



Local road speed review

Whakatāne District Council has started work reviewing speed limits outside schools and kura across the district, including Matatā Public School and Matatā St Joesph's School.

Under new Government legislation all councils must look at speed limits to determine if they are safe and appropriate.

While Council is starting with schools first, it will also be looking at speeds across the entire roading network – especially urban areas, marae, cemeteries and urupa, high-risk rural roads and areas where there is strong community demand for change.

You can find out more at whakatane.govt.nz/speed-review

Traffic calming through Matatā

To reduce speeds and make it safer for people to cross the main road through Matatā, Whakatāne District Council will be installing two new raised crossings.

One of the crossings will be outside the Matatā Hotel and the other will be outside the Matatā Liquor Centre.

Council will be constructing the crossings over the summer period and they will take several months to complete, weather dependant.

During this time, Arawa Street may be reduced to one lane at times with Stop/Go controls in place.

However, there will always be parking available for the shops and they will remain open as usual.



You should have received your voting pack in the mail. It's now time to whakarongo mai – listen to what each candidate is standing for and vote accordingly.

BE A GAME CHANGER
AUAHATIA NGĀ RA E TĀTU IHO NEI
WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT ELECTIONS 2022



Why bother voting?

HAVE A VOICE - Local government affects nearly every aspect of our daily lives from rubbish collections, libraries and playgrounds to the amount we pay in rates.

Get to know your candidates

WHAKARONGA MAI, LISTEN UP - The candidates standing could be the ones making decisions on your behalf, so you want people that you trust and tautoko. Get to know them via the various 'Meet the Candidate' sessions on offer. Check out your local residents association, local clubs (such as Lions) or ratepayers group.

You can still enrol to vote

If you haven't received your voting pack in the mail, you can cast a 'Special Vote', but you'll need to complete some forms and declarations – email specialvotes@electionservices.co.nz or call Council on 07 306 0500.

How and where to vote

After completing your voting documents, put them in the pre-paid envelope and:

- **post them** at your nearest Postshop (by Tuesday 4th October, so it reaches the processing centre in time)
- **pop them into a ballot box** at 4 Commerce Street, Te Kōputu a Te Whanga a Toi (Whakatāne Library), or the Murupara Service Centre

Council will be visiting rural communities across the rohe in the coming weeks to help with voting and special voting.



Vote in the local body elections and be a game changer



Te Niaotanga o Mataatua o Te Arawa Community update — Matatā Wastewater Project

Te Taihū o te Waka - "Navigating the bow of the canoe, in the right direction, together"

Update since April 2022
Phase 3: Options analysis
and resource consent

Presentation to Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitihui

Representatives from Te Niaotanga o Mataatua o Te Arawa and the project team presented an update to members of Ngāti Rangitihui at a meeting in August. There were many questions with several asking: *how long do we need to wait for this wastewater system to be in place?*

Watch out for
opportunities to find out
more and have your say

We're planning to be attending community events over the next few months to share where we have got to in our work so far. Do you want us to come along to your workplace, group or event to answer questions and update you on progress? Please contact jennifer@zestconsulting.co.nz to set up a time.

You can also find out more at our website: whakatane.govt.nz/about-council/council-projects/matata-wastewater-project or to receive regular updates online please email Matatawastewaterproject@whakatane.govt.nz

Monitoring the quality of our water

Both surface water (lagoon, Tarawera River, streams and drains) and ground water (underground bores) are being monitored by Whakatāne District Council to understand the state of the wai in Matatā. In November we will have a year's worth of results from testing the surface water at several sites at Matatā. We will be able to share information on the quality of the water in the town and surrounding area and any degradation occurring. Septic tank leakage is likely to be one of the causes of any degradation.

We have also surveyed fish and macroinvertebrate (snails, insect larvae, worms) in the lower Tarawera River to help us understand the ecology and health of the river. More monitoring and sites will be added once we have a clearer idea on potential sites for Matatā treated waste water discharge.

Wānanga and hiko



Hiko attendees at Otaramuturangi, 2 July 2022

Representatives from Te Niaotanga o Mataatua o Te Arawa and the project team held a wānanga at Matatā in early July. A key part of the wānanga was the hiko which included walking the land alongside iwi and hapū representatives, listening to histories and looking at sites of significance. It provided an opportunity for iwi to express the enduring relationships with the whenua.

The hiko was co-developed by iwi and included; Otaramuturangi, Te Kōpu-ā-Kuku, Kopua Tawhiti, Te Awa o te Atua, Te Kopuatawhiti, Mihimarino and Te Umuhika.

What's next?

- The development of a cultural narrative. The objective is to work with Ngāti Rangitihui, Ngāti Awa and Tūwharetoa ki Kawerau to ensure tangata whenua relationships to Matatā and perspectives on wastewater options form part of all the workstreams and decision making.
- The technical team is tasked with providing mapping services for any land that potentially contains suitable physical characteristics.
- The technical team will develop further criteria for land, sand, wetland or forestry as a means of reintegration into the taiao based on technical, environmental and cultural information and what we hear from the community.
- Te Niaotanga o Mataatua o Te Arawa will investigate potential locations around the Matatā rohe that may fit the criteria.
- We will be offering ongoing opportunities to find out more about progress to date and to hear feedback.

No further study on discharge to rivers, streams or sea

A clear theme has emerged from our hui to date, which is around the objection to the direct discharge of treated wastewater to rivers, streams or sea. Other options such as sand, land, wetlands and forestry to be explored as a means of re-intergration into the taiao have been shared. Te Niaotanga o Te Mataatua o Te Arawa and the technical team will focus on sand, land and wetlands as possible disposal options.

Keep in touch

Find information, ask us questions or give the District and Regional Councils your feedback by contacting us as below:



PHONE 07 306 0500
EMAIL info@whakatane.govt.nz
whakatane.govt.nz

Please send newsletter feedback and contributions to info@whakatane.govt.nz, with Matatā newsletter in the subject line.



PHONE 0800 884 880
EMAIL info@boprc.govt.nz
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