



OUR PLACE

Ko Konei

Your Whakatāne District Council Community Update - August 2020

Grab your coffee fix at Whakatāne Aquatic Centre

Your next visit to the Whakatāne Aquatic Centre will be even better now Poolside Café is open for business. Located between the spa pools, the café serves delicious barista-made coffee and a range of snacks to fuel all ages.

Grab your coffee fix from 9am-5pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 3pm on Saturdays.




WHAKATĀNE Aquatic & Fitness CENTRE

Awesome August

30 SWIM PASS

\$100 ADULTS RRP \$135

\$50 STUDENTS/SENIORS/COMMUNITY CARD HOLDER RRP \$75



Kōrero Mai Let's Talk
11am to 1pm
Saturday, 8 August 2020
'The Pod', Wairaka Centennial Park

Wairaka safe swimming area

Whakatāne District Council invites anyone interested in the future of the Wairaka tidal pool and bombing platform to an event at Wairaka Centennial Park from **11 am to 1 pm tomorrow - Saturday, 8 August**. Consultants and staff will be on-site to capture feedback about current issues and potential solutions.

If raining, the event will be postponed until Sunday, 9 August. Listen to Radio 1XX or Sun FM for updates.



New safe crossing installed

A new crossing on Hinemoa Street installed recently provides a safe access for pedestrians and cyclists. Part of the Active Whakatāne strategy, the crossing includes a pedestrian refuge island, 'dragon's teeth' line markings and a red carpet – similar to those installed on Landing Road. Designed to link the shared path from King Street to James Street, the new crossing has received positive feedback from a range of users.

"The design works really well for all users," says Bike Whakatāne representative, Richard Hamer. "Drivers see the crossing as they approach the area and have plenty of time to slow down, and pedestrians and cyclists can cross safely with confidence."

This type of line marking is also being trialled at a crossing point on Rewatu Road, to test its effectiveness in a semi-rural environment.

Climate change strategy and action plans


This week, we've launched our draft climate change strategy and action plans for feedback. These documents are guided by an aspirational vision and include specific, measurable targets.

Strategy and Policy Committee Chairperson, Nándor Táncczos, says feedback from the community about the draft documents is essential to make sure the Council is on the right track. He emphasises that everyone is on the climate change journey together and future planning must reflect that.

"We think we've captured the communities' aspirations, but the feedback process will help shape the final documents," he explains. "I really encourage everyone to tell us what you think. We've created a simple 'quick poll' style survey, which should only take 5-10 minutes of your time."

Tell us what you think at koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz by 5pm Friday, 4 September 2020.

Kōrero Mai Let's Talk



ANNUAL GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW

Annual Grant applications are now open for 2020/21. These grants provide financial assistance to community-based, non-profit organisations that help the public in the Whakatāne District.

This year there is \$9000 available for general funding. For more information, or to complete an application form, visit whakatane.govt.nz. Applications close 5pm Friday, 21 August 2020.



Annual Plan adopted

The Whakatāne District Council's Annual Plan and Fees and Charges for 2020/21 were adopted at an extraordinary Council meeting last month. Ratepayers should expect their rates invoices in the mail this week.

The average rates increase for the Whakatāne District this year is 3.9%, but the percentage differs for specific properties around the district. For an average urban Whakatāne household, the increase translates to about \$122 per year or \$10 per month.

WHY DO RATES INCREASE MORE THAN INFLATION?

We're often asked why rates increase more than inflation. The simple answer is that the things Council has to buy, such as pipes and roading materials, increase at higher rates than household things, like food and clothes.

-PAY EARLY- SAVE 2.5%

If you pay your rates in full by the first instalment due date on Friday, 21 August 2020, you'll receive a 2.5% discount.

*Please note - to qualify for the discount, any outstanding rates and penalties must be paid at the same time



Kia Kaha Whakatāne projects keeping local people working

More than 160 people are currently working on roading, infrastructure and environmental projects throughout the district as part of the Kia Kaha Whakatāne programme – including more than 90 people who were formerly unemployed.

The Kia Kaha Whakatāne programme is made possible through Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) investment. The programme supports roading, infrastructure and environmental projects that are providing urgent economic relief for the workforce, particularly those who have lost jobs through COVID-19.

