



Community Link

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Consultation opens for Annual Plan

Consultation on costings for kerbside services is open after councillors gave the go ahead last week to seek input on Whanganui District Council’s Annual Plan 2022-23 and an amendment to the Long-Term Plan 2021-31.

Mayor Hamish McDouall says, “For this year’s annual plan, I’m pleased to say our rates increase – at 3.9 percent – is one of the lowest in the region and in line with what we indicated it would be last year. Considering the general rate of inflation is close to 6 percent we think this is a good result for our community.”

The council’s long-term plan needs to be amended to formally introduce kerbside recycling and food waste collections and obtain the required funding.

In late 2021, councillors considered community feedback on kerbside collections and voted in favour of the services for environmental reasons. The council’s chief financial officer, Mike Fermor, says the next step has been detailed modelling to “understand how to make the service successful and cost-effective in the Whanganui context”.

The services would be introduced to the Whanganui city urban area and Fordell, Marybank and Mowhanau villages. The targeted rate for households in the collection areas would be \$2.58 weekly for recycling (from mid-2023) and \$1.17 weekly for food waste (from mid-2024).



The estimated targeted rate for household food waste collection from mid-2024 is \$1.17 a week

“The new estimates are in line with what other councils charge – for example, Palmerston North City Council has a targeted rates charge of \$2.50 weekly for kerbside recycling,” Mike Fermor says.

Mayor Hamish McDouall says central government’s transforming recycling plan indicates councils will likely need to provide a kerbside food waste collection in future. “We’re wanting to get ahead on this because food waste that goes into rubbish bins and ends up at the landfill produces methane, which accelerates climate change.”

For more information and to give your feedback, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/annual-plan-2022
Submissions close at 5.00pm on Friday, 29 April 2022.

Have your say on proposed port dredging, reclamation

Whanganui District Council, together with hapū and Te Pūwaha: Whanganui’s port revitalisation project partners are holding a community discussion on proposed dredging, and the possibility of using the dredged materials to create a new ecological and recreational community area for the Whanganui community to enjoy in future.

Te Pūwaha project is the first true community-led exercise for management of a project under the new legal status of the Whanganui River as Te Awa Tupua. As part of its portion of work to revitalise the port, the council will file for dredging and reclamation consent in May 2022.

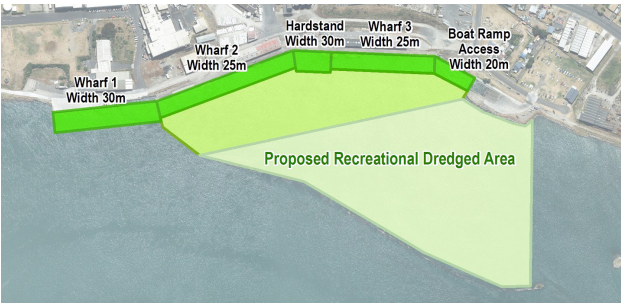
While the Whanganui Port already carries out dredging to provide safe channel for the Coastguard and recreational vessels, the proposed upcoming dredging will enable the rebuild and safe use of the wharves by clearing the port catchment area of sediment, silt, and sand.

While efforts to improve land management in the Whanganui River catchment are being addressed, upstream impacts like deforestation that cause sediment from upriver to flow down, as well as coastal erosion entering on the tide, mean some dredging in the port basin will always be necessary to ensure the port can operate safely and effectively.

Whanganui District Council’s recently appointed chief executive, David Langford, says, “Whanganui District Council has planned investment in strengthening the aged wharves at the Whanganui Port as part of a long-term social, recreational and economic plan for the area.

“The upcoming dredging is yet another project milestone and the council is excited to see this phase of the work coming up in the development of the port,” he says.

The proposal to create a riverside area for the community was developed in collaboration with project partner, hapū collective Te Mata Pūau.



As with all decision-making in Te Pūwaha, it was developed in accordance with work progressing through a Te Awa Tupua lens, recognising the Whanganui River as a living and indivisible whole, inclusive of hapū and the wider community.

Project partners have already begun to engage interested groups, such as those close to the port area, or who use the river for work or recreation, in the conversation on dredging and reclamation.

For more information about the planned dredging and proposed reclamation at Whanganui Port, and to give your feedback with the accompanying survey, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/dredging-survey
The survey closes at 5.00pm on Friday, 22 April 2022.

WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

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

- Te Pūwaha: Community conversation on dredging and reclamation
- Parking Review – Survey
- Annual Plan 2022-2023 and Long-Term Plan Amendment
- Revenue and Financing Policy Update
- Review of Dangerous and Insanitary Building Policy

More details at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say

Hazardous Waste Day

Register household items by 5 April

Households can register with Whanganui District Council to drop-off hazardous waste at a given location on Household Hazardous Waste Day on Saturday, 9 April 2022. You will need to register with the council by **5.00pm on Tuesday, 5 April**. For a full list of items that can be accepted and to register for the day, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/household-hazardous-waste-day

Apply for funding

Whanganui River Enhancement Trust

The Whanganui River Enhancement Trust is calling for funding applications for Whanganui River enhancement projects. Once again, priority for this funding round will be given to applications for innovative environmental projects that help contribute to the health and wellbeing of the Whanganui River catchment. For landowners undertaking environmental work, the trust will consider a subsidy for capital works (such as fencing) of \$2.00 for every \$1.00 put in by the applicant.

A downloadable application form is available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/WRET-fund-2022
Application forms are also available from Whanganui District Council at 101 Guyton Street. Funding applications close at **midnight on Friday, 29 April 2022**.

Rabbit control

Operation runs from next Monday

Whanganui District Council contractors will conduct rabbit control operations at Heads Road Cemetery and Bason Botanic Gardens from **Monday, 4 April to Friday, 8 April 2022**, weather permitting. The work 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 work to ensure no one enters the sites. Signs will be in place during this time advising the areas are closed. More details at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/public-notice

Temporary toilet closure

St Hill Street’s men’s toilets this week

The St Hill Street men’s toilets are closed this week for floor resurfacing work. The closure is to allow the new flooring material to cure. The toilets are expected to reopen from **Monday, 4 April 2022**.

Council meetings

Upcoming meetings

Strategy and Finance Committee	1.00pm Tuesday 5 April	Facebook livestream
Whanganui Rural Community Board	2.30pm Wednesday 6 April	Facebook livestream

Agendas: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas
Livestreamed council meetings: www.facebook.com/whanganuidistrictcouncil
www.whanganui.govt.nz/live-council-meetings