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Shake-up for priority quake routes

Whanganui District Council has identified areas that it proposes to prioritise for the seismic assessment of buildings in order to make our city more resilient in the event of an earthquake.

This work is required under legislation via the Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016.

The period for public submissions is now open for the Proposed Priority Thoroughfares and Routes consultation and the Council wants feedback from the Whanganui community on which roads and footpaths should be included in the priority areas.

The proposed priority areas (shown in orange on the map opposite) have been identified by looking at where there was a high volume of vehicle or foot traffic, and also where emergency services would need to travel in the event of an earthquake.

Once feedback has been presented to councillors and the priority areas have been finalised, buildings in these areas will be assessed to evaluate which of them are priority buildings for earthquake strengthening.

In a medium seismic zone like Whanganui, priority building owners have up to 12.5 years to complete earthquake strengthening – from the date of an earthquake-prone building notice being issued – and other earthquake-prone building owners have up to 25 years.

The Council’s Building Control Manager, Greg Hoobin, says, “The Council will work one-on-one with building owners to give them specific advice on the measures required to strengthen their particular building.”

An information evening for building owners will be held on Monday, 27 May 2019 from 5.30pm-7.30pm at the Whanganui War Memorial Centre.



To view consultation information and to submit feedback online, please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay or email your thoughts to: policysubmissions@whanganui.govt.nz

Hard copies of the proposed plan and submission forms can be picked up from the Council at 101 Guyton Street, Davis Central City Library or Gonville Café Library. Hard copy feedback can be submitted to the Council at 101 Guyton Street. Please indicate whether you would like to speak to your submission and include your contact details.

Submissions close at 5.00pm on Friday, 28 June 2019.

Speed limit changes arrive

Speed limit changes are taking to the road in several locations around Whanganui.

The changes come into effect on Wednesday, 8 May 2019, and are intended as a public safety measure.



Changes include the permanent speed limit that covers the area of Francis and Rapanui roads surrounding Westmere School, which has been lowered from 100km/h to 80km/h. The area of Rapanui Road that lies between State Highway 3 and the intersection with Francis Road has also had its speed limit permanently lowered from 100km/h to 80km/h.

In line with these changes, the variable speed limit around Westmere School on Francis Road has also been reduced, this time from 70km/h to 60km/h.

And for Castlecliff Beach goers, please be aware that the speed limit between the North Mole and the southern bank of Mowhanau Stream has been decreased from 100km/h to 30km/h. The new speed limit is permanent and applies to all vehicles at all times of the year.

Amendments to the Traffic and Speed Limits Bylaw 2017 were adopted by Whanganui District Council on 9 April, 2019 after a period of public consultation.

May planned works

Flood damage recovery: Whanganui River Road (Jerusalem Bluff Retreat) June 2015 event; Makirikiri Valley Road, Parihau Road, Mangahowai Road, Burma Hill Road, Creek Road (June 2017 event)

Pavement road maintenance: Elm Street, Prince Street, Argyle Street, No 2 Line, Mosston Road, Fields Track, Kauangaroa Road, Kauarapaoa Road (unsealed metalling), Rangitatau East Road (unsealed metalling), Parihau Road (unsealed metalling)

Unsealed road grading: Brunswick area, Okoia area, Whangaehu Valley Road, Fields Track

Pavement renewals: No 3 Line

Footpath renewal: London Street cycleway

Stormwater: Mosston Road (Titoki Street to Mill Road), Mill Road, Heads Road (Raupo Street to Mosston Road), Kowhai Street

Tree removal scheduled

Four replacement trees to be planted

Whanganui District Council will remove four trees from the Ingestre Street-to-Guyton Street block as part of its cyclical tree removal and replacement programme within the central business district.

The trees are located around 165 Victoria Avenue, on both sides of the road.

Four new trees will be planted to replace these trees. Work will begin within the next two weeks.

Planned maintenance

Upkeep for public toilets

The **public toilets at Kowhai Park** will be closed from Monday, 13 May until Friday, 17 May 2019 for essential maintenance. They will re-open on Saturday, 18 May.

Whanganui District Council will place a portable toilet in the Kowhai Park carpark while this work is done.

The **top toilets at Bason Botanic Gardens** will also be closed for vital maintenance from Monday, 13 May until Friday, 17 May 2019, and will re-open on Saturday, 18 May.

The bottom toilets located at the reserve’s lower carpark area will remain open as usual.

And the **toilets at Aramoho Cemetery** will be closed from Monday, 13 May until Wednesday, 15 May 2019 for essential maintenance work to the flooring. The Council apologises for any inconvenience.

Council meetings

You are welcome at our meetings

Cancellation

The Reserve Day (Thursday, 9 May 2019) to hear submissions to the 2019/20 Annual Plan is not required and has been cancelled.

Meetings next week

Council Meeting	1.00pm Tuesday 14 May	Heritage House, 136 St Hill Street
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Agendas are available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas or view hard copies at 101 Guyton Street, Davis Central City Library or Gonville Café Library.

WHANGANUI DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

Whanganui District Council is seeking public consultation on the following topic:

- **Proposed Priority Thoroughfares and Routes** (submissions close at 5.00pm on Friday, 28 June 2019)

For more submission information please visit: www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay

The Council is also holding submission hearings and deliberations on the following topics (and dates):

- **Arts and Culture Strategic Plan**
A Statutory Management Committee meeting for submission hearings and deliberations will be held from 9.00am on Wednesday, 16 May 2019
- **Annual Plan 2019/20 Consultation Document**
A Council meeting for submission deliberations will be held from 9.00am on Wednesday, 22 May 2019 (the reserve day is Thursday, 23 May 2019)
- **Water Supply Bylaw / Sports and Recreational Facilities Strategy**
A Statutory Management Committee meeting for submission hearings and deliberations will be held from 9.00am on Thursday, 30 May 2019

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

