

# WAITAKI LINK

July 2020

NEWS FROM WAITAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL



Photo: Sarah Baker

## A plan for WESTON FOOTPATHS

**The Weston community want more footpaths and by golly they're going to get them!**

Council has approved a loan of up to \$500,000 to be spent on footpaths for Weston. The last ones went in six years ago, so it's about time. One of the fastest growing townships in Waitaki, the call for more footpaths has been made and we're responding as more people, particularly children, are walking on roadsides and there is more traffic on the roads.

The next stage will be public consultation – so Council can find out which areas people think are the most important to start on. Work can then be done to cost the project, and then options around the repayment of the loan can be put to Weston ratepayers.



## Waitaki's ANNUAL PLAN

**Council has formally adopted Waitaki's Annual Plan for 2020/21.**

Thanks to COVID-19, its quite different from the one imagined a year ago, however it achieves our new objective of having as low a financial impact on our community as possible, while still delivering as many projects as we're able.

An average zero rates increase (with some variances) has been the central aim. Towards this, we've deferred some expenditure that was long term in nature and used some operating reserves. There will be tough decisions as we formulate the Long Term Plan and see more of the effects of COVID-19 down the line, but we feel this is a good balance: meeting the needs of now and limiting future fall-out.

You can read the whole thing on our website and we'll have hard copies available in the usual places.



## AQUATIC CENTRE REOPENS

**Kick the school holidays off with a splash!**

Take the kids to the pool! Take yourself! The Waitaki Aquatic Centre is all set to reopen this weekend after an extensive remodel; with new changing facilities, new loos and a new colour scheme. Thank you to all the hardworking contractors who made this possible!



## FEES and CHARGES

**We have introduced new fees for Building Services after public consultation last year, adopted by Council before the COVID-19 emergency.**

These fees came into effect on July 1. Please make sure you know what the costs are before you start any project. Get in touch if you have any questions.



## What's on at THE OPERA HOUSE?

Follow the yellow brick road with your happy feet to the Ōamaru Opera House, which is freshly re-opened in time to put on some classic family movies for the school holidays. Grab some lunch, a coffee or snacks for the kids at the cosy Opera House Cafe before heading in to enjoy some nostalgic cinema.

**School Holiday Movie Tuesdays at 2pm;**

▶ *Happy Feet* - 7 July      ▶ *The Wizard of Oz* - 14 July

(P.S: for more ideas to entertain the kids - our July School holiday activities guide is available on our website or you can pick up a copy from Council HQ).

## SUPPORT & STIMULUS

**Have you, your business or your community group been affected by COVID-19? Do you have a plan to grow employment opportunities in the district?**

Waitaki's Support & Stimulus Fund will be taking applications soon. Council has allocated up to \$2 million from the Disaster Fund to create a Support & Stimulus Fund to aid the district's recovery.

Criteria, eligibility and applications forms will be available on our website from Monday 6 July 2020. Call us if you need any help with your application.



## WAITAKI Citizens' AWARDS

**Don't wait, NOMINATE! (Closes July 31)**

Do you know an unsung hero in our community? Someone who regularly volunteers and maybe even helped us get through Covid? Someone who has contributed to the wellbeing of Waitaki in a major way, or someone whose consistent small acts of kindness have made us all want to be a better human?

We need your help to show some appreciation for our community volunteers. From the arts to sports, social and cultural carers and champions of the environment, the Waitaki Citizens' Awards are a great way each year to celebrate those who give to our community every day and make Waitaki a wonderful place to live. Details and nomination forms on the 'Grants and Awards' page on our website.



## a few REMINDERS:

- ▶ Register your dog before 31 July to avoid late fees
- ▶ Tell us if Council should join the LGFA, before 8 July (on our website)
- ▶ Have your say on the Speed Limit Review before it closes on 20 July (on our website)
- ▶ Stay warm
- ▶ Call your mother! xox



[www.waitaki.govt.nz](http://www.waitaki.govt.nz)



# Waitaki

DISTRICT COUNCIL  
TE KAUNIHERA Ā ROHE O WAITAKI