

## PROPOSED WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT PLAN AVAILABLE FOR SUBMISSIONS

Whakatāne District Council has released its Proposed Whakatāne District Plan for submissions. The reviewed District Plan, which sets out the way land can be used, subdivided and developed in the District, will be available to the community for submissions until 13 September 2013.

Whakatāne District Mayor Tony Bonne says the key goal of the Plan is to enable use and development while protecting the places we value. "It aims to promote growth by providing for new residential and business development and maintain a strong rural base by ensuring that our best soils are kept for rural production," he says. "An important part of growth is ensuring that Whakatāne remains a great place to live, work and play – and the Plan contributes to that goal by helping to create liveable spaces and protecting special places."

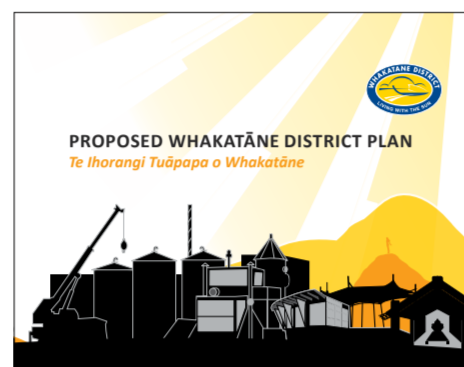
The Proposed Whakatāne District Plan has six key themes which acknowledge the opportunities that our natural and physical resources provide: growing our District; opportunities for businesses; a strong

rural base; safe and resilient communities; creating liveable spaces; and our special places.

The Council began its review of the Plan by considering whether the objectives, policies and rules in the Operative District Plan were up-to-date and whether there were any new issues which needed to be addressed. Throughout the process, a range of expert and community input has been sought through a comprehensive pre-consultation process.

Council General Manager Strategy and Planning, David Bewley says the outcomes of the review mean that some parts of the District Plan will remain unchanged, while other parts have been updated. "The Plan has the potential to affect the way people can use and develop their properties in our District, so it's very important that we get it right."

"The Council commissioned an independent economic review of the draft Proposed Plan, to identify areas where the Proposed Plan



could be strengthened to support economic growth. The economic review identified enabling elements of the Plan, along with those which could be changed to foster investment in the District," he says. "As a result, staff made recommendations for changes which have been incorporated into the Proposed Plan."

Copies of the Proposed Whakatāne District Plan and summary are available at any of the Council offices and libraries, along with submission forms. Electronic copies are also available on Council's website

### PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN CLINIC SESSIONS

**29 July Murupara**  
Council offices  
By appointment from 9am – 4:30pm

**30 July Whakatāne**  
Council offices  
By appointment from 9am – 4:30pm

**31 July Edgumbe**  
Edgumbe Library,  
By appointment from 9am – 4:30pm

To make an appointment contact Violet Hape, Policy Administrator, 07 306 0500 Ext 7469 or email Violet.Hape@whakatane.govt.nz

(www.whakatane.govt.nz). The community will have until 13 September 2013 to lodge submissions supporting or opposing any aspect of the Proposed Whakatāne District Plan.

## SEEKING EVENTS WITH THE WOW FACTOR

Do you have a bright idea for an event that will help promote Whakatāne as a fun destination? We're looking for a range of ideas from clubs, organisations and individuals that could be turned into an iconic event for our District. We'd like to support the best ideas and help turn them into reality. Put your ideas down and email us, or arrange a meeting to discuss. We are looking for ideas that:

- Will have community or club support to assist with organisation
- Have access to funding or will attract funding
- Will attract visitors to our District
- Will support business
- Have got the WOW factor!



Contact Nicola Burgess, Promotions Officer on 306 0597, or email Nicola.Burgess@whakatane.govt.nz

## TE KŌPUTU CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Te Kōputu a te whanga a Toi – the Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre – celebrated its first anniversary at the end of June with yet another stunning success to its credit – a huge increase in community involvement.

"The former Library and Museum and Gallery spaces used to attract between 115,000 and 130,000 visitors a year in total," says Whakatāne District Council

Community Services Manager, Paula Chapman. "Te Kōputu surpassed those numbers in less than seven months and by the end of May, with one month of the year still to come, this great new community facility had seen visitor numbers swell to more than 212,000. That level of support is simply outstanding and our Library and Museum and Arts teams are just thrilled with the community's response."

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT TEAM'S EFFORTS RECOGNISED

It was a busy start to 2013 for the Council's Water Treatment Plant Team members, whose efforts were acknowledged recently as the recipients of the Hautipua Award, which recognises outstanding performance amongst Council staff.

Chief Executive Marty Grenfell says the recipients "have upheld the values of trust, teamwork, excellence and learning in carrying out their work," he says. "The Water Treatment Plant Team showed dedication, determination and 'good old Kiwi ingenuity' in their approach to managing the potential impacts of drought

and encroaching salinity on the Whakatāne and Ōhope water supplies."

As well as working around the clock at the peak of the hot, dry weather, the team was recognised for thinking quickly and applying innovative solutions which saved the town from salty water. Well done to the Water Treatment Plant Team – Bryan Vautier, Neal Yeates, Ian Bowen and Ross Dillon.

The Water Treatment Plant Team pictured (from left): Bryan Vautier, Neal Yeates, Ian Bowen and Ross Dillon.



## Local Elections 2013 YOUR VOTE YOUR COMMUNITY

### INFORMATION EVENING FOR POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

Are you considering standing for local government in the upcoming local body elections? Whakatāne District Council is hosting an information evening for potential candidates.

The programme will include speakers representing the electoral office, district and regional councils, community boards and the District Health Board. Topics covered will include: the commitment required of a councillor; community boards as an important link; District Health Board elections and responsibilities; and regional council elections and responsibilities.

The information evening will be held at the Whakatāne District Council Chambers from 5:30pm on Thursday 25 July 2013. Visit our Elections 2013 page on www.whakatane.govt.nz for more info. Detailed candidate information booklets will be available online and at Council offices from 19 July 2013.

To be eligible to stand for election, a candidate must be:

- Enrolled as a Parliamentary elector (anywhere in New Zealand); and
- A New Zealand citizen.

### LOCAL ELECTIONS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER

To have your say in the local elections, you must be enrolled to vote by 16 August or you won't receive your voting papers in the mail. (Note that the date may be pushed back to 23 August; we will keep you informed if this happens.)

Voting in local elections occurs by postal vote from 20 September to 12 October 2013. You must be enrolled to receive a voting paper.

Anyone who enrolls after 16 August will need to cast a special vote and contact the Council's electoral officer to obtain voting papers.

It's easy to enrol or update your details. Enrolment packs are available:

- Online at elections.org.nz
- Freetext your name and address to 3676
- Call 0800 36 76 56
- At any PostShop

To find out more about enrolling to vote, visit www.elections.org.nz

## WHAT'S ON AT TE KŌPUTU DURING JULY/AUGUST?

### PACK LIKE A PRO

Lifting the Lid, a new exhibition at the Whakatāne Library and Exhibition Centre is an opportunity to discover some of the more unusual items in the Whakatāne District Museum Collection, including Molly the Moa, (seen here during relocation from the Museum building in Boon Street to the Opus Gallery at Te Kōputu).



As well as fascinating objects, the exhibition explains some of the museum practices used to keep objects safely stored.

During the school holidays there will be two opportunities for a hands-on lesson

in how to pack a precious object. Children 10 years and older (accompanied by an adult) can bring along a special object, learn how to pack it in special museum-standard materials and take it home in its custom-made packing.

There are two 'Pack like a Pro' workshops for children on 18 and 25 July; and one for adults on Sunday 21 July. Bookings are limited, so please email lec@whakatane.govt.nz to secure a spot.

### DRAWN BACK

Don't miss 'Drawn Back', a fascinating exhibition of paintings by 2011 Molly Morpeth Canaday Art Award winner Evan Woodruffe.

In the Sheaff Family Gallery until 25 August, the exhibition is inspired by selected images from the Whakatāne District Museum photographic collection.

The artist will present a floor talk at 11.00am today (Saturday 6 July) to which everyone is welcome.

## COUNCIL EMBRACES TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI

Whakatāne District Council got involved in Te Wiki o te Reo Māori – Māori Language Week this year to celebrate the indigenous language of Aotearoa New Zealand. The theme this year is Ngā ingoa Māori - Māori names and staff were encouraged to learn more about Māori names, including place names and names of people they know.

Daily sessions were offered to staff which offered an encouraging and carefree environment to learn about karakia (prayer), himene (hymn), moteatea (traditional chant), waiata-a-ringa (action song), kōrero-ā-waha – pronunciation of kupu (words), and pēpēhā – Who am I and where do I come from?

Staff were also invited to take part in lunchtime excursions which included Awa Kōrero Hikoi – a walking tour of Ngāti Awa's historical sites, a pōhiri at Wairaka marae, and a visit to Tūhoe and Te Urewera. The purpose of the visits was to provide an



insight into the rohe (area), tangata whenua (people) and different cultural practices.

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori also saw the Council launch a software application across the organisation enabling macrons for Māori words to be automated in the Council's Microsoft Office programs.

## COASTLANDS COMMUNITY PLANTING DAY

Whakatāne Baptist Church celebrated the opening of its new Keepa Road centre last month with a community planting event in conjunction with the Coastlands community and Whakatāne District Council. Teams of people got stuck in clearing undergrowth, placing the plants, digging the holes and planting them. The plantings were carried out along the edge of the recreation reserve opposite Pacific Parade where a section of native plantings had allegedly been poisoned earlier last year. The species that were planted included koromiko, creeping wire vine and coastal flax; all of which are not likely to grow higher than one metre tall.



## ADDITIONAL TSUNAMI SIRENS INSTALLED

Three additional Civil Defence tsunami warning sirens have been installed along the Eastern Bay coast thanks to funding from the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management.

The new units have been installed in Waiōtahe, Ōhiwa and Coastlands and should start to fill some of the gaps in coverage that were identified during the tests earlier this year.



Rangitaiki Independent School director Greg West with the Coastlands tsunami siren installed on the school roof.

Photo credit: Whakatane Beacon