

newsline THE MAG

PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE TASMAN AND NELSON REJECTED

The poll on whether residents in Tasman and Nelson wanted their Councils to amalgamate has returned a resounding 'no' vote. Tasman District Council will continue to operate as is, with its focus firmly on its Long Term Plan process, which will shape the Council's activities over the next 10 years.

The amalgamation poll, which ran in both Tasman and Nelson and required more than 50% of voters in each area to vote in favour for it to progress, was resoundingly rejected in Tasman with close to 75% of voters voting against. The vote in Nelson was far closer with a slim majority of 57% voting for the proposal. Under the rules of the poll that gave a clear result and the proposal was rejected.

Tasman District

Progress result as at 12.30 pm for the Amalgamation Poll held on Saturday 21 April 2011 is as follows:

Votes cast FOR the Proposal	5,671	25.48%
Votes cast AGAINST the Proposal	16,532	74.31%
Informal voting documents	5	
Blank voting documents	40	

The progressive voting return percentage on Saturday was 62.94% with 22,248 votes received.

Nelson City

The progress result as at 12.30 pm for the Amalgamation Poll held on Saturday 21 April 2011 is as follows:

Votes cast FOR the Proposal	10,276	56.69%
Votes cast AGAINST the Proposal	7,813	43.10%
Informal voting documents	5	
Blank voting documents	32	

The voting return percentage is currently 50.88% with 18,126 votes received.

THIS WEEK:

07. Cycle Trail Sponsorship

03. Representation Review

08. Youth Awards

04. Draft RLTP – A Summary

09. Pest of the Month

MAYOR'S COMMENT

THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN – IT'S TIME TO MOVE FORWARD

The people of Tasman and Nelson have spoken with the majority of those that chose to vote believing the current two Council structure enables the most appropriate representation for our communities.

Parties on both sides of the debate need to thank those who took the opportunity to vote, for without them we would not have had the finality we have today.

This debate has been going on for some time with both sides of the argument being publicised. Proponents of both sides have passionately expressed their views. The poll was not about which was right or wrong but a question about which governance model the residents in Nelson and Tasman prefer. The results speak for themselves.

As the retention of the Tasman District and Nelson City was the view preferred by the majority of voters it is the view which will determine our future – that is how democracy works.

As elected representatives of our communities we now have a duty to ensure the wishes of the voters are realised.

I am personally committed to working with the Nelson City Council, and any other coalition of Councils, such as the Top of the South and the South Island Strategic Alliance, especially where that work can lead to delivering either better or more efficient services.

One of the positive aspects of the debate is that it has generated a relatively high level of community engagement with the number of returned voting papers surpassing the number of votes returned for Council elections. This level of engagement is valuable as both

Councils focus their energies on delivering the services their residents wish for.

There were a number of people who voted in favour of an amalgamation and their views should not be discounted. As a Council that is consistently looking to enhance our service delivery we will be taking note of the views expressed.

Throughout the debate there have been claims of lost opportunities because of the two council governance structure. I invite those who wish to, to contact me and I will raise those matters for discussion between the Councils.

Ironically the proposal to unite the two Councils has been divisive. This is understandable when people are so passionate about the place they live, however, we now have to move on and work together to deliver the governance and services that this region deserves.

The two Councils already have about 40 shared services which achieve either better levels of service or cost efficiencies for our areas. We need to build on these and to provide the best governance we can, whilst retaining our current strong representation of the communities we serve.

Mayor Richard Kempthorne



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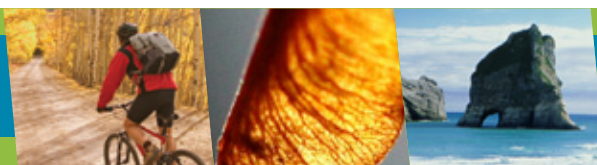
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QUESTIONS DRIVEN BY THE OUTCOME

During last weekend a number of statements were made regarding the putting forward of another amalgamation proposal for the Local Government Commission and the people of the region to consider.

Under the current law a reorganisation proposal can be put forward:

- a. By resolution of one or more of the local authorities affected by a reorganisation proposal where it has the consent of other affected local authorities; or
- b. By the Minister of Local Government; or
- c. By a petition signed by at least 10 percent of electors of each of the affected districts.

Under the current law a reorganisation proposal can be put forward at any time. The Local Government Commission on receipt of a new proposal may decline to proceed with a reorganisation proposal on the grounds

that it is the same or substantially similar to a proposal that has been considered, declined or abandoned within the previous three years.

However, if a different proposal is put forward then that could proceed provided it was through any one of the described pathways.

There has also been some discussions regarding the proposed central Government's reforms with regard to Local Government and whether the changes will make it easier for amalgamation proposals to go ahead.

In order for the current process to be changed, the Local Government Act 2002

will need to be amended. The Government is starting this process at the moment and has indicated it is likely to make amalgamation of councils easier. The changes to the legislation are likely to be enacted later this year. What the changes actually mean will be decided by the changes to the legislation that finally gets enacted.

While the Government has stated earlier that it will not force amalgamations and that it is the preference of ratepayers that must determine their future governance they have indicated the current process is to be amended to streamline any such application.

REPRESENTATION REVIEW

Amidst the recent amalgamation debate has been the requirement for the Council to undertake a representation review. Now that the proposed amalgamation is not proceeding, Council will need to complete the representation review of elected members, wards and community boards.

This is a process Council is required to undertake every six years under the Local

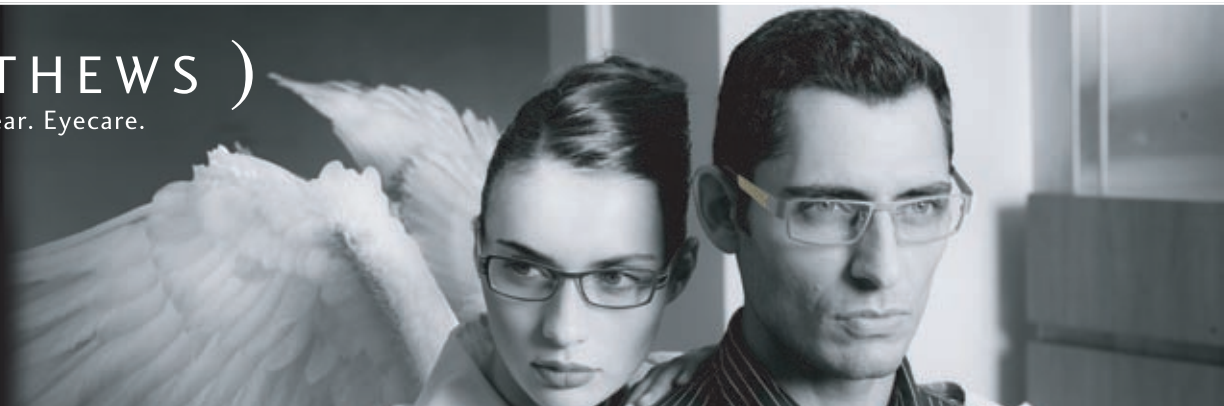
Electoral Act 2001. The Council has had start this process immediately to meet the statutory timeframe. Public advertisements for the process will be published soon.

The Tasman District Council has already identified that its current membership, ward structure, and community board structure, is the most appropriate.

The public will have the opportunity to submit on the proposal to retain the status quo. Any submissions will mean it will go to the Local Government Commission for a decision.

It should be noted this process is completely independent of the amalgamation process and proposal.

(MATTHEWS)
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Nelson 03 548 3249

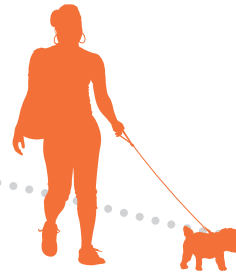
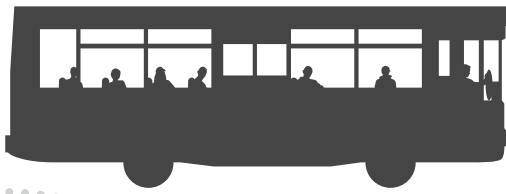
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DRAFT TASMAN REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME 2012-2022 – A SUMMARY



Background

This document provides a summary of the Draft Tasman Regional Land Transport Programme 2012-2015 (RLTP). The RLTP is a three year programme of activities for the financial years 2012/13; 2013/14 and 2014/15.

In essence, the draft RLTP is the region's bid for funding support from central government's Land Transport Fund. The RLTP also includes a financial forecast of anticipated expenditure and funding sources for the activities for the 10 financial years from 2012 to 2022.

The RLTP contains all activities proposed by Tasman District Council and all those proposed by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA). NZTA operates the State Highways.

The RLTP provides regional coordination and a mechanism for prioritising proposed activities. The activities proposed by NZTA are not subject to consultation through any other process. Therefore, any submissions on any activities proposed by NZTA should be made through the RLTP.

For activities proposed by Tasman District Council, the Tasman Regional Transport Committee (TRTC) is seeking comment on the balance of activities in the programme and the priority level they have been ranked with, rather than detailed cost and timing issues. This is because Tasman District Council has already consulted on the proposed activities and expenditure through the Draft Long Term Plan process (March – April 2012).

Responsibility for preparing this draft RLTP lies with TRTC. However, Tasman District Council is responsible for the delivery of the programme. It must be stressed that this programme is a forecast of anticipated revenue and expenditure plus a proposal for funding support from the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF), therefore not a funding commitment.

Delivery of the programme is reliant on Tasman District Council and NZTA securing the funds and delivering the programme.

Tasman Regional Transport Committee

The Regional Transport Committee is formed under the auspices of the Land Transport Management Act of 2003.

Under the terms of the Act, the RTC is required every six years to develop a Regional Land Transport Strategy. Additionally, it must also develop a three yearly RLTP and lodge this with Tasman District Council for approval. The committee comprises of elected members from the Council, representatives from NZTA, and community representatives with expertise in the transport and mobility sectors.

Overview of three year programme

A summary of the total expenditure on activities submitted is presented in the following table. This shows a breakdown of expenditure over the next three years.

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Activity Class	Funding Ranges			
	11/12 Allocation \$m	12/13 \$m	13/14 \$m	14/15 \$m
New and improved infrastructure for State Highways	1036	875/1150	900/1200	950/1300
Renewal of State Highways	202	180/220	180/220	180/220
Maintenance and operation of State Highways	300	255/325	255/325	255/350
New and improved infrastructure for local roads	132	130/180	130/185	130/190
Renewal of local roads	236	190/250	190/250	190/250
Maintenance and operation of local roads	251	205/300	205/300	205/300
Road policing	302	280/310	280/310	280/310
Public transport services	220	220/290	230/300	240/330
Public transport infrastructure	57	20/60	20/60	20/60
Road safety promotion	38	29/36	29/36	29/36
Walking and cycling	15	12/30	12/30	12/30
Sector research	6	3/5	3/5	3/5
Transport planning	32	14/23	14/23	14/23
Management of the funding allocation system	32	26/30	26/30	26/30

continued on page 6...

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Proposed regional priorities

The RTC is required to determine a regional priority for all activities proposed by NZTA and activities purposed by Tasman District Council. A detailed description of the prioritisation process is included in the full RLTP. On the basis of an assessment process the RTC has determined the following regional priority order for the proposed activities: (see table opposite)

The full draft Regional Land Transport Programme also contains:

- An overview and introduction
- An explanation of the strategic context
- An assessment of how the programme meets core legislative requirements
- An assessment of the relationship of police activities to the programme
- An overview of the proposed monitoring of implementation

Copies of the full draft Regional Land Transport Programme are available for reference at:

- Council service centres and libraries throughout the Tasman district.
- Online from <http://www.tasman.govt.nz/link/rltp>



Draft RTC Priority	Description	Who Responsible
1	Three Roundabouts Study (Champion/Salisbury Roundabout upgrade)	Council
2	Heavy Vehicle route upgrade Investigation (MDF* plant to port)	NZTA
2	Heavy vehicle route upgrade Design (MDF* plant to port)	NZTA
2	Heavy Vehicle upgrade Construction (MDF* plant to port)	NZTA
5	Heavy Vehicle route upgrade Investigation (Eighty Eight Valley to port)	NZTA
5	Heavy vehicle route upgrade Design (Eighty Eight Valley to port)	NZTA
5	Heavy Vehicle route upgrade Construction (Eighty Eight Valley to port)	NZTA
8	Queen Street/Salisbury Road intersection Design	Council
8	Queen Street/Salisbury Road intersection Upgrade	Council
10	Moutere Highway/Waimea West intersection Design	Council
10	Moutere Highway/Waimea West intersection Upgrade	Council
12	Motueka Valley curve widening Design	Council
12	Motueka Valley curve widening Upgrade	Council
14	Moutere Highway curve widening Design	Council
14	Moutere Highway curve widening Upgrade	Council
16	Improvements Lower Queen /Lansdowne intersection Design	Council
16	Improvements Lower Queen /Lansdowne intersection Upgrade	Council
18	McLean's Corner Realignment Design	Council
19	Motueka Valley Narrow Bridge realignment Design	Council
20	Hill/Champion intersection Upgrade	Council
21	Wensley Road improvements Design	Council

*Medium Density Fibreboard

Make a Submission

Submission forms can be downloaded from <http://www.tasman.govt.nz/link/rltp>. Submissions must be made by 4 pm on Monday 21 May 2012 to:

RLTP submissions
 Tasman District Council
 Private Bag 4
 Richmond 7050
 Email: info@tasman.govt.nz

Your submission should include:

- Full name and contact details for service
- If submitting on behalf of an organisation, include the name of the organisation as well as your name and position
- Whether you wish to be heard in support of your submission

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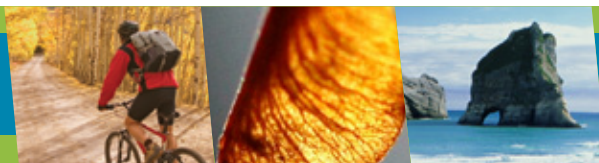
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TASMAN'S GREAT TASTE TRAIL SECURES SPONSORSHIP

Tasman's Great Taste Trail, part of the national Nga Haerenga project to build a network of world class cycle trails in New Zealand, has received a significant boost from three local organisations, helping ensure the project remains on track.

Nelmac, which has donated \$10,000, has joined the Nelson Regional Economic Development Agency (EDA) and Nelson Airport, who each donated \$20,000 to the project.

Nelmac chief executive Lee Babe said the company was keen to be involved in the project, which will bring real economic and social benefits to all of the communities that it passes through on its loop around the Tasman District. He said that the project was aligned with Nelmac's philosophy and was a positive way for the company to "give something back".

Official Partners of the trail receive a number of benefits as well as a section of 'virtual trail'. Nelmac has chosen the section of trail that runs along the estuary at the end of Sandeman Road in Richmond, which has been marked using GPS and documented on an official certificate.

Trust chairman David Bonnett hoped the three generous sponsorships so far confirmed would set the tone for more corporate sponsorship. "The Trail, which is nearing completion of stage one, is already bringing the economic and community benefits that we always knew it would to the region. Funding, however, for the second and final stages is something that we are actively working on as we do need to generate additional funds to be able to complete our work. We have a whole host of willing volunteers doing super work in their communities to help raise money and with larger sponsors like Nelmac, Nelson Airport and the EDA coming onboard we are making some very positive gains. I have every faith that with the level of goodwill we have across the whole region we will be able to complete the project."

Nelson Cycle Trails Trust Chief Executive Fiona Newey said over 100,000 metres of "virtual trail" is for sale in total and the trust is keen to invite other businesses, organisations, groups or individuals to get



involved. The minimum purchase is just \$40 for two metres. The Mapua District Business Association has reserved one kilometre of the virtual trail that it plans to sell in sections to help fundraising. For further details on virtual trail ownership, fundraising events and general trail information visit the NTCTT's website www.heartofbiking.org.nz

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HERITAGE BUILDINGS IN FOCUS DURING APRIL

World Heritage Day, which fell on April 18, had a theme this year of “World Heritage and Sustainable Development – the role of local communities”. The Waimea West Community Hall is a great example of how this theme is being supported in the Tasman District with the community instigating the scheduling of their hall as a heritage building.

The Waimea West hall is one of three listed heritage buildings in Waimea West Road, near Brightwater. The other buildings are St Michaels Church and the Gables, which was formerly a coaching inn and shop. The wooden hall building was constructed in 1884 and was used as the Waimea West School until 1938. Today it is used as the clubrooms for the Waimea West Tennis Club and is a focus for community events in Waimea West.

For further information about listed heritage buildings in the Tasman District contact Rose Biss on Ph. 03 543 8400, Email rose.biss@tasman.govt.nz or check the Council website www.tasman.govt.nz.



AWARDS RECOGNISE YOUTH WHO GIVE SOMETHING BACK

It's time to recognise the voluntary efforts of the young people who make our communities better places to live.

Nominations are open for the 2012 Nelson Tasman Youth Volunteer Recognition scheme, and Jan Glover from Volunteer Nelson believes it's important to acknowledge the voluntary input of young people, aged 12-25.

This is the eighth year young people's efforts have been celebrated; however this year the awards will not be judged. Jan says all young people nominated will go in the draw to win an 8gb iPod touch, with those making the nominations going into a draw to win dinner for two at Stefanos in Nelson and a movie voucher from State Cinema.

Winners will be announced at the annual Youth Volunteer Recognition celebration evening at the New Hub, on Thursday 21 June 2012, as part of Volunteer Awareness week.

A selection of local youth performances, exhibitions and guest speakers will also feature during the evening.

Nominations can be made on line via www.jamonline.co.nz, or nomination form can be collected from Tasman District Council. Nominations close 1 June 2012.

For more information contact Volunteer Nelson on Ph. 03 546 7681 ext 1 or Email: nvc@ts.co.nz.

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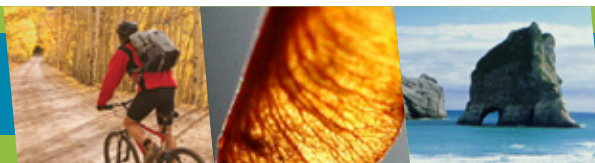


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PURPLE PAMPAS

South American pampas grass is represented by two species (*Cortaderia jubata* and *C. selloana*) in New Zealand and is often called toi-toi or cutty grass. In the past, it has been widely planted as a fodder supplement for cattle, shelter, erosion control and as an ornamental.

Both species have become naturalised and are now a major weed problem in plantation forests throughout New Zealand and both are prohibited from sale and propagation. The higher risk posed by purple pampas (*C. jubata*) has been recognised in our Regional Pest Management Strategy where it is designated as a 'Containment pest plant' that occupiers must control.

As well as plantation forests, it also invades regenerating bush margins, open scrublands and coastal areas. Uniquely, all plants are female, and have the ability to produce viable seed without the need for pollination which are then wind-dispersed over long distances.

Flowering time is the key to identification. Purple pampas begins to flower in late January and continues through to March. Flowers are erect, dense and always pink-purple, fading to cream with age. By comparison, *C. selloana* generally doesn't start flowering until mid-March and may have pink or cream flowers.

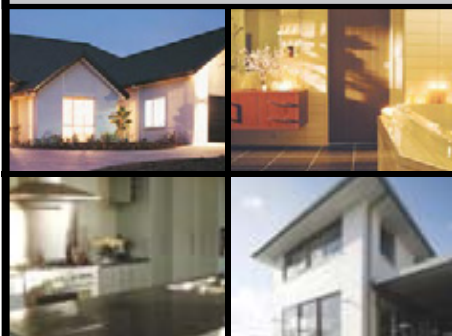
The other feature that helps identify purple pampas is its cascading leaves, many with tips to ground level that are dark green on both the upper and lower surfaces. Usually the only visible sign of this plant in scrubby country are the erect flower heads as the drooping leaves often go unseen.

As these two pampas species are often mistaken for each other, Biosecurity Officers at Tasman District Council are happy to confirm identification and advise on control options.



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WRITE CHOICES

NEWS FROM THE TASMAN DISTRICT LIBRARIES

Sign language at Takaka Library

If you watched the press conferences after the Christchurch earthquakes you'll have seen expert sign language translation in action.

Now's your chance to try it yourself. Come along to Takaka Library on Thursday 3 May 2012, 11.00 am – 11.45 am for a free sign language taster course.

Family History Courses at Richmond Library

Want to start doing your Family History but don't know where to begin? Enrol in one of our courses at Richmond Library.

- Introduction to Family History (two sessions) on Thursday 3 & 10 May 2012,

10.00 am – 12.00 noon or Saturday 5 May 2012, 9.30 am – 1.00 pm.

- Explore FindMyPast, our new family history database, on Friday 18 May 2012, 10.00 am – 12 noon.

(Participants should have completed our Introduction to Family History course or have experience of online searching)

Numbers are limited so phone 03 543 8500 now to enrol.

NZ Post Children's Book Awards

NZ Post Children's Book Awards celebrate the best of NZ books for children and teenagers. And we have some fun activities planned for you.

This year we have activities at all our libraries for you from Catch the Cat and The

Illuminated Pyjama Party at Motueka to a scavenger hunt at Richmond to The Big Read at each of our libraries.

For more details check out our website www.taslib.govt.nz or ask at your local library.

NZ Music month

May is NZ music month – a time to celebrate the fabulous talent and creativity of NZ musicians and songwriters.

This year we're offering you an opportunity to explore NZ music.

For every NZ music CD you borrow from the library, you can borrow another CD of your choice for free.

Head into your local library and find something new to listen to.

MURCHISON MUSEUM MILITARY MONTH

The community of Murchison has again supported their Museum by loaning it their Military Treasures to create another worthwhile and interesting display for the month of April.

Along with artefacts the Museum already holds, most of the wars have been covered including a medal from the Boer War, post cards home and field glasses from WWI, medals, photos and a field cooker from WW II, a Samurai sword, Gurka's knives, American and Japanese flags and some amazing stories with items from Korea and Vietnam. The collection also covers the Women's Land Army, The Murchison Home Guard and the Territorial Army.

This is the third display at the Museum, following a rugby display during the World Cup and a second big display involving the wider community's items.

"It is amazing how many of our community were, or still are, involved in the Forces.

We appreciate the effort made by the community and these displays certainly add a buzz to the museum with a lot more stories yet to be told", said a museum spokesperson.

Credit also goes to the volunteers who man the building, keeping the treasures safe and operating the building for the public.

The display will continue throughout April 2012, finishing after ANZAC day.

The Museum is open from 11.00 am – 3.00 pm, entry by donation.

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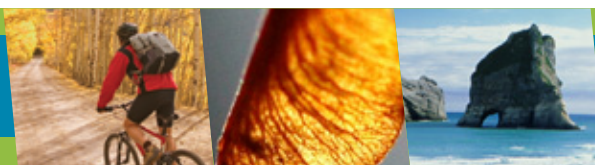
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NEWS UPDATE

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Intention to Change of Reserve Classifications

Pursuant to Section 24 of the Reserves Act 1977, the Tasman District Council gives notice of its intention to change the classification of portions of the Tapawera and Brightwater Recreation Reserves. The affected portions of the respective reserves are utilised for the following activities:

Tapawera Recreation Reserve – Toy Library, and Playcentre

Brightwater Recreation Reserve – Pinegrove Kindergarten

It is considered desirable to change the classifications of the relevant portions of the reserves from Recreation Reserve to Local Purpose (Community Buildings) Reserves. This will more correctly align the current uses of the reserves to a more appropriate reserve classification.

The intention is to have current uses reflected in the reserve classifications. This process is essentially an administrative action and there is no intention to change any current activities on these reserves. Recreation uses on these reserves will continue as they do now, and those portions of the reserves will retain Recreation Reserve status.

Some car parking areas will be included in the change of classification process, but the car parks will remain available for all reserve users, as they are now. The change of classification for the Brightwater Reserve will be slightly larger than the land occupied by the Kindergarten at present. This is partly to minimise survey costs and partly to provide for potential expansion.

For plans of the portions of the reserves intended for changes of classification, and to make further enquiries, please contact Robert Cant at Tasman District Council – robert.cant@tasman.govt.nz, Ph 03 543 8400.

Submissions or objections on the proposed classification changes should be made in writing, to the address below, and must be received no later than 4.00 pm on Monday 28 May 2012.

Tasman District Council, Private Bag 4, Richmond.

24 Hour Assistance – Phone your local office

Richmond 03 543 8400 Motueka 03 528 2022
Murchison 03 523 1013 Takaka 03 525 0020

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Notice of Meeting – Wakefield Community Council

AGM – Tuesday 8 May 2012, 7.30 pm

St Johns Worship Centre, Edward Street, Wakefield.

New members welcome.



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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Agendas and Minutes for Council Meetings can be viewed on Council's website at www.tasman.govt.nz

Long Term Plan Hearings

Fire Brigade Hall, Motupipi Street, Takaka, Tuesday 1 May 2012, 10.00 am.
No public forum

Long Term Plan Hearings

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Wednesday 2 May 2012, 1.30 pm. *No public forum*

Tasman District Council

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 3 May 2012, 9.30 am. *Public forum*

Long Term Plan Hearings

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Thursday 3 May 2012, 1.30 pm. *No public forum*

Long Term Plan Hearings

Tasman Council Chambers, 189 Queen Street, Richmond, Friday 4 May 2012, 9.30 am. *No public forum*



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NEW SIGNS HELP STOP SKATEBOARDING IN THE RICHMOND CBD

New signs are being erected on Queen Street and in Sundial Square in Richmond to remind people that skateboarding (including rollerblades, roller skates, in-line skates or similar) is prohibited in the central business areas of Richmond.



The reason for the skateboard ban is to help ensure the safety of all individuals who use Richmond's CBD. Skaters are asked to carry their board or skates whilst in the restricted area.

Council is very pro-skateboarding in general and actively seeks to promote the sport within the Tasman District.

Tasman currently has six skateparks: Richmond, Motueka, Takaka, Tapawera, Brightwater and Mapua, with Mapua

skatepark scheduled to undergo an extension in the near future. All of Council's skateparks are designed following extensive community consultation to ensure they are the very best they can be.

Council also promotes, organises and runs the annual Tasman Skatepark Tour. The Tour features competitions for skateboards, bikes and scooters at each of the six skateparks during January. The tour is in its sixth year, is extremely well attended and attracts a

diverse range of community members from varying social-demographic backgrounds.

Council sees skateparks as valuable community assets, they offer a place where young (and old) people can gather, be physically active, learn, share and interact with each other.

Please be considerate to other users of footpaths in the central area of Richmond and carry your skateboard.



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