

## ANNUAL PLAN

The Ten Year Plan indicated for the 2007/08 year there would be an increase of 6.78% in the general rate revenue with the total rate revenue increasing 4.86%. However, in the year 2007 to 2008 Council intends to achieve much the same rate of progress within a 3.14% increase in the general rate revenue and a total rate revenue increase of 2.69%.

A number of adjustments have been made to provide for new projects and opportunities that had not been covered in the ten year plan

- ⊙ Providing for wharf maintenance \$15,000.
- ⊙ Playground equipment \$10,000.
- ⊙ Library review \$15,000 and moving the library enhancement and computer upgrade out one year (08 / 09).
- ⊙ Sale yard report on contamination \$10,000.
- ⊙ Information centre office upgrade \$60,000.
- ⊙ Building Act accreditation \$40,000.
- ⊙ Better utilization of depreciation for capital works.
- ⊙ Increase in revenue for a number of activities, notably building control.
- ⊙ Reducing Environmental Planning research projects expenditure \$24,000.
- ⊙ Decrease communications budget \$10,000.
- ⊙ Fun Unplugged Festival \$22,000.
- ⊙ CBD cameras \$30,000.
- ⊙ Refurbishment of Princess Street Reserve grandstand \$25,000.
- ⊙ Increase in dog control \$10,000.
- ⊙ Reduction in roading programme \$50,000.

With these adjustments and some other minor adjustments the rate revenue requirement is now:

**General rate revenue increase 3.14%**  
**Total rate revenue increase 2.69%**

## Opotiki 2007 Community Contributions Awards

The contribution made by Opotiki's volunteers were celebrated with a night of fire, fun, energy and music and a crowd of appreciative supporters on 29th June.

The two yearly event is staged by the Council in recognition of the energy and vitality volunteers bring to our community. This year a total of 53 nominations were received for the 9 award categories: Best Community Project, Best Garden Frontage, Opotiki Enterprising Award, Outstanding National Achievement, Outstanding International Achievement, Most Deserving Youth Achiever, Best Community Volunteer Group, Youth Volunteer of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, and Special Awards.

"Our small district could not continue to be the exciting place that it is without the hours of effort, financial and expert support that is provided by people who give for the pleasure of giving," Council's chief Executive officer, Vaughan Payne said. "We want them to know that their contribution is appreciated and valued by us all and this event is how we do it."

Twirling fire poi greeted guests on arrival to a marquee erected outside the theatre and inside live South American flute music accompanied the wine and cheese served by members of the Opotiki Theatre Trust. Opotiki's Becestein piano welcomed guests to the theatre before Mayor John Forbes and special guest entertainers Melanie Kerr and entertainer/ comedian Shamus hosted the awards ceremony. Opotiki was inspired to progress with an overview of key projects by Council's Chief Executive, Vaughan Payne and an inspiring presentation on painting the future of the district by New Zealand Post Chief Executive Officer, John Allen.

Comments from guests and the public have been positive. Many believe it is good to thank our volunteers, great to hold an event that is just about us, and a number of people felt inspired to get back into volunteer projects following the evening.

"We all need to stop and count our blessings from time to time and this evening reminded us that we are truly blessed with many generous and community focused people who make our district the warm and invigorating place that it is," said one very happy guest.

Community Contributions celebrations continued on Saturday with a day of entertainment, displays and stalls. See page 3.



**Top left:** Elise Adlam fires the evening up,

**Top right:** not content to balance a wheelchair on his chin Shamus then swallowed a sword and stuck the Mayor's glasses up his nose.

**Left:** John Allen CEO, New Zealand Post paints the future of Opotiki with a lot of help from the audience.

**Below:** Opotiki Mai Tawhiti show us why they are considered top New Zealand performers.



## Don't just sit there, stand

This year you help to choose the people who will make decisions on the future of our district.

The local government elections are being held on 13 October and there is still opportunity to consider putting your name forward as a candidate for the Mayoralty, Council or for the Coast Community Board, the District Health Board or Environment BoP.

Having the right mix of people ensures that all sectors of the community are well represented and services are provided in the best way possible. To be an elected representative you must be on the electoral roll, have a commitment to serve the interests of the wider community by working collectively and impartially in decision making.

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## Opotiki District Council lodges Application to become a Building Consent Authority

The Opotiki District Council has lodged an application to become a Building Consent Authority. Council's application is to be assessed by International Accreditation New Zealand who are also assessing other Councils that have applied.

As a result of leaky buildings nationally, the Building Act 2004 requires Councils to become accredited and certified as Building Consent Authorities. There are a number of legal requirements that Council is required to meet in order to become a Building Consent Authority which include extra measures being implemented to ensure all buildings are safe and comply with the Building Code.

To become a Building Consent Authority, Council has developed policies, systems and procedures to cover building control functions relating to the processing of building consents, inspection work and issuing Code of Compliance Certificates and Compliance Schedules.

Implementing the policies, systems and procedures will bring a greater level of consistency and accuracy for all building work from applicants lodging plans with Council for processing, through to the obtaining of the Code of Compliance Certificate at the conclusion of the process.

## Te Kaha Resource Recovery Centre

After five years of endeavour a suitable site for the Te Kaha Resource Recovery Centre [RRC] has been found and a resource consent obtained to proceed with this project.

The new facility will be located on the eastern end of Copenhagen Road on property leased from the Keepa family. Council and the Te Kaha area are indebted to them for making the site available.

Work has already commenced on clearing the site and removing the trees and construction of the RRC building should start in August 2007 with an opening around the end of October/early November.

The costs of disposal will remain the same as at the present site and as they are in Opotiki and Waihou Bay.

The Te Kaha Resource Recovery Centre will be an asset to the area and one the local community can be proud of.

The current RRC site will be cleaned up and revert back to Transit NZ as legal road.



## Elections Continued

The role of an elected member can be very demanding at times but it is also very rewarding. If elected you will be responsible for representing and leading the community, setting policies, making regulatory decisions and reviewing council performance. Community representatives play an important role in facilitating communication between the community and council. The council wants to know what the community has to say on all sorts of issues and the community wants to hear how council works and what it is doing so you will be very involved in community activities as well as participating in council meetings and activities.

Mayors and councillors are paid a set amount and may receive additional payment for committee chairmanship and reimbursement for some expenses.

**The nomination period opens on Friday 27 July and closes on 24 August.** You will need two people to nominate you, to pay a deposit of \$200.00 and may submit a photograph and 150 word personal profile if you wish.

Councils are effectively an arm of the government and they are governed by a number of laws, regulations and processes. It takes some time to understand how local government works but if you are willing to work as part of a team you will soon learn how council works.

If you feel you have the commitment it takes to represent the people of Opotiki District, find out more by visiting [www.elections.org.nz](http://www.elections.org.nz) or contact council for more information.

## Opotiki Projects Update

### Opotiki Harbour Development

This project seeks to create a reliable harbour entrance as an economic catalyst for the district. Using historical data, site surveys and future climate projections DHI's scientists have recently completed a detailed 3D computer model of the rivers and coastal processes. Using the model the impact of different groyne designs on matters such as the town flood scheme can be easily seen. Once a groyne design has been settled on the environmental effects will be assessed as part of the resource consent applications to be lodged with Environment Bay of Plenty later in the year. Public meetings will be held as part of this process.

### Opotiki Community Trust

This project seeks to establish an independent Trust to create, manage and distribute community wealth. Widespread public support has been received on this concept and we are currently preparing a Trust Deed as a basis for further public feedback. The success of the Trust will depend to a large extent on the quality of the Trustees who will be appointed by a representative group of the community. We hope to have the Trust established before the end of this year.



### Bay Trust Sports Pavilion

The new Bay Trust Sports Pavilion at Waiouka Domain is nearly complete. Architecturally designed and located in a park with high amenity values, this facility is going to be great for a range of users including sports clubs, special events and for meetings. Following the completion of landscaping, a special community event is planned to celebrate the opening of this new facility.

### Town to Beach Walkways

This project seeks to make Opotiki a true coastal town by connecting our natural walkways (Waiotahi and Hukawai beaches) through town. While Opotiki is less than 900m from the beach, the current formed access (State highways) is more than four times this distance. This project also seeks to encourage walking access to the coast and thereby contribute to a healthier community. Council recently formed a Focus Group to add momentum to the project, working through the various issues involved.

### Destination Playground

Positive community support has been received for a **destination playground**. This is a large exciting playground for locals and visitors to enjoy. Once a location is confirmed detailed planning can begin. At this stage a location near the river has been identified as a favourable location.

# Opotiki 2007 Contribution Day



St John Ambulance continually supporting Opotiki District.



Te Ha o te Whanau youth group .... demonstrate the new craze - the beaty new dance known as krumping.



The community begin painting the future of our district at the Opotiki Art Society stall.



Heavy rain did not stop the show. The Opotiki District Museum provided a great community facility as stalls and displays filled the bottom floor.



Kid Dynamite delighted over 200 kids of all ages in the Opotiki De Luxe Theatre.

## Opotiki Coast Fun Unplugged

Opotiki is gearing up for the next Fun Unplugged Festival and is seeking a little help from our friends.

Sponsorship proposals are being sent out to national companies that supply products and services to our district, inviting them to get involved by sponsoring any of the many activities carried out under the Fun Unplugged project.

"There are many companies that would be pleased to support a fun project like this, if they knew about it. We have put together some contribution forms and detailed sponsorship proposals to hand out to help get the word around outside the district," says project co-ordinator Joseph Hayes.

Sponsorship and Council funding has been secured to help construct and run the mudslide again and support is being sought for coordination and television promotion of the very successful festival.

If you think you know of someone who would like to be involved or would like to find out more, contact Joseph at Council.

### Fun Unplugged local programme

**August:** Come along to the Fun Unplugged meetings and see where you fit in, get ideas on fun ways to make money over summer.

**October:** Work through your idea and see your plan in print on the web, in the newsletters and lunchrooms of big organisations.

**November:** Get the help and support you need to make your idea a moneymaker.

**December:** Get ready and go.

**January:** Full on activities, customers, fun and good work. Feel your confidence and reputation grow as you bank your dollars.

**February:** Get back together and celebrate your success.

**March:** Rest and review

## Dog Tired of Roaming Dogs

Council has put more money towards animal control following submissions on the number of roaming dogs in the district.

A further \$10,000 has been provided to undertake registration spot checks, patrols and education.

"We currently have one animal control officer who covers the whole of the district, so its not always possible for him to respond straight away," says

Environmental Planning Manager, Robert Schlotjes. "The additional resources will be used to boost the service we provide." People can help if they are able to restrain a roaming dog safely before they call in a report. Providing information on frequent roamers will also help and letting others know about the community's expectations of dog owners will also help bring about a change in attitudes."

**Keep your friends out of the lock up by making sure you have their registration taken care of.**



### Dog Registration

Dog owners have from the period from 1 July through to 1 August 2007 to register their dogs. If the dogs are registered after 1 August 2007 the costs are greater.

The registration fees are as follows:

Registration Fees from 1 July to 1 August	Penalties for Late Registration
<b>Urban Dog or Bitch</b>	
\$105 Non-neutered or entire dog*	An additional \$50 for non-neutered dog (Total \$155)
\$40 De-sexed dog or bitch	An additional \$20 for a de-sexed dog or bitch (Total \$60)
<b>Rural Dog or Bitch</b>	
\$40 Rural dog whether de-sexed or not	An additional \$20 (Total \$60)

**\*Note:- Good Dog Owner Concessions** may apply in the urban area for non-neutered or if registration fees are paid before 1 August.

Council will also be running the annual competition for people registering dogs on or before 3 August 2007. Prizes include a dog kennel, dog food and collars.

Good person!  
Now win me  
that prize.



## Opotiki Night Owls Ears and eyes at all hours

The Police and community are working together to reduce the instances of crime on Opotiki's Streets.

The newly formed Opotiki Community Night Owls group has been providing nightly patrols for the last two months and have already made a difference, according to Police Liaison Officer, Ian Dodds.

"The Opotiki Night Owls provide ears and eyes for the police in our district. They patrol residential, community and commercial areas to help reduce petty crime and provide valuable information to the police to assist with investigations. Already they have assisted with enquires and deterred potential criminal activity on a number of occasions. In one case they reported the dumping of a vehicle and we were able to identify the offenders and have the vehicle removed and on occasion its as simple as talking to young people who are out late at night. Just their presence on

the street is a great help to police."

Opotiki night Owls is a registered member and affiliated to CPNZ (Community Patrols New Zealand). Funding to help with running costs has been provided by State Insurance and BP and the Opotiki District Business Group have provided fuel vouchers for volunteers. Steeles Caltex service station assist by housing our equipment and offering free coffee and tea to night owl volunteers while on duty.

Anyone wishing to become a volunteer can contact the Coordinator, Wayne Maloney, phone 0274739044 or Ian dodds, Phone 315 1110.



## Creative Communities Local Funding



The Creative Communities Scheme supports opportunities for people to participate in the arts in their local area. Each local authority has an assessment panel representative of its community, and these panels make the funding decisions.

The local assessment Committee is looking for new members for the next triennial period. The committee meets twice a year to assess funding applications and discuss arts in the community. If you are interested in seeing the creative side of Opotiki progress and you would like to become a member contact Donna Adlam, at Council.

### May 2007 Funding Round grants awarded

Carol Faye Storey	(\$ 400)
Te Whanau a Apanui Weavers	(\$1,000)
Opotiki Embroiderers' Guild	(\$300)
Fiona Gedson	(\$200)
Mataatua Kapahaka Inc	(\$1,000)
Opotiki Historic and Agricultural Association	(\$400)
Opotiki Community Theatre Trust	(\$400)
Opotiki Arts Council	(\$200)
Fibre & Fleece	(\$200)
Mataatua Regional Secondary Schools Kapa Haka 2007	(\$1,000)
Ngaikai Iwi Authority	(\$500)

## Rates Rebate Scheme

Are you struggling to meet the cost of your rates? You could be eligible for assistance with your rates bill.

The Rates Rebate Scheme is provided by the Department of Internal Affairs to assist low income home owners with their rates payments. If you are granted a rates rebate Council will be able to reduce your rates by the amount of the rebate.

Find out more by calling Council or pick up a pamphlet from Council offices.

- The maximum rebate is \$500
- The income threshold is \$20,000
- Additional income allowance for dependants is \$500 per dependant.

You will need to provide:

- Your rates invoice for the 2007/08 rating year.
- Information about what your income (before tax) was for the previous tax year (to 31 March 2007).
- Proof of your partner/joint homeowner's income if he/she lives with you.

## Rates Information Database

Pursuant to the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 Section 28 a copy of the Rates Information Database is available for inspection at the Council offices and will include the name and postal address of the owner of each rating unit.

Under Section 28 (C) owners may request to have their names and/or contact details withheld from the Rates Information Database as long as the request is made in writing to the Opotiki District Council.

## Events

### 21<sup>st</sup> July Comedy Stage Hypnotist

Big Will is back by popular demand for a full show of comedy hypnotism. Brought to you by Opotiki Charity Concert.

Tickets available from Opotiki Paper Plus.

### 12<sup>th</sup> August Rogaine

Rogaining is the sport of long distance cross-country navigation. Teams of 2 people will visit as many checkpoints they wish in a set time period. Checkpoints are free-choice and have different point values so strategy and route selection becomes a vital component.

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

Contact Jarrod Teddy 027 227 3252

### 7-9 September Silent Film Festival

A celebration of vintage movies with classic performances from the silent era with live grand piano accompaniment, at the original art-deco De Luxe Theatre

[www.silentfilmfest.org.nz](http://www.silentfilmfest.org.nz)

Contact Kate Adams 315 6627

### 15<sup>th</sup> September Delamere Cup

A long standing Kapa Haka competition between all primary schools in the Opotiki District

Contact Kara Dobie 07 315 7048

### 28<sup>th</sup> September East Cape Enduro Challenge

A 3-day, 476 km road cycle challenge around the beautiful east coast region of the North Island. Voted by Lonely Planet as "arguably the best coastal ride in the world"

[www.e-ventures.co.nz](http://www.e-ventures.co.nz)

Contact Bryan Layton 0275 514 468.

### 13<sup>th</sup> October Bay Trust Motu Challenge

Largest Multi sport event in the North Island attracting over 700 competitors. 65km mountain bike; 17km run; 53km road bike; 27km kayak; 8km road bike; 3km run.

[www.motuchallenge.co.nz](http://www.motuchallenge.co.nz)

Contact Rosalie Teddy 07 3156242

## Mobility Parking Checks

**Council will be carrying out spot checks on disabled car parks in an attempt to cut down on blatant misuse of the designated areas.**

The move has come following reports from the public of an increase in the number of un-permitted cars using the parks.

As well as carrying out spot checks and referring vehicle details to the police for follow up, Council is reviewing its parking by-law with a view to reintroducing Council enforcement of Mobility parking restrictions.



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