

OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatāne District Council
Community update - January 2026



Warmer days, smoother ways

A big thank you to everyone across the rohe/district for your patience while summer road works continue.

The warmer months are the best time to get this mahi/work done, and we're now more than halfway through the season's programme.

One of the main focuses over summer has been the Awatapu roundabout. That work is on track to be fully finished by this afternoon, Friday 30 January.

If you'd like to see what other road projects are happening, and when, head to whakatane.govt.nz/summer-roading



Riverbank progress paves the way for what's next

Major progress has been made at the Whakatāne Riverbank this summer, with Toi Moana Bay of Plenty Regional Council completing Stages 1 and 2 of Project Future Proof to strengthen the flood walls.

With construction now finished, the focus is shifting to possibility, as we work with the regional council on concept designs to refresh the area around the i SITE and the corner of The Strand and Quay Street.

Several older Council buildings in this area are reaching the end of their usable life, creating an opportunity to reimagine the space.

Concept designs will soon be shared for community feedback before Councillors make a final decision.

The project is funded by \$3.79m from central government and \$7.5m through Council's Long Term Plan.

Scan the QR code to learn more.



TĀNEATUA & MURUPARA 2026 By-elections

Nominations are now open.

It's time to vote in the Tāneatua and Murupara (Galatea-Waiōhau Subdivision) Community Board By-elections.

Voting packs will be delivered from **Friday 30 January 2026**, so eligible voters should check their letterboxes.

You can return your vote **by post**, or **in person** at one of the following locations:

- Whakatāne District Council, 14 Commerce Street, Whakatane
- Murupara Service Centre & Library, Civic Square, Pine Drive, Murupara.

These By-elections are being held to fill extraordinary vacancies from the 2025 triennial elections, with Community Boards helping shape local decisions.

Voting closes **12 noon, Tuesday 3 March 2026**

- make sure your vote is in on time.

To find out more scan the QR Code.



Keeping your water fresh this summer



It's summertime, the days are hot, and at times you may notice your tap water tastes a little different.

Warmer weather naturally means more algae in the Whakatāne River, where the water for Whakatāne and Ōhope residents comes from. This can affect the smell or taste of the water before it's treated. Over summer, our waters team adjusts parts of the treatment process to help manage this and make sure the water meets all drinking water standards.

Remember, if you do experience this, the water coming out of your tap is still safe to drink and is checked regularly.

TOP TIP

Pop your drinking water in a jug in the fridge. Chilling it can soften those flavours and it's extra refreshing on a hot day.



Scan the QR code to learn more about common drinking water issues:



STAND for SOMETHING

TŪ TŪTURU

Whakatāne District By-elections 2026

For further information, visit whakatane.govt.nz or phone 07 306 0500

