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COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 2014

10 year public transport plan out for feedback

GETTING AROUND THE WAIKATO
Have your say on the Draft Regional Public Transport Plan

Find out more about the future of our region's transport, and the proposed bus network changes
www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/RPTP

Submissions close 15 December 2014

Waikato REGIONAL COUNCIL

Waikato Regional Council is holding an information day this Thursday for people wanting more information about the draft regional public transport plan.

The plan sets out what services will be delivered and how over the next 10 years and is now open for feedback from the public.

It has been drafted following consultation with a number of key stakeholders including public transport operators, the New Zealand Transport Agency, city and district councils throughout the region and the Ministry of Education.

The council has also talked to a variety of community groups who represent the business, public health, education and access and

[Regional Transport Committee](#)

Monday 3 November
2014 – 10.00am

[Hamilton Public Transport Joint Committee](#)

Tuesday 4 November
2014 – 10.00am

[Lake Taupo Zone Subcommittee](#)

Tuesday 4 November
2014 – 10.00am

[West Coast Zone Subcommittee](#)

Wednesday 5 November
2014 – 10.00am

[Coromandel Liaison Zone Subcommittee](#)

Thursday 6 November
2014 – 10.00am

[Waikato Central Drainage Subcommittee](#)

Friday 7 November 2014
– 10.00am

[Thames Valley Drainage Subcommittee](#)

Monday 10 November
2014 – 10.00am

[Waipa Zone Subcommittee](#)

Tuesday 11 November
2014 – 10.00am

[Waihou Piako Zone Subcommittee](#)

Wednesday 12 November
2014 – 10.00am

[Lower Waikato Liaison Zone Subcommittee](#)

Thursday 13 November
2014 – 9.30am

[Aka Aka Otatau Drainage Subcommittee](#)

Friday 14 November 2014
– 9.00am

[Civil Defence Emergency Management Group](#)

Friday 14 November 2014
– 10.00am

mobility sectors.

The majority of network changes proposed in the plan will affect bus services in Hamilton. Implementation of a new Hamilton urban bus network will be staged from 2016 to 2018 to coincide with the expiry of existing bus contracts.

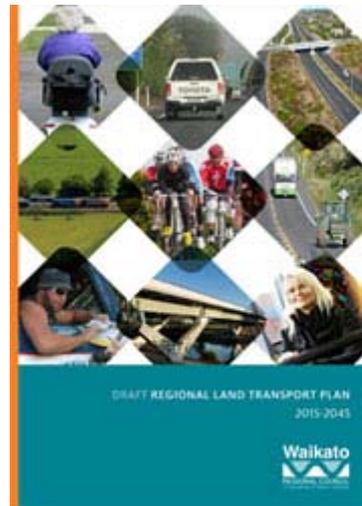
Public consultation on the draft plan closes at **5pm on Monday 15 December**. Visit www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/rptp to read the draft plan and make a submission.

The information day is being held at Hamilton's transport centre in Bryce Street from 8am-3pm on Thursday 13 November. Keep an eye on the [BUSIT Facebook page for details](#) of more information days.

Out now: Land transport plan for public comment

In some way we all use and rely on Waikato's land transport system. So you might be interested in the Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2015-2045 which has the potential to bring \$4 billion in Government funding to the Waikato.

You have until **5pm on Monday 15 December** to make a submission. [Read the draft plan and find out how to have your say here.](#)



Celebrating 150 years with \$1.50 fares

Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee

Tuesday 18 November
2014 – 11.00am

Waikato Spatial Plan Joint Committee

Monday 24 November
2014 – 12.00 noon

Hearings Appointment Subcommittee (if required)

Tuesday 25 November
2014 – 9.30am

Strategy and Policy Committee

Tuesday 25 November
2014 – 10.00am

Environmental Performance Committee

Tuesday 25 November
2014 – 1.00pm

Finance Committee

Wednesday 26 November
2014 – 10.00am

Integrated Catchment Management Committee

Thursday 27 November
2014 – 1.15pm



To celebrate Hamilton turning 150 years old this year, Waikato Regional Council is **giving everyone \$1.50 bus fares on Saturday 22 November**.

The city party being held that day runs from 3pm-9pm.

“It’s fantastic to be able to support this celebration and give people an affordable alternative to getting into the city for the festivities, as well as encourage people who might not have travelled by bus to give it a go,” said the council’s public transport operations manager, Ben Barlow.

“All bus travel within the city boundary is being set at \$1.50 that day – whether you’re attending the party or not, so visit www.busit.co.nz to plan your journey,” Mr Barlow said.

SuperGold card holders and children aged under five years will still travel for free.

Most urban services on the weekend run until about 6pm, so the regional council is putting on extra Night Rider buses to allow people to bus to and from the event in the evening.

The Night Rider services will depart from Anglesea Street outside the old Farmers building (Night Rider East) and outside Freedom (Night Rider West) until midnight. The 1am, 2am and 3am services will depart from the normal terminus on the corner of Victoria and Hood streets.

Meanwhile, as a result of road closures taking place in the central city there will be diversions for a number of buses. See the **[BUSIT website for details](http://www.busit.co.nz)**.

‘Walking the talk’ with mudfish in Hamilton



By day, they work at Waikato Regional Council to help manage natural resources and protect the environment.

In their spare time they've also been "walking the talk" by working together on a project to protect and restore the environment for native species.

At the weekend, council staff from different parts of the organisation were involved in the final stage of a project to restore native mudfish to a specially created wetland area beside the Mangakotukutuku Stream at Sandford Park in Melville, Hamilton.

"The stream contains the best range of rare and threatened native fish in Hamilton," said Mangakotukutuku Stream Care Group chairman Grant Blackie, the council's farming and forestry manager.

"Bringing the mudfish back is a key project in our group's efforts to restore native aquatic species in Hamilton."

The group is working to restore biodiversity at a range of sites in and around the stream, which runs from south of the city to join the Waikato River near Hamilton Gardens.

[Read more about the project.](#)

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[Forward to a friend](#)

Save the date: Raglan bar crossing course



Another popular Raglan bar crossing course for boaties is being held on **Sunday 23 November**.

The course, provided by Raglan Volunteer Coastguard with the support of Waikato Regional Council, will provide boaties with tips on how to safely navigate the treacherous Raglan bar which has been the scene of some serious boating mishaps over the years.

The course is being held at the Raglan Bowling Club on the corner of James and Wallis streets in Raglan.

Registration begins at 8.30am and the course itself starts at 9.00am.

The cost is \$30 if prepaid to Raglan Volunteer Coastguard or \$35 cash on the day.

A trip out to the bar in the coastguard's rescue vessel is part of the course so participants need to bring their own lifejacket for this.

Course numbers are limited, so pre-register by calling the Coastguard secretary Brigid Green on 07 825 8089 or email raglancoastguard@gmail.com.

\$1.4 billion Māori economy important for Waikato's well-being

Leveraging off the strength of the Māori economy in Waikato is important for maximising the region's growth potential, says a new report from Business and Economic Research Limited (BERL).

Māori economy in the Waikato region was

discussed at a Māori economic development workshop in Hamilton on Tuesday. The report was commissioned by the Federation of Māori Authorities, Te Puni Kōkiri

(Ministry of Māori Development) and Waikato Regional Council to help inform discussion on the way ahead.



Read [our media release](#) issued ahead of this week's meeting.



Waikato truck drivers...legends



The second phase of a regional road safety education campaign has kicked off and features legendary Waikato truck drivers.

Driver Andrew Turnbull (pictured), from Transpacific Industries Group Ltd, was among a number of drivers to receive the card during the recent launch at Huntly.

The first Waikato Truck Legends campaign in 2012 incorporated road safety messaging and truck specifications in a series of 10 collector's cards which proved to be so popular drivers called for a second series to be produced.

The 2014/15 limited edition series features trucks from some of the Waikato's top companies, as well as safety tips from their drivers.

The Waikato trucking companies featuring in this series have been selected by industry regulators in recognition of their high performance in health, safety and driving. Each company has then chosen one of their own 'legendary' drivers to provide a safety tip which is featured on their card with a photo of the truck and its specifications.

With only 1000 copies of each card on offer, it is expected they'll quickly become popular trading items, as drivers and truck enthusiasts try to collect the whole set. So, truck drivers wanting to collect the series will need to get in quick! For more information or to order cards, [go to the Reduce the Risk website](#). A new card will be released every three weeks over the next six months.

Receive our media releases in your inbox

Other stories in the media this week have included:

[Farmer fined \\$55,800 for deliberate effluent discharge to wetland](#)

[Stock feed company fined \\$32,400 for dairy discharge](#)

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