



Papakura District News

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Planning for our future



This is a time of some uncertainty for the communities we serve, but Council is working on a range of projects and plans that will leave Papakura in good shape

for the coming transition to the new "supercity" Auckland Council.

Though the District is gripped by a chilly winter, Councillors and staff are already looking ahead to the busy months of spring and summer and further into the future.

Progress Papakura, the 2009-2019 Long Term Council Community Plan, was

signed off by Council in June. It captures the aspirations and hopes of the community and as such it forms a great starting point for the new Auckland Council to work from. Our ten year plan continues the work we are doing on projects first proposed in the 2006-2016 LTCCP and focuses on other work needed to make sure the district can cope with coming growth. Above all we want to make sure Papakura remains a great place to live, work and raise a family.

As a Council we are also mindful of the global and national economic situation and its effects on residents of the District. We have modified our proposals to reflect the financial environment we are working in.

I wish to thank all those in the community who have taken time to have their say on Papakura's future through the LTCCP process, and would also like to make special mention of the many people who have made submissions to the select committee that is considering the second Auckland Supercity Bill.

From before the announcement of the Royal Commission on Auckland Governance, our position has been clear: we do not support a unitary authority or "Supercity" because we believe it will deprive our communities of their ability to influence their destiny. Local democracy can only be delivered locally, and to do that there needs to be a strong and effective second tier of government based in the community.

This Council has worked hard for the Papakura community, and has delivered much. I am not convinced the same will be true of a supercity unless the Government listens to the people of greater Auckland and acts on their concerns.

Celebrating success in Papakura

Milestones we mark with pride this year include the completion of the \$6.1 million Streetscape enhancement of the town centre. This project has transformed the public parts of the town centre, and the reaction from the community and from visitors to the District has been very positive.

I am sure the changes made have also helped to encourage the establishment of recent arrivals like the Pumpkin Patch outlet store, Foot Mechanix and others.

The Town Square has been transformed into a place where people enjoy meeting friends and taking a break from shopping.

Railway Street West has been rejuvenated and forms an important link between the rail station, bus services and the town centre.

I also applaud the vision that has created the new Redhill Community Centre. Council has supported the project from the outset, and provided funding through the LTCCP process to get the project under way. A state of the art rock climbing wall, two cinemas screening family movies and a café – fun for the whole family. On that site in Dominion Road, Edgar Hornblow and his team have established something very

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special for the people of Redhill and the district as a whole.

Recognising the current economic environment and the pressure this recession places on us all, Council has decided to defer work on a couple of big projects. The Arts and Culture Centre proposed in the 2006-2016 ten year plan and the community house both now fall into this category.

Many businesses in the District are well into the process of entering the 2009 Franklin/Papakura Stevenson Business excellence Awards. Entries in these prestigious awards, which are being held across the two districts for the first time, close on 31 July.

More than 20 Papakura businesses have already indicated they will enter one or more category of the awards. Those who hold back will miss some major recognition and profile and a chance to fine-tune their businesses to beat the recession. More information is at www.bestbiz.co.nz

Family fun in Papakura

As we head back toward warmer weather, there are a host of fun family events planned. Possibly the biggest of these would be the second annual Papakura Spring Carnival on 19th September, a celebration of everything that's great about our town and a chance for people to farewell winter. Once again it will feature the great bake-off competition, some spectacular freestyle motocross demonstrations and a host of things to see, do, eat and drink and enjoy.

Then in November we have our annual community Fireworks display at Massey Park on the 6th and the Blue Light Trolley Derby down Elliot Street on the 15th, both firm family favourites. For those who plan to enter the derby, now is the time to be getting your racer ready.

And of course at the end of the year – but fast approaching – is our annual Christmas weekend, which includes Carols in the Park, a Christmas Movie in the Park and the Christmas Parade through the centre of Papakura. All of the Christmas events are organised by the Council, and are free for the benefit of all the people of Papakura.

As always, in Papakura there's plenty to do, and plenty to look forward to. Remember, my door is always open, and I am always happy to talk with the people of the District.

Calum Penrose
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PAPAKURA EVENTS

Saluting our volunteers

Many Papakura people work selflessly for the betterment of the community. Generally their work is unsung and Papakura District Council wants to recognise their efforts.

Nominations are open for outstanding volunteers in the Papakura District to be recognised at an evening function held on Wednesday 16th September 2009 at the Hawkins Theatre. After the awards presentation beginning at 5.00pm, the event will feature a "mix and mingle" with music on the theatre's grand piano, a guest speaker and entertainment by emerging local talent.

These awards recognise individuals who make a special contribution to the community. Nomination forms are available at the Papakura District Council, 35 Coles Crescent, Papakura or by contacting Courtney Hayhow on (09) 295-2340.

Nominations close Monday 31st August 2009.

OUR AQUATIC CENTRE

Tell us your views



Massey Park Aquatic Centre is Papakura's favourite destination for watery fun. Plans are underway for an upgrade and Papakura District Council is asking pool users what they like about the pools, and what they would like to see changed or improved.

For the whole month of July, pool users will be able to share ideas to help guide the development of Massey Park Aquatic Centre. Their views will be considered as the Council prepares a concept plan for the upgrade, which is expected to cost up to \$5 million.

Up for grabs are five Family Super Passes in a prize draw open to all submissions received. Once the submission period is over, consultants will develop the concept plan and there will be another chance for the community to have their say.

Then a developed and detailed design will be prepared, with work programmed to take place through 2010 and 2011. It takes a lot of planning to get a pool right, with numerous disciplines involved in making sure the facility is fun, safe, attractive and operates efficiently and effectively.

Submission forms are available at the pool and filled-out forms can be handed to staff at reception, mailed to Papakura District Council or dropped in to Council offices at 35 Coles Crescent, Papakura. Submissions close 5.00pm Friday 31 July 2009.

WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

PARKS AND RECREATION WORK

Completed in June and July

- Tytus Place erosion mitigation planting
- Coastal tree planting at Youngs Beach park
- Playground renewals – Challen Reserve and Drury Domain
- Don Street Older Person's Housing upgrade
- Queen Street reserve boundary reinstatement
- Boundary fencing at Tironui Reserve
- Internal painting renewals at Hawkins Theatre
- Children's Forest planting
- Installation of insulation in Older Person's Housing
- Gills Esplanade planting.

Currently underway

- Playground renewals – Ray Small Park (below) and Tironui Reserve
- Central Park Outdoor Events Facility construction
- Toilet upgrade at Drury Domain
- Consents for stage 2 of boat ramp at Youngs Beach Park

- Consents for mangrove removals in Pahurehure Inlet 2.

Planned for July and August

- Recreation Centre accessibility improvements
- Bottle Top Bay community planting
- Massey Park Aquatic Centre community consultation
- Massey Park stakeholder consultation and developed design
- Planning for removal of Cargill Scout Den
- Planning for Art Gallery upgrade
- Taka Reserve community consultation
- Street tree planting – Conifer Grove.

ROADING WORK

Completed in June and July

- Railway Street West-Streetscape upgrade works.

In progress

- Replacement of Gobi block paving from a section of Manuroa Road and Le Havre Place. Drainage upgrade work has been completed and the contractor is continuing

with construction of the new carriageway. Completion due mid-August

- Roothing improvements on Hingaia Road from approximately 600m west of the Hinaiu Road Intersection. Completion due end September
- Road improvements on Great South Road between the Park Estate Road and Parkhaven Drive intersections to allow for right turn traffic bays and the extension of a cycle lane at a future date.

Planned for August and September

- Preparation for the upcoming construction season.

STORMWATER WORK

Completed in May and June

- Replacement of undersized pipes in Wood Street (to Duke Street)
- Replacement of undersized pipes in Manuroa Road
- District-wide manhole and inlet/outlet structure repair work.

Programmed for July and August

- Manholes and inlet/outlet structure repairs continue
- Replanting work, Tironui open drain upgrade alongside railway – to be co-ordinated with OnTrack rail corridor improvements and electrification planning
- Chichester Drive additional pipe under motorway – out to tender subject to resolution of issues about stormwater discharge flows on downstream land use
- Tenders out for pipe rehabilitation and additional pipe work from Wood Street to Ray Small Drive.

