

WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL ... IN FOCUS

18 May 2017

MAYORAL COLUMN



May is a busy month for Wairoa District Council and the community. A lot has happened, and there's plenty more coming up. On Tuesday, Rocket Lab conducted a dress rehearsal, and Council crossed off a couple of meetings in chambers for the month. Firstly, I would like to acknowledge and thank the Wairoa community for considering the 2017/18

Annual Plan Consultation Document. Submissions to this document closed last Friday. I also wish to publicly thank all those who have made submissions to the Annual Plan. The Annual Plan document was about seeking feedback from the community and planning projects together. It proposed to accelerate infrastructure developments and investment in the district's future. These projects will see Council investing in transport and tourism infrastructure, investigating how Council can enhance our CBD, investing in our people and providing work experience opportunities for them.



The dress rehearsal at Rocket Lab's Māhia base took place to allow representatives from Council, police, fire, ambulance and the harbour master to refine their co-ordination and public safety protocols. You would have seen in the media that Rocket Lab proposed to fully test their first launch from next week.

It was a huge week for Council, and the Māori Standing Committee, after the Te Reo Māori Policy was adopted. Don't forget, it is now out for public consultation. So you, the people of Wairoa, now have the opportunity to have your say on the policy. We saw huge national media interest after Council adopted the policy last week. I believe it shows the Māori Standing Committee and Council's drive to establish solid foundations towards making Wairoa a fully bilingual community, through the Te Wairoa Reorua 2040 initiative. It was also great to see strong,

positive, feedback from Māori Development Minister Te Ururoa Flavell. At the end of the day, te reo Māori wins. I again must congratulate the MSC for having proactive discussions and developing the Te Reo Māori Policy for the Wairoa community, and we look forward to hearing from the people of Wairoa about our new policy.



The Profit magazine

If you haven't seen this quarter's edition of The Profit, a Hawke's Bay-wide magazine inspiring business in Hawke's Bay, then you must grab yourself a copy. The cover "Wairoa Set To Rock" is exactly the inspiration Wairoa needs as we look towards developing economic opportunities for our region. The fact that a few familiar Wairoa faces - such as Andrew Smids from Sport Hawke's Bay, local sound and music talents Zach Stark and Ratima Hauraki, and mechanic Jake Whyte - feature on this quarter's magazine cover,



The Māori Affairs Select Committee hears submissions from Council's Māori Standing Committee chairperson Kiwa Hammond (centre), who fronted the panel with fellow members Here Nissen (left) and Adrian Manuel (right).

reaffirms just how our community is evolving. I also wanted to take the opportunity to congratulate all those who presented to the Māori Affairs Select Committee about the Iwi and Hapū of Te Rohe o Te Wairoa Claims Settlement Bill last Friday. We commend the many others who had the opportunity to make submissions and speak to the Māori Affairs Select Committee.

FOR YOUR DIARY

COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 20 June: 1.30pm

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 6 June: 1.30pm

MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE

Pūtere Marae, TBC
Thursday, 8 June: 12.30pm

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 27 June: 1.30pm

FINANCE, AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 23 May: 1.30pm

COUNCIL FORUM

Tuesday, 30 May: 1.30pm



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HAWKE'S BAY NEW ZEALAND

MICROCHIPPING AMNESTY

If your dog isn't microchipped, you could face fines of up to \$500 OR under the Dog Control Act 1996, they could be taken to the pound!

Having your dog microchipped costs just \$30. BUT, with the Wairoa District Council's 'microchip amnesties' your dog could be microchipped for free.

You can get your dog microchipped for free on **June 10, from 10 til 2**, at the Māhia Fishing Club or Council carpark.

For more information about the Council's Microchip Amnesties, see www.wairoadc.govt.nz.



RATES REBATE

Do you qualify for a rates rebate?

You might be eligible for a rates rebate of up to \$610.

Applications close on the 30th of June 2017, so make sure you get your application in now.

For more information and rates rebate forms search '#ratesrebate' on the Wairoa District Council website - www.wairoadc.govt.nz or call (06) 838 7309 to talk to one of our rates staff.