

Māpua and Districts Community Association meeting update – September 2023

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Early Engagement continues on Māpua Masterplan

Thanks so much to everyone who has shown an interest, attended our drop-in sessions on Saturday 2 September, and/or contributed feedback on the Māpua Masterplan so far. Your involvement has provided plenty to ponder and we will take on board all feedback to

This is an important document for the future of Māpua. We need your feedback to ensure it reflects the aspirations of this growing coastal community.

Building off the work and community consultation done as part of the 2022 Māpua Structure Plan and other council projects before they were rolled into the Masterplan, we have used what we have learnt to develop a set of draft principles around issues and opportunities in Māpua.

These 10 principles fit within six guiding themes of placemaking, connectivity, infrastructure, environmental values, cultural identity, and natural hazards and climate change.

Early public engagement is taking place until Saturday 30 September.

Come along to our next Māpua Community Hall drop-in session, where staff will be available to hear and record your feedback in person.

- Thursday 14 September, 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm and 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm.

Feedback can also be provided online at shape.tasman.govt.nz/mapuamasterplan-2023 or you can email us your feedback or ask any questions at mapuamasterplan@tasman.govt.nz.

The creation of Tasman's 10-Year Plan moves forward

We have concluded the early engagement portion of our 10-Year Plan.

Residents can still contribute and comment online through Shape Tasman and the ongoing quick polls being run on key topics.

In the meantime, Councillors and staff have been working on various parts of the Plan over recent months such as:

- Possible changes to our Development and Financial Contributions Policy – this affects how we pay for the infrastructure that is required to support growth in residential and commercial development.
- Possible changes to our rates remission policy.
- Funding for the community groups we support financially.
- Carrying out planning for many of the activities and services we provide.
- Communicating with Te Taihū iwi about the 10-Year Plan.

Over the next few months, we will be working through the programme of services and projects we plan to deliver to support our District, carefully considering their affordability to the community.

Through the early engagement process, we heard lots of things that people would like us to deliver. These desires and aspirations will have to be substantially tempered by their affordability in the current economic environment.

We are adjusting to the shifting sands around the Affordable Waters reform and its effects on the Council, as well as the reform of the RMA system. Uncertainty is the one standard for all Councils about these Government programmes.

We will be issuing a consultation document and seeking submissions on our proposals in late March 2024.

Stay up to date: [shape.tasman.govt.nz/ tasmans-10-year-plan](https://shape.tasman.govt.nz/tasmans-10-year-plan)

Road repairs an ongoing journey

May to September are when our District roads and highways are most at risk from damage, with water the main culprit. What's more, we can't do full road resealing or repair works over winter – these need warm and dry conditions.

When the surface starts cracking, it lets water into the underlying gravel layers, meaning more potholes form and more repairs are required. Waka Kotahi, NZ Transport Agency, supplies up to 51 percent of our road maintenance funding, which they collect nationally from fuel taxes and road user charges.

We depend on Waka Kotahi having enough funding available to meet our needs, but unfortunately, this has not been the case in recent years.

We have almost a thousand kilometres of sealed roads across Tasman District. On average, these need to be resealed every 10 to 15 years to keep them waterproof, although in recent years there has not been sufficient funding available to complete the amount of resealing needed.

This means some of our roads have aged beyond their design life and have become prone to cracking.

Our 10-Year Plan 2024 – 2034 proposes to increase the amount of funding for our roads to ensure enough resealing and repairs. It will take time for the backlog of resurfacing work to be completed, so please look out for our maintenance crews and give them a thumbs up and join us in looking forward to fine and dry weather so the work can be done.

Saving our forests from pest tree invasion

Taiwan cherry trees (*Prunus campanulata*) have been sold by nurseries for their amenity value since the 1960s and were often mistakenly marketed as sterile trees. From late July through to early September, mature trees produce thousands of dark pink flowers that attract pollinating insects and birds.

The small cherries they produce are eagerly sought by birds such as wax eyes, starlings, blackbirds and kererū, and are spread in their droppings to other areas, such as regenerating native scrublands or forests. It has the potential to spread and dominate over native vegetation, displacing it completely and negatively impacting entire naturally occurring ecosystems.

If you have purchased a Taiwan cherry tree in the past, our biosecurity staff will remove it at no cost, and for cooperative landowners, we can approve a replacement tree for each Taiwan cherry removed, up to the value of \$75 per tree. We are not too late to attempt eradication, but we need the support and cooperation of our local communities to achieve this goal. To report a Taiwan cherry tree or for further information, contact our Biosecurity Team on 03 543 8400 or biosecurity@tasman.govt.nz.

Apply for rural sports funding

Applications for the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund are now open. This fund offers help with travel costs for rural sports clubs and rural school teams and is designed to help young people aged 5 – 19 participate in local sports competitions. This round of funding closes on Tuesday 31 October. Fill out an application form at tasman.govt.nz/grants