

Community Link

Whanganui District Council

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Coastal action plan in development

In coming months Whanganui District Council will work with the community to develop a draft coastal action plan to make Castlecliff and Kai Iwi beaches more resilient in the face of climate change. The key challenges these beaches face include erosion, significant natural sand movement and ecological degradation.

Council graduate policy analyst, Rebecca Dobbin, will support coastal scientist, Jim Dahm, to work with the community to build the plan. They will begin by talking with key stakeholders this month.

“These conversations will help us build the draft coastal action plan, which will go out to the wider Whanganui community for feedback from April,” Rebecca Dobbin says.

Jim Dahm, who has over 30 years’ experience in managing coastal erosion, says he enjoys “the kind of work going on in Whanganui because it’s all about helping empower the community to make good decisions for their beaches”.

“Both Castlecliff and Kai Iwi are well-loved beaches and there’s a lot of local enthusiasm and energy around looking after them,” Jim Dahm says.



Kai Iwi Beach

“A large part of my role is simply to distil specialist technical knowledge so people understand the natural processes going on at the coast, the options for addressing climate change at these locations, and the pros and cons of each option. That has to be integrated with the local knowledge and expertise of the community to ensure the values that are important to people are protected.”

Jim Dahm says he’s looking forward to hearing “what people love about their beaches, how they use them now, what’s important to them, and what they’d like to see enhanced”.

Food Waste Action Week

Food Waste Action Week runs from **7-13 March**, and Whanganui District Council’s climate change advisor, Caroline Arrowsmith, is encouraging households to think about ways to minimise food waste. “The average New Zealand household wastes \$644 of edible food per year. This is a huge environmental problem because food waste in a landfill breaks down without oxygen, accelerating climate change.”

Caroline Arrowsmith says “composting is climate action” and that food waste avoidance tips can be found at: www.lovefoodhatewaste.com

Last year the council voted in principle to introduce a kerbside food waste service from mid-2024. You can submit your feedback on service and cost details during the Annual Plan 2022/23 consultation from Tuesday, 29 March this year.



Temporary toilet closures

Several public toilets in and around Whanganui are having their floors resurfaced over the next few weeks. These toilets will be closed on consecutive weeks during March, with the work scheduled to be completed in early April – alternative facilities are available near the affected toilets:

Bason Botanic Gardens – lower men’s and women’s toilets

These facilities will be closed from **Monday, 14 March 2022** – the closure is expected to take a week to let the new flooring material cure. A Portaloos will be available near these facilities – the top toilets near the Bason’s conservatories are also open from 9.00am-7.00pm, seven days a week.

Rotokawau Virginia Lake – lakeside men’s and women’s toilets

Closed from **Monday, 21 March 2022** for up to a week to allow for curing. The toilets near the Winter Gardens’ entrance are open from 8.00am-8.00pm, seven days a week.

St Hill Street men’s toilets

Closed from **Monday, 28 March 2022** for up to a week to allow for curing. The Orient toilets in the covered walkway leading from the St Hill Street off-street public car park into Victoria Avenue are open 24/7.

Lifeguards and learn-to-swim teachers wanted

The Splash Centre at Springvale Park – Whanganui’s only indoor public pool facility – is looking for lifeguards and learn-to-swim teachers. Splash Centre manager, Dave Campbell, says, “If you like swimming and enjoy working in a team environment, we’re currently looking for reliable and motivated full- and part-time staff to join our whānau at the Splash Centre as lifeguards. There’s extensive training involved with gaining a Pool Lifeguard Practicing Certificate and you’ll need to be a confident swimmer. If you’ve also done the Red Cross’ Comprehensive First Aid training, that’s great – if not, we’ll put you through that as well.”

Pool lifeguards must be confident swimmers, over 16 years of age and be available to work all shifts of a three-week rotating roster, which includes weekdays and weekends. Dave Campbell says, “If you’re an experienced learn-to-swim teacher or perhaps you’re looking to add another string to your bow, then the Aquajet Swim School is the place for you. If you’re reliable and punctual, and have good rapport with children and their parents or caregivers, we’ll gladly put you through the training for this rewarding role.”

If either of these jobs interest you, please send your CV to Dave Campbell at: dave@splashcentre.co.nz



• Review of Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy

Whanganui District Council is seeking feedback on a review of its Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy. In particular, the council is proposing changes to the way heritage buildings are managed and is proposing drafting improvements. For all consultation information and to submit your feedback via an online submission form, please visit:

www.whanganui.govt.nz/have-your-say

You can also email your thoughts to:

policysubmissions@whanganui.govt.nz

Hard copies of the consultation document and submission form are available from the Davis and Gonville libraries. Submissions close at **5.00pm on Friday, 13 May 2022**.



Whanganui is at Red

Council services in COVID-19 setting

As cases of COVID-19 continue to increase in the Whanganui District it is highly likely that Whanganui District Council services and facilities will be affected at some point due to positive cases or staff having to isolate. This may mean the council needs to close facilities like customer services at 101 Guyton Street, district and community libraries, and pools and venues with little notice to the public. Please bear with us as we work to keep services accessible where we can, for as long as we can. Our focus is on keeping the wider community and our staff as safe and well as possible during the coming weeks. Information about COVID-19 protocols in council facilities is available at: www.whanganui.govt.nz/covid-19

Lane diversions / closure

Glasgow-London streets intersection

Powerco contractor Electrix will upgrade and relocate the power transformer at the Glasgow Street-London Street intersection next to the Z Service Station from **Monday, 14 March to Thursday, 17 March 2022**. Lane diversions for traffic travelling north or south at this intersection will be in place during the four days of scheduled work. The Z Service Station will remain OPEN during the entire work period.

PLEASE NOTE: A detour route will operate for traffic turning into Glasgow Street from London Street on **Thursday, 17 March – this lane will be closed from 4.00am to 6.30pm** to allow for the final phase of work. Northbound traffic will need to continue along London Street and turn right into Victoria Avenue – detour signs will be in place to show the alternative route.

Request for proposal

Contract 1974 – Library Collection Procurement 2022

Whanganui District Council invites tenders from suitably experienced contractors for the supply of shelf-ready material for the general reading collection of Whanganui District Library, using the Koha integrated library system to manage the collection procurement cycle. TenderLink reference: **WANGDC-1010302** The tender deadline is **4.00pm on Thursday, 7 April 2022**. For tender documents and TenderLink registration information, please visit: portal.tenderlink.com/whanganui For TenderLink enquiries, please call 0800 698 363. For any other tendering assistance, contact the council’s senior procurement officer, Lana Treen, on 06 349 3105 between 10.00am-4.00pm weekdays or email: lana.treen@whanganui.govt.nz

Council meetings

Upcoming meetings

Audit and Risk Committee	1.00pm Thursday 10 March	Facebook livestream
Council Meeting	1.00pm Tuesday 22 March	Facebook livestream

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