

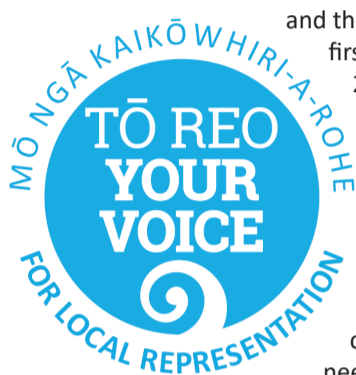
# Representation Review Initial Proposal Confirmed

South Taranaki District councillors are proposing to increase their number by one following the Extraordinary Council Representation Review meeting on Wednesday 4 August.

After more than a month of pre-consultation, the Councillors agreed to formally consult on an Initial Proposal consisting of 13 Councillors and a Mayor, with no change to the Community Boards.

Under the proposal the Council would be made up of two Māori wards with one councillor elected from each ward and four general wards with two councillors elected from the Eltham-Kaponga ward; two from the Pātea ward; two from the Taranaki Coastal ward; and five councillors from Te Hāwera ward.

Council had previously agreed on a slightly different proposal at an earlier representation meeting held on 24 July, however it was decided to re-consider this proposal after the Council obtained updated (2020) population figures from Statistics New Zealand



and the compliance variation thresholds presented at the first meeting did not satisfy the Local Electoral Act 2001.

All councils are required to review their representation every six years and Council's decision in November 2020 to establish a Māori ward/s triggered the need for a review.

The Representation Review establishes how South Taranaki communities will be represented for the 2022 and 2025 local body elections. It considers things such as the number of councillors needed to represent the District, whether they're elected from wards or 'at large' across the whole district, or a mix of both and whether community boards should be retained or not.

**Formal consultation on the Council's Initial Proposal starts on 12 August and runs through to 23 September.**

## Upcoming meetings

### Extraordinary Council

To consider funding applications to the Community Initiatives Fund  
Monday 16 August, 9am

### Eltham-Kaponga Community Board

Monday 23 August, 10.30am  
Taumata Recreation Centre,  
Preston Street, Eltham

### Te Hāwera Community Board

Monday 23 August, 1.30pm

### Taranaki Coastal Community Board

Tuesday 24 August, 2.30pm  
Sandfords Event Centre,  
156 Tasman Street Ōpunakē

### Pātea Community Board

Wednesday 25 August, 4pm  
Alton Coronation Hall,  
355 Ball Road, Alton

### Iwi Liaison Committee

Wednesday 1 September, 10am

### Extraordinary Council

To consider funding applications to the Community Initiatives Fund  
Wednesday 1 September, 1pm

### Environment and Hearings Committee

Wednesday 1 September, 4pm

Unless otherwise stated, meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Albion Street, Hāwera

## Innovating Streets Feedback Closing

Feedback on the two 90% Waka Kotahi funded main street safety improvement projects in Eltham and Waverley is currently open through online submission, email and phone. Feedback closes on Friday 13 August. All comments received will be collated and read, with analysed data received from traffic monitoring also considered.

# Creative Communities Funding Closing Soon

Do you have a community arts project that needs some funding support? The next application round for Creative Communities funding is now open and closes at 5pm on Friday 27 August 2021.

The South Taranaki Creative Communities Scheme provides funding assistance for community-based arts activities in South Taranaki that take place between November 2021 and November 2022 and meet one or more of the following funding criteria:

- **Broad community involvement** - A project that will create opportunities for local communities to engage with and



participate in arts activities.

- **Diversity** - A project that will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.
- **Young people** - A project that will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

Application forms are now available on

the Council's website [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com) or at your local LibraryPlus. For further information, email [funding@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:funding@stdc.govt.nz) or phone (06) 278 0555 or 0800 111 323.

# Ōpunakē Residents asked to Conserve Water



Due to recent flooding in the Waiaua River, the South Taranaki District Council (STDC) is asking Ōpunakē residents to conserve water and fix any leaks. Council's works delivery manager, Herbert Denton, says recent flooding of the Waiaua River, the water source for Ōpunakē, has resulted in the river being full of sand and silt.

"The water is laden with sand and is very slow to clear, so getting water from the river to treat is difficult. The

reoccurring rainfall is also very unhelpful but reducing our water use will help ensure we can keep the water flowing," says Mr Denton.

"The Ōpunakē Treatment Plant is working well when it gets water and water from the Cold Creek Community Water Supply Company is also helping to supplement the town. The water is safe to drink, we just need people to conserve a bit so the treatment plant has got time to recharge."

## Rural Hall Grant

Closes Thursday 30 September 2021

An annual pool of funding is available for rural halls located within the South Taranaki District to assist with essential operating costs such as insurance, maintenance and improvements.

For further information, please visit the Funding and Grants page under the 'Our Community' tab at [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com).

## Natural Environments Fund

Closes Monday 13 September 2021

The purpose of this Fund is to promote the protection, restoration and enhancement of areas of significant indigenous biodiversity or fauna on private land throughout the District.

## Rates Instalment

Due Wednesday 25 August 2021

The last day for payment of the first instalment of rates for 2021/22 without incurring a penalty is 25 August. If you pay your rates in full by this date you will receive a 2% discount.