sustainability.

For the July 2014 to June 2015 financial year, the Paeroa, Plains, and Waihi Ward committees have been allocated discretionary grant funds of \$9,392, \$4,154 and \$8,218 respectively.

### Pukekauri Road upgrade

Progress has been made on the rehabilitation of a 1.6 km section of Pukekauri Road near Waihi, despite some delays forced by bad weather.

The work involved mixing additional base course material with the existing base course, re-shaping it to an improved line and form, and then laying a new sealed surface.

The project began six weeks ago and is now 70% complete. It's expected to be finished in early August, weather permitting.

## Time running out for dog registration



Calling all dog owners – if you haven't yet registered your dog, do it now to avoid a penalty payment!

Perhaps you've put the registration notice aside with good intentions, but it's now just a week until the July 31 deadline. Failure to register dogs by that date incurs a 50% late payment penalty on top of the registration fee, which can amount to as much as \$60 per animal depending on its classification. An infringement fine of \$300 may also be charged if it is not registered.

Your registration fee pays for the administration of an up-to-date dog database; educational and adoption programmes; dog pound facilities including feeding, care and homing or euthanasia of stray dogs; general advice on dog care; property visits by Council's Animal Control team; animal control including wandering dogs; and a 24-hour call out service.

We keep the costs as low as possible, and overall, our fees compare well with those in neighbouring districts.

Dog registration fees can be paid in person at any Council office, by eftpos, cash or cheque. Alternatively you can post the form and payment to us, or pay by electronic banking (though you still need to sign the registration form and return it to the Council).

If you've lost your form, or any of the details have changed, let us know straight away.

## What's happening to our rubbish bins?

A number of rubbish bins located on streets and Council property are being removed because they are no longer needed.

A review of bin use in each ward, undertaken at councillors' request, identified between 30 and 40 bins around the district that are near-empty on collection rounds; or attract household refuse rather than being used as intended by locals or passing travellers dropping off litter.

As a result, the Council approved a reduction in the number of bins at suggested locations. It is considered that we have historically over provided for bins, particularly as national campaigns such as 'Be a tidy Kiwi' have reduced the amount of street litter produced and fostered a culture of taking litter items home to dispose of.

Obviously there is still a need for bins, and we want to achieve a balance in providing for the community and travelling public – keeping in mind the cost savings to be made from reducing the number of sites and pick-ups. Some of the bins removed are located only a short distance from others that remain. Some will be in place seasonally, for instance at Whiritoa, and removed during periods of low demand.

In two areas of the Paeroa Ward where bins have recently been requested to help volunteer clean-up efforts, the Council has provided rubbish bags as an alternative.

## Hauraki gains from international forum

It was Australasia's largest gathering of economic developers – and three Hauraki representatives were there. Councillors Gill Leonard and Toby Adams, with Council Economic Development Projects Officer David Fielden, were among about 200 delegates at the 2014 New Zealand and Australia International Economic Development Forum held in Auckland from July 6 to 8.

Hosted at the Viaduct Events Centre by the Economic Development Agencies of New Zealand (EDANZ) and Economic Development Australia (EDA), the forum focused on growing our local economies through trade and investment and on the future for regional development.

Most of the attendees were employed in positions that foster economic growth across whole regions, so Hauraki was unique and fortunate in having three delegates concentrating on a single District, says Gill.

"The emphasis from the many high-profile speakers was on the opportunities from overseas interests, especially Asian

countries." She says the event brought home that Hauraki is well positioned to tap into those opportunities because it's within the 'Golden Triangle', close to Auckland where a third of New Zealanders live and work.

"Given the challenges there with transport, lack of vacant land and high land values, we have already seen some 'leaching' of businesses from Auckland to set up in Hauraki. We need to make sure though, that the Hauraki environment is internet savvy to entice more businesses to set up in our District."

For Toby, a forum workshop on workforce development and youth education highlighted the need to engage the education sector in local economic development. He believes a lot of resources in Hauraki could be harnessed through partnering with schools to better prepare young people for working life.

"From talking to employers, and from my own experience in business, it seems that many youth would benefit from learning first hand about the modern working

environment. That's not the schools' fault, but we can help close the gap by identifying what vocational skills are needed in the District, and teaching those as a normal part of schooling while students are still in their early teens – as we saw happening in Taiwan on our visit there earlier this year. It's all the more important in view of our ageing population, with a lot of our workforce heading toward retirement."

Forum participants had a chance to tour the Wynyard Quarter revitalised port precinct, and also The FoodBowl: an open-access food processing plant providing high-tech facilities for food innovation businesses. Its services such as high pressure cooking, chilling and freezing, homogenising, and packaging are "very relevant" to the developing Kerepehi food hub," says Toby, "and we got a particular lead out of it."

He describes the forum as certainly worthwhile. With topics from building on sister city relationships through to developing the tourism highway, "it addressed everything we are trying to do."