

# **Progress Papakura**

## **The draft Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2009-2019**

The consultation period for the LTCCP is under way and concludes at 5.00 pm Monday April 27.

This year, in addition to the hard copy material always offered to the public we have produced a CD version which holds all relevant documents.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What LTCCP documents are available?**

We have produced a Summary document with additional information and a submissions form, and two volumes that cover the proposed plan in details.

#### **Where can I get a copy of the full draft LTCCP document?**

The Summary document and submission form has been distributed in the Papakura Courier and is available from Papakura District Council, 35 Coles Crescent, Papakura, the Sir Edmund Hillary Library at level 4, Accent Point, East Street, Papakura.

A CD or hard copy can be picked up from Council's offices in Coles Crescent, Papakura. All documents are available from the Sir Edmund Hillary Library at Accent Point, East Street, Papakura.

#### **The Royal Commission on Auckland Governance has recommended that urban Papakura be absorbed into Manukau and the rural areas go into a new Hunua council. What does this mean for the draft LTCCP? Should we still make submissions?**

Now more than ever your submissions can make a difference. The Royal Commission's recommendations are being considered by the Government. If adopted it will be the last LTCCP specific to Papakura – so getting feedback on the community's priorities for this final plan is more important than ever.

#### **When do I have to have my submission in by?**

Submissions to the draft LTCCP close at 5.00 pm on Monday 27 April 2009. They can be posted to Freepost 202369, Progress Papakura 2009-2019, Private Bag 7, Papakura or they can be handed over the counter at Council's offices in Coles Crescent, Papakura.

**I have a question about one part of the plan, who should I speak to?**

You can telephone the Council office, 295 1300. If it's a general enquiry a Customer Service officer may be able to help you; if it is a more specialised enquiry you will be put through to the appropriate officer.

**Every member of my group wants to put in a submission, should we all sign one copy of the submission or should we put in one each?**

It is better that members of your group sign one submission. One submission with your members' signatures carries just as much weight with Council as would one submitted by each of you. Costs are also a great deal less.

**What happens after consultation closes?**

All submissions will receive an acknowledgement. In May, the Council's LTCCP committee will meet to consider the submissions and any other matters relating to the LTCCP before deciding what should be included in the final LTCCP..

**I have more to say, am I able to speak in support of my submission?**

The submission form includes a provision for you to state whether you want to speak in support of your submission. If you have ticked the box indicating this, you will be contacted and given a date and time to attend the hearings which will be held at the Council Chambers, 35 Coles Crescent, Papakura.

**Specifics from the LTCCP documents:**

**Papakura's roads have been improved over the last few years, is that programme going to continue?**

Council has budgeted to continue the catch-up with essential roading work. For detailed information on those costs, see Table A in the Summary document (distributed with the Courier; further copies available from Council's offices in Coles Crescent, Papakura or the Sir Edmund Hillary Library at Accent Point). Council is also consulting on whether or not to include additional funding to allow for a catch up of deferred roading maintenance and renewal programmes.

**What about trees and noxious weeds? What work is Council planning?**

Council is responsible to remove noxious weeds from its land and has budgeted for the current level of maintenance of trees on reserves and road berms. A proposal to increase this level of maintenance is also included in the LTCCP Summary document. This greater maintenance will improve the health of the trees and the safety of pedestrians.

A more realistic level of funding than previously provided for has been included in the consultation material but this is not in the current “business as usual” draft budget.

**I’ve heard that more work is going to be done on Central Park. What is planned?**

An opportunity has arisen to purchase the corner site of Wood Street and Railway Street West. This piece of land would give a great deal of flexibility for developing the park and community facilities (such as the Arts and Culture Centre). The cost of the land is expected to be in the region of \$2.5m. The Council wants feedback from the community to help make its decision about whether to buy this land or not.

**Is Council going to improve the Hawkins Theatre so that we can have more live shows?**

Council is considering upgrading the Hawkins Theatre to attract more shows and performances. There are additional costs, some of which would be loan funded, which are expected to be offset by more revenue in future years. Initially a Green Room would be provided, there would be improved ticketing, additional marketing and new sound and video equipment would be installed. At a later date an option could be included to upgrade the seating capacity.

**Will the Papakura ratepayers be paying anything toward the Rugby World Cup?**

Councils throughout the Auckland region have been working together on projects to capitalise on this event. Papakura’s contribution is \$261,000 of the total regional cost of \$7.462m. The Council wants feedback from the community to help make its decision about whether to include this funding in its budget.

**Do all ratepayers have to pay for the Town Centre rate?**

No, the Town Centre Targeted Rate is paid by businesses within a defined area of the District.

**What’s happening at Pahurehure?**

Funding for the removal of mangroves at Pahurehure Inlet remains at \$150,000 but funding for other projects has been reduced by \$100,000 to \$40,000 for 2009/10. Council has decided it will not be proceeding with the tidal gates resource consent (which would have been likely to cost about \$500,000) until water quality issues and solutions to them are identified and the mangroves have been removed.

**Does Papakura help pay for regional attractions like the zoo and museum?**

Yes, it does. Papakura used to pay a separate levy for the Museum and MOTAT. A new law, the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act 2008, means that a number of other facilities are also compulsorily funded by each Council and

are charged on your rates at a uniform rate in the dollar based on the capital value of your property. The new regional activities funded by this charge are:

- Auckland Observatory and Planetarium Trust Board;
- Auckland Philharmonia;
- Auckland Regional Rescue Helicopter Trust;
- Auckland Theatre Company Limited;
- Coastguard Northern Region Incorporated;
- New Zealand National Maritime Trust Board;
- New Zealand Opera Limited;
- Surf Life Saving Northern Region Incorporated;
- The Auckland Festival Trust;
- Watersafe Auckland Incorporated.

Auckland Zoo will also be funded provided it is set up as a separate entity.