

Community Link

Whanganui District Council

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Drews Ave project has street appeal

A plan to install a transformative streetscape in Drews Avenue is gaining impetus after a second co-design workshop was held with key stakeholders last month.

Whanganui District Council's Town Centre Regeneration project manager, Ellen Young, says the February workshop (pictured) refined and consolidated the proposed design. Later this month the wider community will be asked for their feedback on the project.

Ellen Young says the Drews Avenue group – which includes residents, business owners, community groups and iwi representatives – has worked together to create an exciting vision for a welcoming destination. “Our aim is to develop an area with outdoor seating, greenery and games where locals can mingle and visitors can experience Whanganui’s creativity and hospitality.”

After the March community consultation, designer Ben Mitchell-Anyon from Patchwork Architecture will integrate the feedback into a detailed design. The semi-permanent infrastructure will be installed by the end of June, with a street opening celebration planned to tie in with this year’s Lights on Bikes event.



PHOTO: LAMP STUDIOS

Further community input on the changes to Drews Avenue will then be collected until May 2022, which will ultimately inform decisions about whether the alterations are made permanent, modified or removed.

Ninety percent of the project funding comes from central government, through Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency’s Innovating Streets fund. The fund supports councils around the country to trial temporary changes to streets to make them more people-friendly.

Planned works

March 2021

Flood damage recovery (2017 storm event): Whangaehu Valley Road

Unsealed road grading: Rangitatau East Road, Okoia area

Road resealing: Heads Road, Papaiti Road, Whanganui River Road

Cyclepath works: Kowhai Park stopbank (Nile Street to Georgetti Road)

Kerb and channel renewal / footpath renewal / pavement reinstatement: Denlair Road

Water table / culvert maintenance / high shoulder removal: Denlair Road

Vegetation treatment: Kauangaroa Road

Pavement renewal: Heads Road

Rabbit control

Operations at two sites from 15 March

Whanganui District Council contractors will conduct rabbit control operations at **Heads Road Cemetery** and **Bason Botanic Gardens** for **two weeks starting from Monday, 15 March 2021**.

The control operation at Heads Road Cemetery is required because rabbits are undermining graves and headstones with their burrowing. Rabbit control is also needed at Bason Botanic Gardens to reduce damage to lawns and planted areas. **The operations will take place at night between 10.00pm and dawn the next morning** to minimise any disruption to nearby residents and businesses.

The entrances to Heads Road Cemetery and Bason Botanic Gardens will be staffed during the control operations to ensure no one enters the sites. Signs will be in place during this time advising the areas are closed.

Whanganui Police have been required to approve these operations due to the use of firearms in an urban and peri-urban area. Thermal imaging equipment will be used and firearms will use .22 caliber segmented bullets and be fitted with silencers.

Kowhai Park road upgrades Sculpture to seal the deal

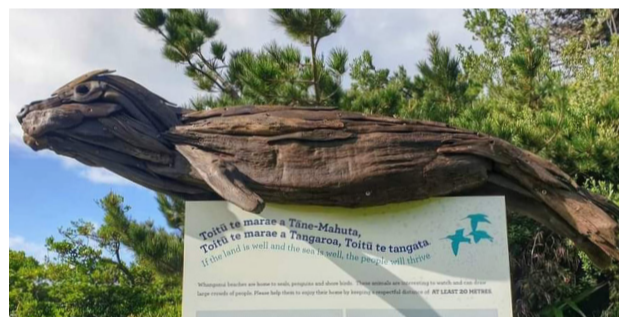
Several sections of the road through Kowhai Park will be upgraded during March. Whanganui District Council parks officer, Claire Lilley, says the main focus of the work is the resurfacing of the roadway alongside Whanganui River.

The entrance to the park’s playground area will also be widened and resurfaced to provide a safer approach for users. “For this to be done a beech tree on the left-hand side of the entranceway facing the playground will need to be removed. The roots from this tree are above ground, which means that any resurfacing work would probably cause damage to the tree.”

Claire Lilley says the tree is also showing signs of decline so the decision has been made to remove it. Once the roading has been finished this area will be replanted.

The work is due to begin in mid-March and will take about a week to complete.

Sculpture to seal the deal



A driftwood sculpture contest open to children aged 5-12 years will be held at Kai Iwi Beach, Mowhanau, this **Saturday, 13 March 2021 from 9.30am-11.30am**. Entry is free. The event will open with the official unveiling of a driftwood sculpture of a seal (pictured) made by local artist Jack Marsden-Mayer.

Family Fun Day on its way

Safety around the home is the focus of Family Fun Day, which will be held at Springvale Stadium on **Saturday, 20 March 2021 from 10.00am-2.00pm**.

Safer Whanganui is hosting this **FREE** event with the support of other Whanganui services and agencies including Whanganui District Council’s Civil Defence Emergency Management team and Fire and Emergency New Zealand. The event will also include face painting, a free sausage sizzle and other activities.

Free family fun day
Creating safer homes together

Child CPR demos
Fire & Emergency
Face painting
Pēpi Pods - safe sleeping wāhākura
Free sausage sizzle
...and lots more!

Saturday 20 March 2021
10am - 2pm
Springvale Stadium
Whanganui

MOST CHILD INJURIES IN THE HOME ARE PREVENTABLE

Safer Whanganui

Parking changes

Public feedback wanted on updates

Whanganui District Council is calling for public input on a proposal to make changes to the parking controls on Victoria Avenue, Wilson Street and Mosston Road, as well as create an offence of inconsiderate parking. All consultation information is available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say

Objections or feedback can be emailed to: policysubmissions@whanganui.govt.nz or dropped into customer services at 101 Guyton Street. Submissions close at **5.00pm on Wednesday, 24 March 2021**.

Council meetings

Meeting this week

Audit and Risk Committee	9.30am Friday 12 March	Nagaizumi-cho Room, 101 Guyton Street
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Agendas: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas
Livestreamed council meetings:
www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil
www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings

WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Whanganui District Council invites you to have your say on these topics:

- Updates of Parking Controls
- 2021 Review of Significance and Engagement Policy
- Changes to Otamatea Speed Limits 2021



For more information, please visit:
www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say