



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatane District Council
Community Update - September 2016



Wainui Te Whara Stream works continue

Following the installation of new culverts at the Douglas and King Street bridges and the completion of five private bridges over the Wainui Te Whara Stream, work to improve the flow capacity of the stream channel has now started.

Channel improvement work undertaken to date has seen the installation of sheet piling walls on a 140-metre section of the stream close to Valley Road. A resource consent application has been lodged for the remaining work, which will involve channel deepening and widening and erosion protection through the stream's urban section. This work will require the removal of approximately 11,000m³ of material from the stream channel and, together with the work already undertaken, will increase the channel capacity by about 60 percent (to 32 cubic metres/second).

The resource consent for the second stage of the process was notified to the public on 6 September and submissions will close on Friday, 7 October 2016. For more information on this consent, and to make a submission, please go to: www.boprc.govt.nz/environment/resource-consents/current-notified-applications

Sheet piling walls under construction on a 140m stretch of the Wainui Te Whara stream near Valley Road.



New greenwaste facility in operation



The Whakatane District's new greenwaste facility on Keepa Rd is now in operation and is expected to provide considerable cost savings to ratepayers. The facility allows for 4,500 tonnes of greenwaste to be processed into useful agricultural compost, as opposed to being trucked out of the District at a cost of around \$90,000 per annum. Close to 90 percent of establishment cost of the facility was funded from the Ministry for the Environment's Waste Minimisation Fund and the District's Waste Levy Fund, and Whakatane District Council Solid Waste Manager Nigel Clarke says that external funding means the facility will soon pay for itself.

"We are seeing some major savings from not having to transport our greenwaste elsewhere for processing, and we are also expecting to see some reductions in our solid waste volumes in the wake of the changes we are making now to our recycling programme," he says. "In accordance with the consent conditions, bunding and stormwater collection systems have been constructed and bores drilled to monitor groundwater quality. And any stormwater runoff will be diverted into the nearby wastewater ponds for treatment and disposal."

Improved access to the site has also been provided from Keepa Road, and the operation of the facility will be required to meet strict conditions to prevent odour and noise nuisance to the surrounding area.

Local Elections 2016
**YOUR VOTE
YOUR COMMUNITY**

Have Your Say

A strong line-up of candidates are standing for election for the Whakatane District's Mayoralty, Ward Councillors and most Community Board roles in the upcoming local government elections.

Voting papers will be delivered to all registered voters from 16-21 September and must be returned by post to arrive with the electoral officer by midday on Saturday, 8 October. Ballot boxes will also be available at the Civic Centre in Whakatane and the Murupara Service Centre. Anyone who does not receive their voting papers by 21 September should contact the Council to arrange a special vote.

Remember, this is your chance to help choose your community's local government leaders for the next three years, so make sure you have your say!



Traffic flow trial begins



A joint Whakatane District Council/NZ Transport Agency traffic flow trial will begin on 12 September and will see the Landing Road bridge roundabout temporarily reconfigured so that only traffic entering from the west, across the Whakatane River bridge, will be able to turn onto Landing Road. The aim of the trial is to evaluate the effect that right-of-way access through the roundabout has on the existing congestion issues at The Hub during peak commute times.

If successful, the reconfiguration of the roundabout will be repeated during next year's three-month closure of the Peketahi Bridge on SH2 (from mid-February until mid-May), which will see an additional 2000 vehicles a day rerouted through Whakatane, adding to the congestion problem.

Council Transportation Manager Martin Taylor says the traffic flow trial is scheduled to end on Friday, 21 October, ahead of the Labour Day holiday weekend. "We anticipate that the trial may cause some initial issues, as people adapt their normal travel habits," he says. "We'll be monitoring the situation very closely, both on the ground and via CCTV coverage at the bridge roundabout and at the twin roundabouts at the Eivers Road/King Street/Domain Road intersection. If it becomes clear that the trial is creating more problems than it is solving, and that those problems can't be resolved, we can quickly bring it to an end."



Mr Taylor suggests that CBD-bound traffic on Landing Road use Eivers Road and Peace Street, to avoid potential delays getting through the Eivers Road/King Street/Domain Road twin roundabouts. Motorists travelling from Hinemoa Street and city-south areas are advised to divert through one of the link roads leading to the Valley Road/Commerce Street access route, or to travel via Victoria Avenue (or James Street), King Street and Domain Road.

New recycling system rolls out

Whakatane District residents can expect to see a new recycling bin with a bright yellow lid arrive at their properties between 15 September and 3 October. The new bin allows a 'glass out' recycling system to be introduced, as part of the enhanced recycling service which will be rolled out across the District from 1 October.

A key change will see the current recycling crate used for glass only, while the new yellow-lidded bin will be used for all other recyclables (paper and cardboard, steel and aluminium cans, grades 1-7 plastics, and plastic bags). The use of the existing refuse and greenwaste bins remains unchanged.

The kerbside recycling collection will also change from a weekly to a fortnightly service, on alternate weeks to the greenwaste collection (where that service is provided). While the recycling collection will be less frequent, the extra capacity provided by the new bin will allow residents to recycle a greater volume of recyclable material. The ability to recycle grades 1 - 7 plastics (rather than just grades 1 & 2) will also mean more material is recycled and less waste is sent to landfill.

Recycling collections will be undertaken with the general refuse collection, which will continue each week as usual. Changes to the current system, including confirmation of the date of your first fortnightly recycling collection, will be explained in a leaflet delivered with the new bin.



Nigel Clarke, Manager Solid Waste, left, and Kevin Sullivan, Whakatane Branch Manager, Waste Management NZ Ltd, with some of the 14,000 new bins.



Whakatane District Council, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Whakatane West and the Whakatane Community Board, will once again recognise students from the Whakatane District who excelled in sports, youth or community service, cultural or academic pursuits, or other areas of endeavour in the year from 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2016.

If you know of any school-aged young people who deserve recognition, application forms are available from the Whakatane District Council Civic Centre in Whakatane, all District Libraries, the Murupara Service Centre and online at www.whakatane.govt.nz.

Applications will be accepted from teachers and school and club coaches only, and close at 5pm on Monday, 26 September 2016. For further information, contact Janie Storey on 07 306 0530.