

Community Link

Whanganui District Council

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Consultation opens on rates relief

Whanganui District Council has begun consultation on a rates relief package for people and businesses experiencing significant financial hardship as a result of COVID-19.

Mayor Hamish McDouall says the Council recognises that ratepayers severely affected by COVID-19 restrictions may need some flexibility to make payments over a longer period until recovery allows cashflow to improve.

“The Council has an obligation to collect rates, but we do have existing policies which allow for rates postponement or remission under certain criteria. Amendments to our Rates Postponement and Rates Remission policies would allow us to consider cases of hardship related to the unusual circumstances we find ourselves in this year.”

The Council is proposing the ability to postpone rates upon application providing specified criteria have been met and an agreed payment plan is in place. This would allow ratepayers who meet the criteria an extra six months to pay their fourth-quarter 2019/20 rates, and the full year to pay their 2020/21 rates.



Consultation is now open on the proposed changes – submissions close at **4.00pm on Wednesday, 24 June 2020**. Hearing of submissions will be on Wednesday, 8 July 2020 with final adoption by the Council on Tuesday, 14 July 2020. For further submission information, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say-rates

Hazardous waste disposal

After being put on hold for the COVID-19 lockdown, Whanganui District Council's Household Hazardous Waste Day is back. This service gives households the opportunity to register hazardous waste with the Council and drop it off at a given location and time on **Saturday, 20 June 2020**.

It's essential your hazardous waste is registered with the Council and approved before the day. To register, visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/Household-Hazardous-Waste-Day Once registered, the Council will contact you with a drop-off location and time between 9.00am and 1.00pm on Saturday, 20 June. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a “first in, first served” basis. Only registered and approved waste will be accepted.

City Bridge closed overnight

Whanganui City Bridge will be closed overnight **from 7.00pm to 6.00am for four nights from Sunday, 7 June 2020** to complete road resurfacing work on Anzac Parade. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and Higgins will be resurfacing the road from Taylor Street to the Whanganui City Bridge intersection.

During the bridge closure, all trucks must use Cobham Bridge while light vehicles can use either Cobham Bridge or Dublin Street Bridge. Detours will be in place and Higgins will operate a stop-go system at the Anzac Parade-Whanganui City Bridge intersection during the closure. This work is weather dependent and may be postponed until the next fine night.

Be Bright, Be Seen is set to light your way this winter

The popular Be Bright, Be Seen campaign is back to encourage people cycling and walking around Whanganui to light up during the darker winter months. Whanganui Police and members of the Whanganui Bicycle Users Group will be out distributing flyers and free lights to people who need to be more visible on our city's roads and footpaths.

The campaign is an initiative between Whanganui District Council, Horizons Regional Council and Whanganui Police as part of the Let's Go/Mā Ake collaboration.

It is supported by Whanganui Green Bikes, the Whanganui Bicycle Users Group and local cycle shops to ensure greater visibility for all road users.

Police Sergeant Craig Yorston, says, “This year's campaign runs until August and will target people out cycling on shared pathways and cycle lanes during the season's darker mornings and evenings. Police are excited about the opportunity to reward good road behaviour with a fantastic light set that will enable safer riding and visibility.”

June planned works

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

Pavement road maintenance: Hackett Street, Huia Street, Kauangaroa Road, Mangamahu Road, Papaiti Road, Whangaehu Hotel Road

Road resealing: Kauarapaoa Road, Parihauhau Road, Rangitatau East Road, Tokomaru East Road

Unsealed road grading: Kauarapaoa Road, Parihauhau Road, Rangitatau East Road

AWPT renewals: Papaiti Road

Tree removal: Wilson Street

Kerb and channel renewal: Plymouth Street

Footpath renewal: Nelson Street, Plymouth Street

Pavement reinstatement: Plymouth Street

Water table/culvert maintenance: Brunswick Road, Creek Road, Mosston Road

Parking control changes

Amendments in effect 6 July 2020

Pursuant to clause 6 of the Parking Bylaw 2017, Whanganui District Council has confirmed changes to the parking controls on Drews Avenue, Wilson Street, St Hill Street and off Taupō Quay. The amendments come into effect on **Monday, 6 July 2020**.

A copy of the parking control document is available from Council Customer Services at 101 Guyton Street or online at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/parking-controls

Rail crossing closure

Heads Road-Gilberd Street

The Heads Road-Gilberd Street rail crossing will be closed from **8.00am this Saturday, 6 June 2020 until 6.00pm, Sunday, 7 June** for repairs to the railway line.

A detour will be in place and traffic will be required to use Gilberd Street as the bypass. Businesses will be able to operate as usual with access from the Castlecliff end of Heads Road.

Council meetings

You are welcome at our meetings

Upcoming meetings

Property and Community Services Committee	1.00pm Thursday 4 June	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Strategy and Finance Committee	1.00pm Tuesday 9 June	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street
Policy and Bylaw Committee	10.00am Wednesday 10 June	Council Chamber, 101 Guyton Street

• *Keeping of Animals, Poultry and Bees Bylaw*

Agendas are available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas
Full Council meetings are livestreamed at:
• www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil
• www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings

**BE BRIGHT
BE SEEN**

As mornings and evenings get darker, wear lights and reflective clothing whether you are cycling, walking or running.

Logos: WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL, GREEN BIKES, horizons regional council, WHANGANUI BICYCLE USERS GROUP, New Zealand POLICE, LETS GO