

## Māpua and Districts Community Association update – June 2023

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### Annual Plan 2023/24 set to be adopted

Tasman's average rates rise now sits at 8.57%, following deliberations on the draft Annual Plan 2023/24.

At a hearing to consider public submissions received during consultation, the initially-consulted rates increase of 9.06% was reduced, thanks to recommendations guided by public feedback as well as reallocating funding avenues.

A recommendation to use a combination of Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) credits and forestry surpluses to the value of \$500,000 was opted for to help lower the rates impact.

We also reallocated \$395,000 of Better Off Funding from the Government to help offset rates and use more reserve financial contributions to help fund the development of Kingsland Forest Park and recreation and cultural facilities on Moturoa / Rabbit Island.

The decision will help us meet community concerns about increased costs while ensuring the Council's position remains sustainable.

The Annual Plan outlines what services and projects we intend to deliver in 2023/2024, what it will cost, and how it will be funded.

We received 97 submissions on the Annual Plan during consultation, with 33 submitters presenting in person at the subsequent public hearing in May.

The main theme of public feedback was that submitters supported the proposed budget reductions but felt that the proposed rates increase was still too high and that further reductions were required.

The Council will meet on 22 June to adopt the final Annual Plan. You can read the submissions we received and a summary of the feedback at [shape.tasman.govt.nz/annual-plan](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/annual-plan).

### Māpua milestone marked

We've reached the exciting point where we're ready to hit the road with the initial pilot Streets for People layout on Aranui Road.

The Streets for People programme is about flexibility and agility, although we are using concrete for some aspects of the work, nothing is set in stone. If there are features that don't appear to be working as well as we'd like them to, we can change them.

There's been a lot of work done so far by a dedicated group of people from the Māpua community who have weighed up the pros and cons of a variety of design options for improving the safety of the street for walking and cycling.

Some of the themes that came through are that Aranui Road needs slower vehicle speeds, safe places to cross the road, and reduced congestion on the footpaths while keeping car parking for businesses. All this must fit funding constraints, engineering requirements and the geometry of the existing road corridor.

Students from Māpua School are on board too and are working on special Māpua themed artwork to enhance the project area.

We've spoken to numerous community groups including the local volunteer fire brigade who raised a few points about the layout as it was first proposed. So, modifications have been made to consider their needs when responding to emergencies.

There are allowances in the project budget for making tweaks and building upon the initial pilot.

Once the layout has been down for a while, we'll look for more feedback with surveys and pop-up events where people can share their thoughts.

All going well, the new safer Aranui Road should be ready by Spring.

## Early engagement on 10-Year Plan continues

An important step in developing our next 10-Year Plan is considering the work we have planned for the remaining seven years in the 2021-2031 plan. Our 12 key programmes of work guide our strategic direction, progress, and projects. Now we'd like you to tell us the areas you think we should concentrate on.

Check out our website for more information on each of these areas and have your say with a point match activity, allocating points to the areas you think are the most important.

These priorities will guide our planning and the later consultation opportunities as the 2024-2034 10-Year Plan develops over the next 18 months.

Your contributions are welcome at any time via <https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/tasmans-10-year-plan>.

The workshop outcomes are posted online where people can share their views and provide feedback.

## Stafford Drive traffic changes to Priority Give Way system

Tasman District Council has installed a Priority Give Way system on Stafford Drive at Ruby Bay, which will mean reduced waiting times and allow traffic to flow more freely through the area.

The new system is in effect immediately. Regular users should take the time to familiarise

themselves with the road layout and the rule regarding priority give ways, namely that the red arrow (indicating the direction of travel) always gives way.

In simple terms, all traffic heading down the hill must give way to all traffic heading up the hill.

Access to the section of road, which provides a main thoroughfare connecting Māpua, Ruby Bay and Tasman Village, was affected by a major slip which brought a large amount of material across the road during the August 2022 weather event.

Initial clearance of debris was carried out in late 2022, with the road reopening under a traffic light management system since early 2023.

As the slip areas will continue to fret stones and small boulders, road users should continue to be vigilant for falling rock, particularly during rainy periods.

In the event of severe or prolonged wet weather, Stafford Drive will likely be closed as a safety precaution, and road users should factor this into their journey plans when travelling through the area. We will always try to give as much notice as possible of an impending closure through our channels.

We thank everyone for their patience.

## It's time to register your dogs

Whether you have a Rover or a Rex, a Brutus or a Boris, Poodle, Pomeranian or hard-working Huntaway, there's one thing that must happen to all canine Tasman fur babies and working rural hounds – they must be registered by July.

Registration fees are \$53 for a dog on a property under 1 hectare (urban), and \$32 if your property is over 1 hectare (rural). Dogs need to be registered by 1 July each year. Any dogs that are still unregistered and unpaid on 1 August will incur a 50% penalty fee. We are sending out registration forms to currently registered dogs, or you can download a registration form from our website.

You can return your registration form:

- By email to [dog.control@tasman.govt.nz](mailto:dog.control@tasman.govt.nz)
- By post to Dog Control, Private Bag 4, Richmond 7050
- In person to any Council Service Centre.

If any of your details have changed, such as your address or phone number, the number of dogs you own etc, please let us know on your registration form. You can pay your registration fee by:

- Bank transfer to account 12-3193-0002048-03
- Online with a credit card (fees apply)
- In person at a Council Service Centre. Please make sure you use your dog owner number as reference when paying online.

## Tasman's lakes, rivers, aquifers, wetlands and coast need our help

The health of our lakes, rivers, aquifers, wetlands and coastal areas is a hot topic around the country and here in the Tasman region.

A third of our District's monitored waterways are in decline, and eight of our smaller rivers are in a particularly poor state.

How are we dealing with this? We are developing provisions that will protect our freshwater and marine resources for decades to come, and we want your input.

We have identified eight draft Freshwater Management Units (FMU) in the Tasman region: Waimea, Moutere, Motueka – Riuwaka, Abel Tasman – Kaiteriteri, Tākaka, Aorere – West Coast, Buller – Kawatiri and Deep Moutere Groundwater.

The FMU are based firstly on the catchments of the major rivers and interactions between surface and ground water – following where the water flows. Secondly, catchments have been grouped together that flow to the same coastal environments, and then we have considered specific water management and local community needs.

We think these FMUs are a practical approach to managing freshwater across a region the size of Tasman and will allow rules and regulations to be applied to waterbodies in an integrated way 'from the mountains to the sea'.

We have created draft visions and value sets for each FMU based on what we have heard so far working with local communities and from feedback in 2022.

We would now like to know your thoughts on whether the draft visions reflect your long-term wishes and how you want your catchments to be in future.

Visit [shape.tasman.govt.nz/mountains-to-the-sea/freshwater-management-units](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/mountains-to-the-sea/freshwater-management-units).

## Community Grants Open

Do you have an exciting community project in the pipeline? A Community Grant could help make it happen! Community Grants help get some of our most valuable community projects off the ground, and applications are open now.

The criteria are broad and cover a range of categories including but not limited to service groups, festivals, and sports clubs through to welfare groups, arts, culture, heritage, and environmental organisations.

We'll be looking at projects that are either Tasman-based or will help Tasman residents, meet a community need and have community support. Priority will be given to projects that align with our community outcomes and can show financial support from other sources as well.

The deadline for applications is the end of July. Apply now at : [Grants and funding | Tasman District Council](#) website.

## Rating information available

Our rating information database includes information such as the property location, valuation number, capital and land value as at 1 July 2022, and current year's rates – remember the names of property owners and ratepayers are not listed in the database.

Rating information is available for you to view at any Council Service Centre during office hours. You can also view this information online at [tasman.govt.nz/rates-search](https://tasman.govt.nz/rates-search). Notice given under section 28, Local Government (Rating) Act 2002