Tuia te Taitonga tāpiringa Southlink Extra

Autumn 2021





Welcome to Southlink Extra

Hello everyone and welcome to the Autumn edition of *Southlink Extra*. This quarterly newsletter compliments 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.

Thank you to all of you who have attended the many community 2021-31 Long Term Plan meetings which have been held throughout the District and submitted your thoughts on the Plan. If you haven't already, you have until May 7 to get your feedback in. Visit www.southtaranaki.com/longtermplan for more information.

Warm regards, Phil Nixon, South Taranaki District Mayor

Representation Review

The Council is reviewing the District's electoral and representation arrangements for the 2022 and 2025 local body elections.

Part of this review includes looking at:

- the number of general and Māori Councillors for each ward:
- where the ward boundaries should be for councillors and community boards and;
- the name of each of the wards.

There are a number of rules which the Council are guided by, for example we need to consider 'communities of interest' or areas where people feel connected to. We also need to

ensure that each councillor represents approximately the same number of people (within plus/minus 10%). Several options have been considered by the Council, Community Boards and Iwi, and the Council is also keen to receive feedback from the community. The Council's preferred option will be presented to the community for feedback from May 31 to July 12, along with an opportunity to speak to the Council at a hearing scheduled on Monday 26 July 2021. The Council will consider all of the feedback including any alternative options and make a final decision in August.

Keep an eye out at **www.southtaranaki.com/ representationreview** at the end of May to find out more.





Whakapā mai / Contact us

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Phasing out cheques

From May 2021 the major banks are phasing out cheques. Unfortunately, this means from 1 May 2021 we won't be able to accept cheques as a method of payment. However, we can offer you some alternative methods for paying bills.

Direct Debit – allows you to pay your rates directly from your bank account. The amount is taken out of your account on a basis which best suits your budget and we offer weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly, or annual payment periods.

Internet Banking - If you have the option, Internet Banking (also called Online Banking) is one of the easiest ways to pay your rates and other bills. By using your own bank's online services, you should be able to set the Council up as a payee

to make payments. You can use Internet Banking to pay for numerous things like Dog Registrations, Rates, Water Rates, Building and Resource Consents.

Telephone Banking - If you don't have access to a computer then phone banking is another option. It is easiest to set these up through your local bank branch but if you are unable to get there you can ring your bank and set it up over the phone.

In Person – Payment can be made by cash or EFTPOS at our Hāwera Administration Building or at any one of our seven LibraryPlus centres across the District. If you need help with setting up any of these options just contact the Council's finance team on 0800 111 323 or contact your bank.



Extension Pathway at Soldiers Park, Eltham

The existing pathway in Soldiers Park, Eltham, was extended last month, creating a loop track of around 800m.

Some of the new sections will be lime fines with areas of the existing paths remaining mown grass. The pathways will complement the work being done by Eltham Restore to revegetate the area with native riparian planting along the Mangawharawhara Stream while also providing better access for weed control. This is one of the key projects the Council has been working on to improve recreational opportunities across the District.



Now that the rural pools are closed for the season, Council is undertaking \$620,000 worth of upgrades to the Manaia Community Pool. The upgrades include upgrading the plant, recladding changing rooms, refurbishing the pool, installing a new diving platform (already installed), upgrading solar heating and refurbishing the lifeguard station. These upgrades will be ready to enjoy at the end of the year when the Community Pools reopen.

Report Issues with our Antenno mobile app

Antenno is a mobile app that sends the user Council alerts and notifications about places and topics they care about. It is free to download and use, and it doesn't ask for any personal information or login details, so it's a nice easy way to stay informed. As well as receiving notifications Antenno allows users to report back to Council on issues (eg. a pothole or broken light) or give feedback.



Download the app from the App Store or Google Play and save places you care about, such as home, work, your holiday home or school.

Just search "Antenno".