



Whakatane District Council

BYWAYS

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OCTOBER 2009

Council prepares the 2010-2011 Annual Plan

The Council has initiated a process to prepare the 2010/11 Annual Plan. Last year, the Council had extensive discussions with the community about its strategic direction during the development of the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019 (LTCCP). The Annual Plan 2010/11 will put into action the second year of the LTCCP (the 2010/11 financial year).

The primary purpose of the Annual Plan is to allow the community to participate in fine tuning the costs and funding from that originally proposed in the LTCCP for the 2010/11 financial year. Through the Annual Plan, the Council will set the rates for 2010/11. In the LTCCP the rates increase proposed for 2010/11 was 11.9%. The Annual Plan will include the changes that are proposed from the LTCCP (where they relate to the 2010/11 financial year) so that the community can provide comments on these changes.

Also through the Annual Plan, the Council will also reconsider the issue of whether to introduce Separately Used or Inhabited Parts of a Rating Unit (SUIPs) in a modified form from that originally proposed in the draft LTCCP.

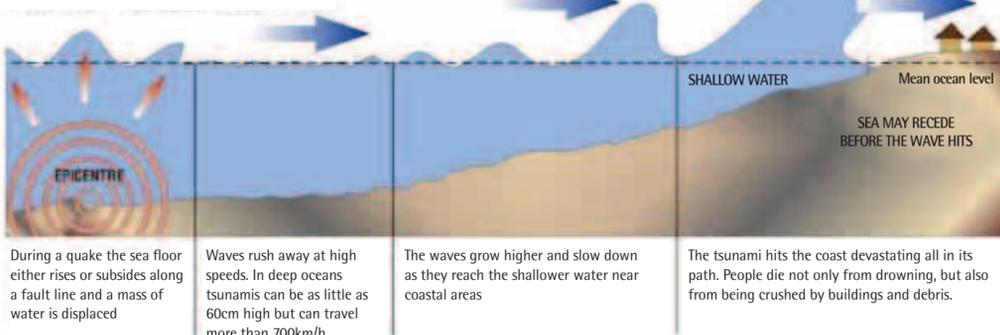
Submitters to the draft LTCCP also requested that the Council change its Disaster Mitigation Funding Policy which sets out how disaster mitigation works across the District are funded. Matata ratepayers requested that the Council reintroduce a cap on the community portion of the disaster mitigation rate. The review of this Policy will be completed in time for any changes to be proposed in the draft Annual Plan 2010/11.

A draft Annual Plan is scheduled to be available for community consultation in March 2010.

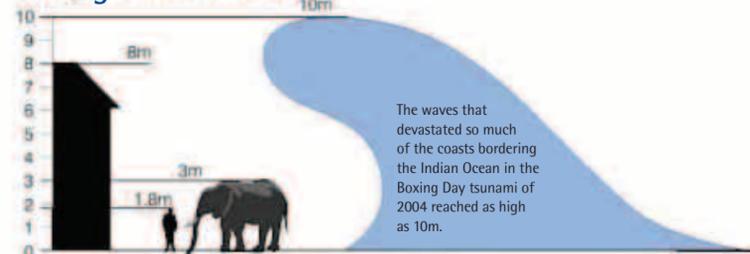
Under the Local Government Act 2002 the Council is required to adopt the final Annual Plan before 1 July 2010. The Act also requires the Council to review its LTCCP before 1 July 2012. Copies of the LTCCP are available at the Council offices, libraries and on the Council's website www.whakatane.govt.nz.

Further information is available from Wouter Vullings or Julie Gardyne at the Council on (07) 306 0500.

How a Tsunami forms



Height of the wave



Are you prepared?

Recent threats of a tsunami hitting New Zealand's eastern coastlines, highlights the need for emergency preparedness at all levels in the Eastern Bay of Plenty, from individual to community.

Civil Defence and Emergency Management Officer, Jan Pryor, says that any large emergency event has the potential to quickly overwhelm emergency services.

In the past people have got the impression that there is a Civil Defence cavalry ready to 'ride over the hill' and save everyone in a disaster, unfortunately this has never been the case.

"Whilst we will make every effort to warn people of an impending disaster, people have the responsibility of self survival and should ensure they have plans in place for emergency situations. The better prepared people are, the

better they will cope in an emergency event, therefore I cannot overemphasise the need to be prepared", she added.

Mrs Pryor said it was disturbing to hear reports across the country of people going out to beaches to watch the tsunami coming in. A tsunami wave is unlike a wave you would normally experience on the beach because it is not just the top of the water that is moving, but the whole sea behind the wave. This means that the water will flood the coast around five times the height of that wave.

The rolling wave would quickly overwhelm anyone or anything in its way and would carry with it any objects and debris in its path. If you feel a large earthquake, whilst near the beach or see the tide recede unusually far, then you need to get to a high place or at least a kilometre inland as quickly as possible.

Water pressure rises in Awakeri

Water pressure and flow rates have both improved in the Awakeri area following recent work on the Edgcombe/Awakeri water network.

The Council's engineering and project management service providers, Opus, were asked to investigate Awakeri's water supply problems: interrupted water supply and lack of water during times of high demand.

The Council's Utilities Manager, Santha Agas, said during the summer months the draw-off from the reservoir increases significantly and the reservoir cannot cope as draw-off rate is greater than the reservoir's filling rate.

Opus engineer Paul Viljoen said the problem with the Edgcombe/Awakeri water supply system was similar to a home situation. He gave an example of where one person is in the shower and, at the same time, another turns on the tap in the kitchen and puts on the washing machine. Then your shower flow will most likely reduce as the water pressure can only push through so much water at any time.

Mr Viljoen said that to increase the water pressure in the system, the water piping and pump system had to operate as effectively as possible and so their investigations looked for water and air leaks, and reviewed the water pumping system.

The recommissioning of the water pump at the Putiki pump station has been most beneficial. The pump is only activated when the level in the Awakeri reservoir drops and has enabled the level of the reservoir to be kept above 50% since the upgrading.

Community groups receive funding

The Council's Special Grants Committee at its meeting in September allocated varying amounts to 20 Community Groups that provide social services to the residents of the Whakatane District. The recipients were:

Organisation	Allocated
Whakatane Citizens Advice Bureau	15,000
Royal NZ Plunket Society - Whakatane Sub-branch	1,000
EBOP DARE Foundation Subcommittee	1,000
Growing Through Grief, Whakatane	1,000
Whakatane Neighbourhood Support Trust	5,000
Murupara Budget Advisory Services Trust	2,500
Parent to Parent Coastal BOP	1,500
Whakatane Baptist Community Charitable Trust	1,250
Whakatane Branch of the RNZSPCA	4,500
Sands Whakatane	500
Hospice EBOP	4,000
Te Roopu Kaumatua - Ye Olde Fossils	250
Whakatane Community Patrol	4,000
EBOP Riding for the Disabled	1,000
Budget Advisory Service (Whakatane) Inc	2,500
EBOP Justices of the Peace Assn (Inc)	500
Disabled Persons Assembly EBOP Region	1,500
Life Education Trust EBOP	3,000
Whakatane Stroke Club	500
Brain Injury EBOP	1,500

Integrated Urban Growth Strategy

Next month the Council will launch a project to review and pull together information from a number of studies it has conducted to develop an Integrated Urban Growth Strategy for Whakatane and Ohope urban areas.

The Council's Director of Environment and Policy David Bewley says the project is part of the wider District Plan review programme that will allow the Council to better plan for the future growth of the Whakatane and Ohope.

"We will be reviewing the information we have collected to date through such studies as the retail growth strategy, transportation study and others into an integrated urban growth strategy," said Mr Bewley.

'This work also ties in well with, and feeds into the District Plan review project which is underway.'

Mr Bewley said over the last four years the Council has completed a number of studies aimed at collecting

information about the future growth trends of the district and what the Council needs to facilitate that growth.

"It's about the Council providing the right infrastructure and amenities in the right place to enable planned urban growth and also directing growth to areas where we can take advantage of existing services," added Mr Bewley.

He said there is recognised need for both residential and industrial land. Studies have been completed on how to address these needs. This project will allow us to analyse and assess this information for holistic planning purposes.

It is envisaged that a Draft Integrated Urban Growth Strategy will be adopted by Council in December 2009. The strategy is likely to suggest that growth should occur in a number of locations around Whakatane and Ohope urban areas. The Draft will go out for public consultation in early 2010 and will include presentations and open days to gather community feedback on various options.

Final proposal for representation arrangements for the 2010 and 2013 elections

On 25 September 2009 the Whakatane District Council considered the submissions received on its initial proposal regarding the representation arrangements for the Council and its Community Boards to apply for the local elections to be held in 2010 and 2013.

The Council received ten submissions, all of which were generally in favour of the proposal, with several suggesting alternatives. A summary of the submissions included:

- a proposal to incorporate an extension of the meshblocks to transfer the residential area to include Omega Place with the balance of Coastlands and the industrial area up to Mill Road into the Whakatane-Ohope Ward and Whakatane Community Board
- the proposed extension of the Whakatane-Ohope Ward boundary be extended to Awakeri to ensure that the Poroporo and Paroa communities were not split
- that early consideration be given to the provision of separate Maori seats prior to the next review
- the creation of additional wards by further splitting the Whakatane-Ohope and Edgumbe-Tarawera Wards
- seeking an increase in the delegations given to the Boards by the Council
- opposition to the reduction of the Edgumbe-Tarawera Ward.

The final proposal for the Representation Arrangements for the 2010 and 2013 Local Body Elections is as follows:

Mayor and Councillors:

The Mayor to be elected from the District at large. 10 Councillors to be elected from four wards as follows:

- Whakatane-Ohope Ward – five members
- Rangitaiki Ward – three members (previously Edgumbe-Tarawera)
- Galatea-Murupara Ward – one member
- Taneatua-Waimana Ward – one member

Slight Boundary Alterations:

The Council accepted the submission to seek meshblock changes to incorporate the industrial area to Mill Road as one block and incorporate it within the Whakatane-Ohope Ward and Whakatane Community Board boundary. The meshblocks incorporating Coastlands will be extended to include Omega Place as it is currently located in the neighbouring rural meshblock. The two meshblocks (1296500 and 1294200) on Maraetotara Road have been taken out of the Whakatane Community Board and included in the Ohope Beach Community Board. The number of Community Boards is to remain at five, with a membership of six elected representatives and one Councillor appointed from the ward in which the board is located, namely:

- Murupara Community Board
 - Ohope Beach Community Board
 - Rangitaiki Community Board (previously Edgumbe-Tarawera)
 - Taneatua Community Board
 - Whakatane Community Board
- Members on each of the Boards are to be elected from the Board area at large with the exception of Murupara which will be split into three subdivisions as follows:
- Galatea-Waiohau Subdivision – two members
 - Murupara Subdivision – three members
 - Te Urewera Subdivision – one member
- The Council has agreed to review the delegations to the Community Boards prior to the next election. Any person who made a submission on the Council's initial proposal may lodge an appeal against the Council's decision. An appeal must relate to the matters raised in that person's original submission.

Any person who objects to the final proposal may lodge an objection to the Council's final proposal. Any objection must identify the matters to which the objection relates.

Queries on the proposal can be directed to Janie Storey, Administration Officer Community, on 306 0530 or janies@whakatane.govt.nz.

Appeals and objections must be made in writing and be forwarded to the Chief Executive, Whakatane District Council, Private Bag 1002, Whakatane 3158 no later than 5.00pm Friday, 30 October 2009.

Sign-up and WIN

Sign up and be in with a chance to win one of two \$500 New World Christmas Hampers in the Council's Direct Debit promotion. Every ratepayer who signs up by 20 November 2009 with a rates direct debit plan will be entered into the draw and be in with a chance to win.

Direct debit is an easy, convenient and affordable method of paying rates and once it's set up, ratepayers do not need to do anything else. The Council ensures that the correct amounts are debited to clear their rates by the due dates.

Direct debits options include monthly and quarterly payments. Forms can be downloaded from the Council website at www.whakatane.govt.nz or requested from Customer Services on 07 306 0500.



Whakatane's new crematorium has opened at the Hillcrest Cemetery

The opening of Whakatane's new crematorium is a welcome event for Eastern Bay people as this means that at long last there is no need to travel to Rotorua, Tauranga or Taupo to say a final goodbye to loved ones.

The waka-inspired building was blessed by Te Runanga o Ngati Awa deputy chairman Pouroto Ngaropo and officially opened by East Coast MP Anne Tolley at a ceremony in October.

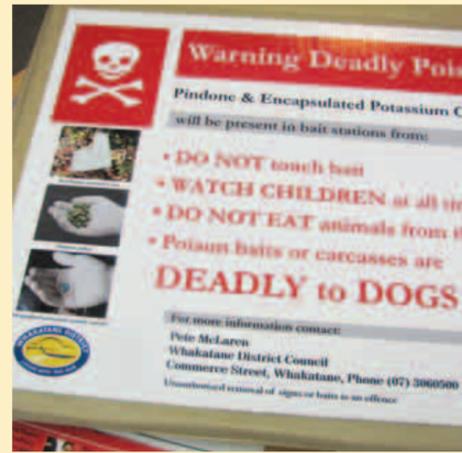
Completed on-time and on-budget, it includes a modern 50-seater chapel that is ideal for smaller funerals. Bi-folding side doors mean the chapel can also cater for larger services.

For the Council the crematorium's completion marks the end of a journey that began six years ago when Whakatane funeral director Brent Willetts sought consent to build a crematorium on his property in Te Rahu Road.

Public backlash led the Council to put through a variation to its district plan stopping such activities from being allowed by right. In 2005 the Council started looking at developing its own crematorium and four years later, following much public consultation and debate, the project is complete.

Mayor Colin Holmes says it is important to acknowledge the considerable personal effort put in by Mr Willetts. "Without the initiative taken by him, we wouldn't be here today and have a crematorium."

With its competitive charges, the Council is hoping the crematorium will be used by residents from Whakatane, Kawerau and Opotiki as well as those further afield on the East Coast and even Te Puke.



Possum and rat control 2009

Whakatane District Council is setting baits for the annual round of possum and rat control in the Kohi Point and Karaponga reserves. The Council is asking people to avoid and not tamper with the bait stations. The baiting protects native birds such as the rare Kokako which resides in the Karaponga Reserve and the Kiwi in Kohi Point Reserve through the main nesting season. This work complements the year-round stoat trapping done for the Whakatane Kiwi Project.

The bait will go out after the school holidays have finished and will be removed from the bush before the start of the summer holidays. The bait is placed in white plastic bait stations attached to the base of trees. Two kinds of bait are placed in each station, rat poison pellets and a few non-toxic coated cyanide pellets that instantly kill possums. All of the pellets are coloured green.

The Council's Service Delivery Officer Peter McLaren says the

Council does not carry out aerial drops of bait, nor use 1080 poison or the brodifacoum poison that has recently has some bad publicity.

"We use cyanide pellets which are particularly dangerous for people and we ask parents to closely supervise young children in the two reserves and to warn older children not to interfere with the bait stations. There is no danger unless the bait stations themselves are tampered with."

Mr McLaren said the main walking tracks will remain open and no bait will be laid close to them. Dogs are prohibited from the reserves.

The Council is confident that the work will continue without any problems as has happened over the last six years. The Council is delighted with the results of the control programme as people are noticing the increase in native birds in the reserves and in gardens nearby.

CLOSING DOWN SPECIAL OFFER

WHAKATANE'S RUBBISH DUMP CLOSES DECEMBER 31

WE HAVE REDUCED THE FEES

GENERAL REFUSE ONLY

(excludes green waste, car bodies, concrete, masonry, hazardous substances and tyres)

Car and station wagon	\$16	\$8
Ute and small trailer	\$27	\$13
All other loads over weigh bridge	\$162	\$80
	per tonne	per tonne

Take advantage of this great offer to have a spring clean and remove as much waste from your property as possible

Whakatane Recycling Park, 44-46 Te Tahi Street, Whakatane

Whakatane District Council (07) 306 0500

OPENING HOURS FOR RECYCLING PARK: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm Sat-Sun 9am-4pm

Helping the community become creative and active

Creative New Zealand provides the Council with funding to assist in enhancing, strengthening and increasing community participation in activities involving the creative arts. Applications are called in March each year and an Assessment Committee of Councillors, iwi, youth and community representatives consider all of the applications received. The organisations that met the criteria received a boost from Creative New Zealand as follows:

- Tait Kora received a \$1,000 guarantee against loss for the concert for the release of Te Momo Volume Two.
- The Edgumbe Choir needed new tiered risers and was provided with \$3,000.
- The Tuteao Marae Committee sought assistance with the transposing of photos onto canvas for display and were given \$1,150 towards the cost.
- Whakatane High School wanted some support for their production "Grease", iwi, and were offered a \$1,500 guarantee against loss in the event that they needed support.
- The EBAT Trust are running an 11 week programme on Maori Art for their organisation and the community and were granted \$1,200 to assist with the costs.
- Edgumbe College were provided with \$1,184 to make and embroider Pare, Tipare and Tapeka for their Kapa Haka.
- The creation of an artistic gateway to their premises earned \$1,500 for the Whakatane Arts and Crafts Society.
- Theatre Whakatane are planning five performances this year and they have been offered a guarantee against loss of \$1,000 per show.
- Summer Arts received a grant of \$7,000 and a guarantee against loss of \$4,000 to assist with the 2010 programme of bringing a wide range of arts into the community.

Giving our young children a helping hand to get to their sports games

SPARC provided the Council with \$14,985 to issue to sporting organisations to ensure that 5 to 19-year-olds have transport to their nearest sporting competition. The recipients of this fund include:

Edgumbe Junior Hockey Club	459.00
Whakatane Amateur Swimming Club	900.00
Eastern Bay of Plenty Gymnastics Club	720.00
Whakatane Rowing Club	900.00
EBOP Junior Management Committee	540.00
Whakatane Town Soccer Club (Development Team)	360.00
Edgumbe Primary School Touch	300.00
Whakatane Surf Lifesaving Club Inc	720.00
Whakatane High School – 3 Rugby Teams	900.00
Whakatane High School – 5 Hockey Teams	1,080.00
Whakatane High School – 4 Soccer Teams	900.00
Whakatane High School – 2 Touch Teams	360.00
Whakatane High School – 3 Waka Ama Teams	360.00
Whakatane High School – 4 Volleyball Teams	270.00
Whakatane High School – Badminton Team	112.00
Trident High School – Girls' Rugby	270.00
Trident High School – Boys' Rugby	757.00
Trident High School – Girls' Soccer	450.00
Trident High School – Boys' Soccer	1,080.00
Trident High School – Boys' Hockey	270.00
Trident High School – Cricket	360.00
Trident High School – Girls' Volleyball	360.00
Trident High School – Boys' Volleyball	360.00
Edgumbe College – Girls' and Boys' Hockey	450.00
Edgumbe College – 1st XI Girls' Soccer	217.00
Edgumbe College – 2 Netball Teams	270.00
Edgumbe College – Girls' Rowing	180.00
Edgumbe College – 3 Rugby Teams	900.00
Edgumbe College – Waka Ama	180.00

Long service awards



The Council recently recognised long serving members of staff who received certificates from the Mayor Colin Holmes. The six staff members have a combined total of 193 years of service with the Council.