

# Tuia te Taitonga tāpiringa Southlink Extra

Winter 2023



## Welcome to Southlink Extra

Welcome to the Winter edition of *Southlink Extra*. This quarterly newsletter complements our Council *Southlink* publication, which appears weekly in the Taranaki Star and provides another way for us to keep you informed about what the Council is doing in our District.

## Rates for 2023/24

With this newsletter you will have received your first rates invoice for the new 2023/24 financial year. This year we have had to increase rates by 7.19%, which is higher than what we wanted or than what we are used to (over the last seven years we've had a relatively modest average annual rate increase of 2.59%). However, this year like households and businesses across the country, Council is facing increased costs for the things we buy. Local Government inflation has risen by around 20% over the last two years, for things like fuel, bitumen, and electricity. Contractors' costs have increased by 16%, insurance and compliance costs driven by government requirements have



increased considerably and interest rate increases have raised the cost of borrowing and financing debt. Councils around the country are facing similar rates increases, in some cases double digit, but by undertaking a range of cost cutting measures and redirecting some government funding, our Council has managed to keep the rate increase around the rate of inflation, without cuts to any services.

If you are having difficulty paying your rates because you are experiencing

financial hardship, please contact us by emailing [rates@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:rates@stdc.govt.nz) or call us on 0800 111 323 and we can discuss options.

### Stay up-to-date about what's going on in Council

Subscribe to our new weekly **Tuia Taitonga | Southlink e-newsletter**. This e-newsletter is another way you can stay up-to-date with Council activities, services and events. It replicates the articles published in our Southlink page in the Taranaki Star each Thursday, along with other timely topics of interest, but you get it sent straight to your email inbox.



Simply go online and sign up  
[www.southtaranaki.com/southlink](http://www.southtaranaki.com/southlink)

### Upcoming Consultations

Keep an eye out for these upcoming consultations:

Consultation	Month
Gambling, TAB Venues, Easter Trading	August
Waste Management and Minimisation	August/ September
Speed Management Plan	September/ October

## Whakapā mai / Contact us



Call us 24/7 0800 111 323



[www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com)



[www.facebook.com/  
SouthTaranakiDistrictCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/SouthTaranakiDistrictCouncil)

# Changes to Kerbside Collection Service?



The contract for the collection and disposal of our solid waste is coming up for renewal in October next year. In an effort to reduce the amount of waste being sent to landfill and to keep cost increases to a minimum, the Council wants to consider whether we should change the size of our kerbside wheelie bins, introduce weekly food waste collection and move from a weekly to a fortnightly kerbside collection service – or stay as we are. We know that this service is of high interest to lots of people, so in **August** we will be consulting with you about these proposals in more detail. Please keep an eye out on one of our Council channels such as Southlink in the Taranaki Star, our new Southlink e-newsletter, Facebook page, Antenno or on our website [southtaranaki.com](http://southtaranaki.com).

**See it Report it**

Report issues and suggestions quickly and easily to South Taranaki District Council

Download Antenno

Scan the QR code for more info

## How to report an issue?

Is there an issue the Council is responsible for in your street or area that you are concerned about or that you would like fixed – like a street light that is out or a pothole that needs to be fixed?

If the answer is 'Yes', please either download the Council's **Antenno mobile App**, contact us by phone or fill out the **Online Request Form** on our website. If the problem is urgent, please phone the Council's Customer Services immediately on (06) 2780 555 or toll free 0800 111 323.

**FRI 18 AUG | ELTHAM TOWN HALL**  
**SAT 19 AUG | HĀWERA MEMORIAL THEATRE**

## THE GREAT COMEDY NIGHT

HAYLEY SPROULL JUSTINE SMITH VAUGHAN KING

## The Great Comedy Night

The Great Comedy night is back again - this time with four comedians heading to Eltham Town Hall on Friday 18 August and Hāwera's Memorial Theatre on Saturday 19 August. The show, annually hosted by local lad and nationally renowned comedian Ben Hurley, features Hayley Sproull, Justine Smith and Vaughan King. Tickets are on sale at the South Taranaki Visitor Information Centre and Eltham LibraryPlus.

# Steady Progress on District Business Park

Significant progress has been made with enabling infrastructure in the South Taranaki Business Park West End Precinct. This includes a 360m extension to Fitzgerald Lane, a 170m portion of new road and underground services and earthworks to enable 13 stage one lots, many of which are already tenanted. An upgraded intersection at Fitzgerald Lane and Little Waihi Road is underway and the Business Park construction programme will continue this summer.

The Business Park is a key project of the Council's strategic plan for encouraging long-term sustainable economic growth in the District.

