



Community Link

Whanganui District Council

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Tram Shed on board with new fence

Whanganui District Council's Town Centre Regeneration Committee has added another interesting feature to the city's riverfront and market area – this time it's a unique fence around the Tram Shed storage site on Taupo Quay.

Town Centre Regeneration Project Manager, Ellen Young, says reclaimed Oregon timber from the historic Red Shed at Whanganui Port was used to construct the fence.

"It's been nice to have had the opportunity to give this historically significant timber a new lease on life where we can all appreciate it."

The fence contains vintage glass insulators from power lines as decorative elements.

"The insulators are a beautiful colour and will look particularly attractive next to the river. They are a fitting inclusion at the tramshed site, given the tram is electrically powered, and they also reference Whanganui's wonderfully thriving glass arts scene," Ellen Young says.

Town Centre Regeneration Chair, District Councillor Helen Craig, says the fence is another element that will make the area more welcoming to visitors.

"The fence provides a great backdrop for the new public toilets and glass bus shelter, which is used by national bus travellers.



The Tram Shed's new perimeter fence features reclaimed timbers and decorative vintage glass insulators

"We have a wealth of beautiful historic buildings at the entrance to our city and we have been gradually adding artistic elements around the town centre to reflect Whanganui's quirky and creative identity.

"People can expect to see even more in the way of town centre regeneration this year, since we've secured central government funding to develop temporary, vibrant streetscapes in both lower Victoria Avenue and Drews Avenue.

"We'd like to thank the Tramways Trust and Blake Construction for making the fence possible," Cr Craig says.

Whanganui East Aquatic Centre back in swim of things

The Whanganui East Aquatic Centre has opened for pool-side summer fun. Facilities at the centre include a 33-metre main pool, learners' pool, hydroslide, picnic and lawn spaces and shaded areas.

Opening hours during the summer school holiday period are **Monday to Thursday – 11.00am-6.00pm**, and **Friday to Sunday – 11.00am-5.00pm**.

For more information, please contact the Splash Centre on 06 349 0113 or visit: www.splashcentre.co.nz



Stay water safe this summer at local swimming spots

Whanganui District Council reminds people to stay safe while enjoying water activities over the summer months.

Community Wellbeing Manager, Lauren Tamehana, says enjoying swimming and water activities is very much a part of Whanganui life. "But it's important to understand the risks and use this knowledge well when deciding when and where to swim."

She says the dangers around the Wharf Street boat ramp are of concern. "This area is generally unsafe for swimming while boats are being launched. Boats are unable to stop suddenly and there is a high risk of serious injury to swimmers from boat propellers."

The water level in this part of the Whanganui River changes very dramatically. Hidden logs and other debris drift into the area and can make swimming hazardous – and the wharves themselves should be avoided.

Lauren Tamehana says, "Although the port area is fenced off and has signs clearly warning people not to swim, we are concerned that people may still enter this area under the old wharves, putting themselves at serious risk."

Closer to the city, it is also very dangerous to be swimming around the vessels on Town Wharf and around the river boats on Taupo Quay. Swimmers are advised to keep clear when vessels are turning or tying up.

Community heroes time!

If you know someone who's made an outstanding contribution to the community this year, make sure you nominate them for a 2020 Whanganui Community Award. Nominations for the 2020 awards close tomorrow, **Thursday, 14 January 2021, at 5.00pm**.

For more information and to make a nomination, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/community-awards-2020



WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

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

• Climate Change Strategy / Te Rautaki Huringa Āhuarangi

• Dog Control Policy and Bylaw 2021

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



Lake Wairitoa spraying

Herbicide use at lake in late January

To manage the water weed hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) in Lake Wairitoa, Whanganui District Council will spray herbicide in the public swimming and water skiing areas **the week beginning Tuesday, 26 January 2021** (the day after the Wellington Anniversary public holiday).

A boat-mounted spray unit will be used to spray Reglone herbicide, which is specifically formulated for use on submerged aquatic weeds.

Once the spraying is completed, please do not draw water from the lake for bathing or drinking, or use for fish farming or watering livestock. Swimming in the lake will also be prohibited for 24 hours after application of the herbicide.

Requests for tender

Whanganui District Council invites tenders from suitably experienced contractors for the following contracts:

Contract 1881 – Smithfield Road drainage upgrade

Tenders are requested for the design and construction of new in-ground services along Konini Street, London Street and Smithfield Road, and the new wastewater pipeline on Smithfield Road.

TenderLink reference: **WANGDC-950479**
Tenders for this contract must be submitted by **4.00pm on Thursday, 11 February 2021**.

Contract 1904 – Raupo Street stormwater upgrades

Tenders are requested for the design and construction of stormwater upgrades on Raupo Street and Hinau Street.

TenderLink reference: **WANGDC-951329**
Tenders for this contract must be submitted by **4.00pm on Thursday, 18 February 2021**.

Complete information for both of these contracts is available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/request-for-tender
For any other tendering assistance, please contact the council's Senior Procurement Officer, Lana Treen, between 10.00am-3.00 pm weekdays.

Exempt building work

Changes to low-risk building projects

It should now be faster and cheaper to get your home building projects sorted this summer thanks to recent changes to building consent exemptions.

Effective from Tuesday, 1 September 2020, additional building consent exemptions have been added to the Building Act for a number of low-risk building projects. The new exemptions will save building owners time and money by not having to apply to Whanganui District Council for a building consent for some building work.

Anyone wishing to undertake exempt building work should check the revised guidance document from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment before starting a project or engaging tradespeople to undertake the work. They are also strongly encouraged to check the Whanganui District Plan for resource consent requirements.

A full list of the exemptions and guidance material with examples is available at: www.building.govt.nz