

Parks and Recreation

Forrester Drive Rock Sea Wall Replacement

1. The \$160,000 replacement timber sea wall on Forrester Drive that was destroyed during the January 2018 storm surge has now been completed.

Tree Pruning Fraser Street

2. The removal of line of dangerous, large, oak trees from Council land has been carried out that were deemed a danger to neighbouring Tauranga Intermediate School.

New Cameron Road Neighbourhood Reserve

3. A consultation event took place in March for local residents and was attended by over 25 people. Feedback has now been incorporated into the final design and the team is now working towards specifications for tender. Features include mega swing and basketball court, junior play area, natural play elements and a games lawn.

Monmouth Redoubt

4. Work is progressing on the draft conservation plan for Monmouth Redoubt. Geotechnical testing has now been carried out to assess soil stability for proposed retaining walls. Once the engineering report is received Council will be liaising with Heritage New Zealand to discuss the impacts.

Cemetery

5. The new Pohutukawa memorial section that runs around the RSA statue is now complete. This section is proving to be very popular and twelve plots have been sold since it was opened at the end of February 2019.
6. A round concrete seat has been built in the middle of the new Memorial gardens with a windbreak beside it.
7. The house at 391 Pyes Pa Road has been demolished.

Kulim Park

8. Approximately 4,100 cubic metres of sand that has been dredged from the Tauranga Harbour is expected to be delivered and spread along the beaches at Kulim Park over the next three weeks, commencing after 23 April. The intention of this project is to increase the sand profile at this popular harbour park to benefit community use and enjoyment. Some minor disruption to park users may occur. Below are photos of Kulim Park beach that has been cleaned this week prior to the sand arriving.



New Accessible Picnic Table Set

9. Developed a new fully accessible picnic set in conjunction with the community development team. These accessible picnic sets will be installed by the Parks team at particular locations identified by the Community development team.



Bethlehem Scout Hall

10. Following the completion of a building condition report of the Bethlehem Scout Hall, staff have been assessing options for the future of this facility. The hall is in a state of disrepair with extensive water damage noted internally, decayed cladding, leaking roofs and mould/fungi growth and there is currently no budget to have this building restored by Council.



Typical view of the front elevation



Typical view of the right hand side elevation



Mould growth to toilet ceiling



Water damage to an internal wall

It is unoccupied and has been for a few years. s 7(2)(a) - Privacy who has a passion for preserving New Zealand's history, has shown an interest in removing this building and taking it to their historical site in Matangi to fully restore it. Discussions are ongoing.

<https://www.waikatostory.nz/blog/backbone-of-new-zealand-s-history-preserved-in-the-waikato>

Merivale Community Centre

11. Progress is being made for the construction of the Merivale Community Centre by the Whare Manaakitia Trust with the goal to be completed by 2020.

It was identified by the Trust that there was a need to provide a larger outdoor space for the community to have access to, so staff are in the process of purchasing 12 Kesteven Avenue using historic development contributions to purchase this property from accessible housing. Historic DC's are used to purchase neighbourhood reserves in infill areas to meet the open space level of service policy; a recent example is the Cameron Road Reserve currently under development.

The architects working on the project for the Trust are now developing drawings to ensure that this area remains open to the community.

Merivale Action Centre

12. The Merivale Action Centre is a community share building which is managed by BVL. It was identified that there were a number of health and safety risks associated with the workmanship and materials used to construct the mezzanine and balustrade. As a result of this report the mezzanine floor has been closed off to any use. Support was given to Merivale Primary to put in an application to the NZ Community Trust for the school's contribution to this work and council will contribute the balance.

The goal is to have this up and running by the end of Term 2 and it will be reopened with a fun community activity session.

Blake Park Carpark – adjacent to Arataki Community Centre

13. Over the past few years the unsealed car park at the rear of the Arataki Community Centre has been a dustbowl. This has now been sealed and has been marked for 70 carparks. Final landscaping including plants and grass is to be completed by the end of May.



Nelson /Wellington Facility Trip

14. In March, 3 staff and representatives from Sport Bay of Plenty and Bay Venues visited various sites in Wellington and Nelson to visit a range of facilities and sportsgrounds. As part of this visit we also discussed the pros and cons of various management models for facilities and sports fields. Staff are currently developing a report for Council and this will be presented in the next few months.



Bowls Mount Maunganui – Covered Green Project

15. Bowls have been considering a covered green to enhance playing conditions. Over the past few years there have been challenges with this community project, balancing the need to meet regulatory requirements around fire issues with the design options to cover the artificial green at Bowls Mount Maunganui.

This is a complex development due to the proximity of Club Mount Maunganui Building to the proposed covered green. Staff are working with the club to change the design to a canopy that will provide shelter from the sun and rain.

Sport NZ – Play

16. Council and Sport NZ are working together to undertake investigation into 'what Play is', and what it means around future spaces and places. The Community Development and

Parks team have identified Gate Pa as a community to focus on with this work. It will involve several meetings with individuals and groups from the community. The outcome of this project will provide insights also into the type of programmes that communities want delivered. This is an ongoing project for Council and the outcomes will be implemented across the city. For further information around play - visit the Sport NZ website:

<https://sportnz.org.nz/assets/Uploads/attachments/Sport-New-Zealand-Play-Principles-Nov-2017.pdf>

Surf lifesaving NZ

17. The Surf lifesaving NZ Regional Guard Programme was delivered through the summer season as per the agreed contract dates but due to the warm weather and increase in patronage at the beach after school / work, Council increased our investment by a further \$8,000 to enable observational patrols to continue through February. We are working closely with SLSNZ to develop a plan for Tauranga City Beaches for the 19/20 season and the next 5 years as the demand for these services is increasing. Please see media release below.



<https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/news/2019/february/public-safety-concerns-see-weekday-surf-lifeguards-reintroduced-to-tauranga-beaches>

Pilot Bay

18. In 2018 we were successful in obtaining \$577,000 from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund for the construction of 2 new toilets at Mount Maunganui North - the Mount Surf Club and Pilot Bay. The Mount surf club was the first project and Pilot Bay was second as they could not be completed concurrently.

As part of the LTP we received submissions from the Tauranga Special School and families in regard to the need to develop accessible changing rooms for those with high needs.

It was agreed that a changing room would be part of the development at Pilot Bay. Planning has been underway and a second presentation was made to the Nga Poutiriao o Mauao Joint Administration Board last week to provide an update on progress. The board requested that staff consider alternative locations and options as they have aspirations to establish a cultural centre at the base of Mauao.

It has been agreed to now put on hold the construction of new toilets at Pilot Bay and work alongside iwi with their aspirations. Staff will investigate the option to construct an accessible changing room at The Mall toilet facility on Pilot Bay and take into consideration the proposed accessible room that is planned at Te papa o nga manu porotakataka and access to the beach etc.

It is important that this facility is accessible for all, and is located in a place that enables families who have children / adults with high needs to socialise together.

The decision to not construct the new toilets at Pilot Bay will mean that \$240,000 will be returned to MBIE.

Wetland Restoration and Urupa Protection at Tongaparaoa and Te Pahou, Hairini

19. Staff are working with NZTA, Boffa and Beca on Wetland restoration and Urupa protection at Tongaparaoa and Te Pahou, Hairini (mitigation works for Hairini roundabout); on TCC Reserve land. Staff are providing input regarding animal and plant pest control methodologies and site preparation for planting a culturally sensitive and geologically unstable site with heavy tree weed coverage. NZTA have made a commitment to Iwi that Iwi will do the site preparation and planting and maintenance of the site until such time as it is handed back to TCC.

Installation of Sand Ladders

20. Installation of 3 new sand ladders along Papamoa Beach at Logan Place, Grant Place and Douglas Place. Plus, installation of Beach access markers along Papamoa Beach Rd where there are currently not any.

Improve Disability Beach Access

21. Staff are engaging with the TCC Disability advocate to improve beach access for people with disability, i.e. identifying locations that can be upgraded.

Encroachments

22. Encroachment removal final works along Oceanbeach Rd are underway, in preparation for planting commencing May; this has included removing a memorial plaque, irrigation, illegal dune contouring and engaging an electrician to make safe the wiring associated with lighting and boundary surveillance. Working with BOPRC CoastCare who are clearing an area of mid-dune at 2 locations, adjacent 125 Oceanbeach Rd and at Sutherland Ave, Marine Parade, Mount Maunganui to remove infestations of Indian doab *Cynodon dactylon*. Methodology is following three applications of Gallant herbicide by TCC Contractors, BOPRC will scrape the weed off the dune and dig a hole, and bury it. The site will then be replanted, mulched and put onto maintenance contract.

Ongoing removal of re-encroachments along Karewa Parade and Motiti Rd, e.g. spa pools, lawns, dinghys and numerous bench seats. Pursuing removal of two historical and contentious coastal reserve encroachments.

Following up enforcement and replanting after a beach front resident had caused damage to newly planted dunes and destroyed established pohutukawa dunes in the coastal reserve.

Preparation for encroachment removal along Forrester Drive, Welcome Bay, to commence after July 1st, e.g. letter to residents, scoping of project, location and nature of encroachments.

Environment Contract

23. Setting up access to Accela asset management system and the Agrichemical notification system for the new Natural Environment Contractors prior to July1.

Salt Water Paspalm Paspalum

24. Staff are preparing a new Resource consent application for removal of Salt water paspalm *paspalum vaginitum* in Matua salt marsh by spraying Haloxyfop herbicide; so that annual spraying can continue. The new consent will include a larger area.

Pilot Bay Derelict Boats

25. Pilot Bay derelict boats have been advertised for removal in local papers and scheduled to be removed first week of May.

Dinghys at Pilot Bay

26. Advertised in news papers and uplifted four groups of dinghys (total 30) and their supports which had been undermined by erosion in mid Pilot Bay and reinstated them between Leinster Ave and Adams Ave, Pilot Bay.

Oropi MTB Park

27. The parks team is working with the city waters team and Mountain bike Tauranga regarding the potential future logging of Oropi Recreation Area. The forest asset has reached maturity and is a significant revenue opportunity for council.

Oropi is the premier mountain bike facility in close proximity to the Tauranga City. The network of trails in the existing forest are the best in the area and popular with many.

The planned logging will close the park temporarily to ensure public safety and will likely also destroy the existing network of trails.

Staff are considering the future of the mountain biking activity in the reserve, potential replanting and management of the forest to ensure safe recreational use while protecting the water catchment and re building of the trails.

It is early days yet, but this is an opportunity to better cater for this sport in this location.

Mauao Re-Vegetation

28. Staff are busy planning the delivery of the 2019 planting season. Contractors have been busy installing fencing improvements and undertaking planting preparation. This year's plan includes a range of locations around the base track , significant cultural springs and the recession of grazing on the Eastern side of the Maunga. Approximately 15,000 plants will be planted this season on Mauao with a combination of volunteers, staff and contractor support.

Key groups involved in this season's mahi will be:

- Tangata whenua as part of the Matariki celebrations
- The Mauao rock climbing and paragliding community
- Omanu and Maungatapu Primary Schools Trees for Survival programme
- Corporate groups (Trust Power and Zespri)
- Amnesty international

Kopurererua Valley Walkway and Cycleway Improvements

29. Transportation and Parks have been collaborating to deliver significant improvements to the network of trails in the valley. Work is on going and some great feedback has been received already.

The intention is to provide a high standard end to end route for walkers and cyclists to stay off the road, and out of the car, while enjoying one of the city's significant natural areas.

Restoration Contractors

30. The Restoration contractors are busy preparing five sites for planting May/June, this will accommodate approximately 8,500 plants in our significant ecological sites around the harbour and urban area. The Kopurererua contractors will be planting around 10,000 plants and trees in retired grazing wetland areas. On top of this, there are additional volunteer planting days to be held at various sites with the Rotary Centennial Trust in Kopurererua Valley and 3 schools involved with Trees for Survival in Gordon Carmichael Reserve.

Arborists

31. The weather conditions over the autumn and early winter periods has been quite settled with the wet weather generally not coinciding with high winds. This has meant that unexpected tree/limb failures has not increased significantly to date, enabling our maintenance programmes such as power line clearance work, and carriageway encroachment pruning to continue without a great deal of disruption. The specimen tree planting programme and replacement tree planting programme will be underway next Month, which is exciting and something for the City to look forward to.

Responses to Queries from Elected Members to the Previous Report

1. *Cr Stewart wanted to know if we are making provision for trees with sun shade.*
 - a. TCC has;
 - i. 10,349 Reserve trees.
 - ii. 23,750 street trees.
 - iii. 239 ha of revegetation.
 - iv. TCC has a tree planting programme and plants/replaces roughly 800 trees per annum.
 - b. All trees provide shade to some extent.
 - c. The areas of revegetation often have walkways and are enjoyed by many of the community. These areas often have significant amounts of shade and can be a pleasant place to go for a walk and relax.
 - d. TCC proactively plant trees near to areas of reserves where the community might appreciate shade, such as close to playgrounds or seating areas. More established areas of the city benefit from mature trees. In the new parts of the city, whilst trees are planted in most areas, they will require time for the trees to develop a large canopy.

Upcoming for Parks and Recreation

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