



Papakura District News

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It's not over. The Papakura community is sending a clear message to the Government over its supercity proposal: we want local democracy and local decision-making and we want our identity preserved.

This month we have seen a sensational turnout of more than 1000 people to a public meeting on the issue. I wish to thank every person who braved a cold Monday evening to come and listen and say their piece. For all those who were not able to attend, we have included a "contact" form on the following page. Clip it out and drop it into Council and we will keep you posted.

That meeting was attended by two National Government cabinet ministers. Though neither John Carter nor Judith Collins had much to say that was convincing to the group, I think their presence is a sign that

there is real concern about the level of anger out in communities like Papakura, and I think that means we can still force a change to the Supercity to keep local democracy alive.

This is not something the Council can do alone, it relies on the people of Papakura taking a stand and sending a message to Wellington.

At the meeting, one question left unanswered was: "what is the next step?" People voted for a sub-group to be established to look at what we would do next, and to work with Tony Mayow and the Community Coalition for Auckland group to ensure communities across Auckland are able to combine their voice for best effect.

Now it's time for the next step. I am inviting every Papakura person who is concerned about the Supercity to join us in central Auckland in a hikoi - march - up Queen Street. This event was originally set up to protest the lack of Maori seats on the proposed Auckland

Council. It has quickly grown to something much bigger: this is a march for democracy, a chance to be counted on this issue and make a public statement to Government.

In Papakura, we will start the march at the Village Green to give residents who can't come to the city a chance to show they care. We will march along Great South Road through the town centre to the Papakura Rail Station, where those heading for the march up Queen Street will board a

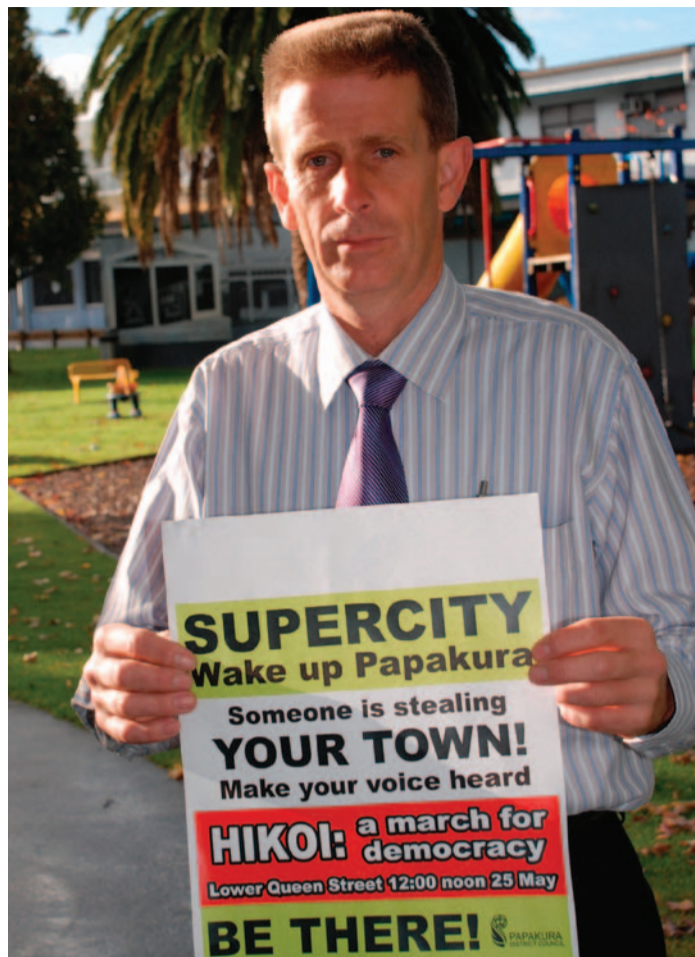
mid-morning train to the central city.

In the mean time, as you will see on these pages, it is business as usual for us as we continue to provide the people of Papakura with all the services and functions we always have. This is a great place to live and we are working to keep it that way.

I am concerned that the model for the new Supercity does nothing to support the progress we have made on social issues. We work with Police, Maori wardens, the Community Crimewatch Patrols and many other organisations to make a difference. Little of this will survive the transition to a Supercity.

Every Papakura resident has an opportunity to help make sure we keep our identity, the "flavour" that makes Papakura special.

Calum Penrose
Mayor
Telephone 295 1375



HIKOI INFORMATION

- 8.30am Gather at Village Green, Papakura
- 8.45am Karakia at Village Green
- 9.00 Mayor Penrose addresses gathering
- 9.20am March through town centre to railway station
- 10.05am First train leaves for the city
- 10.20am Second train leaves for the city
- 12 noon March up Queen Street

Bring warm clothes, wet weather gear, and a packed lunch - and Gold Cards

PAPAKURA EVENTS



Using a robotic arm at MIT are Elim College students Michelle Rapson, Joshua Warner, and Paul Hazelwood

Papakura celebrates youth

The robots are coming! The 2009 Papakura Youth Expo Careers Day will include a wide range of stalls and information displays including Manukau Institute of Technology's "mechatronic" robots.

Papakura's Youth Expo offers the young people of the district a wide range of activities that celebrate all the positive aspects of youth. It runs from 25 -30 May in association with National Youth Week. It will feature themed days from the launch evening on Monday 25 May.

There will be a day focussed on healthy living through physical activity, a day celebrating the cultures of those who make up the community, a careers day and a new event, the Papakura Youth Awards. More information: www.papakurayouthexpo.org.nz



Entries are now open for the 2009 Franklin/Papakura Stevenson Business Excellence Awards. In a recession, more than ever, businesses that succeed are those that focus closely on excellence in every aspect of what they do. As the downturn eases, it is important to be ready to take advantage of new opportunities.

Business excellence workshops held in Papakura during April and May have drawn a strong turnout and more than 20 Papakura businesses of all kinds have indicated they are keen to enter the awards and gain recognition for their efforts.

Other businesses interested in entering the awards will find more information at www.bestbiz.co.nz

OUR DISTRICT

Democracy can still be preserved in Auckland if the people of Papakura – and those of countless similar communities in the Auckland region – take a stand.

Papakura Mayor Calum Penrose says the Government admits the Supercity will cost hundreds of millions to establish but claims there is no certainty rates are going to increase to pay for the change.

“But that is simply not true for the people of Papakura. We have the lowest average residential rate in the region. I can’t see the rest of Auckland having their rates adjusted down to the level that Papakura people pay! So on this alone we are going to see some massive increases in the cost of living at a time when our people can least afford it.”

Papakura’s average residential rates, at \$1372.00, are “substantially” less than those of its Auckland region neighbours, which range from \$1,606.00 in Manukau to a high of \$2,306 in North Shore City. Average household income in Papakura is \$67,535, the lowest in the region, meaning Papakura residents face the greatest increase and are least able to pay.

Estimates of the final cost of creating the Supercity have not been refuted or confirmed by the Government. Mr Penrose says the costs of the change itself could add \$500 to every rates bill in Auckland.

“I’d like to know if anyone in Papakura believes the Government has consulted with them, or listened to their concerns about this. Our community is at risk, and the Government are not even able to tell us accurately what this is going to cost.”

Papakura people wanting to be kept up to date on Supercity developments are invited to fill out the contact slip below and drop it into Papakura District Council’s offices in Coles Crescent or to download a slip from the web site, www.papakura.govt.nz

SUPERCITY KEEP ME INFORMED

Name: _____

Email: _____

Postal Address: _____

EARTH HOUR

Papakura joined the global Earth Hour environmental awareness event for the first time this year.

An environmental mini-expo in the town square gave local people information about alternative energy sources and thousands of energy-efficient “eco” light bulbs were handed out.

A poster competition gave the District’s young people a chance to express what Earth Hour means to them.

The Council did its part and turned off non-essential lighting – including the town square’s “tulip” lights – during the event.



Left to right, Manmeet Sandhu proudly displays son Navi’s Earth Hour poster as he accepts his \$500 first prize voucher from Mayor Calum Penrose

WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE

PARKS AND RECREATION WORK

Completed in March and April

- Smiths Reserve clubrooms upgrade
- Pahurehure Inlet stage one – Youngs Beach Park boat ramp
- Pahurehure inlet removal of aging pine trees at Youngs Beach Park
- Sports field renovation
- Resurfacing Drury Hall floors
- Replaced cemetery gates
- Tytus Place erosion mitigation drainage and re-contouring
- Marybeth Reserve grass sowing and bollards

Currently underway

- Playground renewals – Ray Small Park, Tironui Reserve, Drury Domain, Challen Reserve
- Upgrade of Don Street Older Person’s Housing
- Central Park Outdoor Events Facility construction
- Toilet upgrade at Drury Domain
- Tytus Place erosion mitigation planting
- Consents for stage two of boat ramp at Youngs Beach Park
- Consents for Recreation Centre renewals and accessibility improvements
- Consents for mangrove removals in Pahurehure Inlet 2
- Queen Street reserve boundary reinstatement

Programmed for May and June

- Hawkins Centre renewals
- Consents for repairs to Conifer Grove boardwalk
- Bottle Top Bay community planting
- Children’s Forest planting
- Older Person’s Housing insulation installation
- Massey Park stakeholder consultation and developed design
- Planning for removal of Cargill Scout Den
- Planting plans for Youngs Beach Park

ROADING WORK

Completed in March and April

- Area wide pavement treatment works on:
 - Heard Road – Papakura Clevedon Road to Kaipara Road

- Oakland Road – Hingaia Road to Hayfield Way
- Papakura Clevedon Road – 360m section between Hamlin Road and Bullens Road
- Porchester Road – 300m north of Manuroa Road to Popes Road
- Realignment of the Porchester Road -Ingram Street corner

Currently underway

- Railway Street West-Streetscape upgrade works
- Replacement of Gobi block paving from a section of Manuroa Road and Le Havre Place
- Roading improvements on Hingaia Road from approximately 600m west of the Hinau Road intersection

Programmed for June and July

- Installation of guard rail on Hingaia Road near the Drury Creek bridge
- Preparation for re-profile of Accent Point car park entry/exit

STORMWATER WORK

Completed and underway March/April/May

- Replacement of undersized pipes in Wood Street (to Duke Street)
- Manuroa Road undersized pipe replacement
- District-wide manholes and inlet/outlet structure repair work is programmed for May and June 2009.

Programmed for June and July

- Manholes and inlet/outlet structures repairing work have been programmed for May and June 2009 under minor works
- Replanting work Tironui open drain upgrade alongside railway – to be coordinated 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.