

## COUNCIL BUSINESS IS YOUR BUSINESS

### HAVE YOUR SAY

The Draft Annual Plan is Council's way of telling us how they propose to spend the money they collect through rates and inviting us to say what we think.

Our Council has been charged with collecting and spending the money that residents contribute towards our district but, when it comes to how that money is spent, what services are provided, what our future projects are, we all have an interest, and many of us care. The Draft Annual Plan is our opportunity to have a say on how our district is run by making a submission.

There are a number of things to remember when considering the Draft Annual Plan:

#### The Annual Plan supports the Ten Year Community Plan:

Two years ago we undertook the preparation of a ten year plan. This outlines the outcomes the community wants for its future (community outcomes) and how Council will help to achieve them, the special projects and proposals for 2006 to 2016, the funds required and how they will be obtained.

This Draft Annual Plan highlights any proposed changes to what is stated in that plan and explains why and what impact that will have on rates. It also explains proposed changes to the liquor control bylaw.

#### Council represents the collective community:

It helps to consider the impact your suggestion will have on others in the community. Council endeavours to reach a balance in all its decisions and it helps if you

can explain why and how many people are affected by the issue.

#### Council considers all information available:

Often there are complex technical, financial or social implications to be considered. It is very likely that Council has carried out a considerable amount of research and sought expert opinion before making a proposal. This information is weighed and considered alongside public submissions and may on occasion, tip the scale against majority opinion. Most information is available to the public on request and staff can also help clarify some of the factors that could influence Council's decision on an issue.

#### Suggestions help:

Offering a solution or alternative proposal helps to explain your position and also enables Council to offer a constructive answer to your submission.

#### Submission period:

Council calls for submissions from the public every year around April and May. This is the time to alert Council to any projects that may require council involvement or issues which may arise within or beyond the next twelve months.

The time to make your submission this year is between April 24 and May 27.

#### Submission Process:

You can view the Annual Plan and obtain submission forms from Opotiki District Council offices, Opotiki Library, Ngai Tai Iwi Authority and Te Rununga o Te Whanau offices, or download a copy from the Council website [www.odc.govt.nz](http://www.odc.govt.nz). You may also make your submission by writing a letter, filling in the submission form provided, or by email to [info@odc.govt.nz](mailto:info@odc.govt.nz).

It is important to provide accurate address and daytime phone details. Council will acknowledge receipt of your submission and invite you to meet council on 12 June, to explain your submission.

Council will consider all submissions and other facts and research and make a decision on each submission over the following week and not long after that you will receive a written response advising you of the reason for the final decision made.



## This year's Annual Plan

### What's in it?

General rate revenue increase 5.81%

Total rate revenue increase 5.69%.

In the year 2008 to 2009 Council intends to achieve a significant rate of progress within a 5.81% increase in the general rate revenue and a total rate revenue increase of 5.69%.

A number of factors have influenced this increase including a reduction in 2007-08 projected rates take. This impacted on the value of subsidies provided to council.

An increase of \$120,000 in the roading budget has been required to meet increasing construction costs.

The requirement to meet new standards in the regulatory area and in business processes has also increased Council costs.

The Harbour development project has reached the stage where an application for resource consent is required and a total of \$350,000 has been identified for prepaation and lodgement fees.

In response to community opinion Council has continued to support the promotion of the district as a tourist and event destination. The budget for promotion has been increased and the successful Fun Unplugged project has again received support.

Included in this years consultation is a review of all Opotiki District bylaws. Information on the bylaws is available on councils website or by picking up an

information pack from the Council, Opotiki Library or Te Kaha Rununga Office.

Comments are also sought on preferred options for traffic speed control in residential areas.

Over the next year Council will review the Long Term Plan and any adjustments to the projected rating levels will be made following the consultation period.



# Statement from the Mayor and Chief Executive

This Annual Plan 2008 - 2009 highlights the progress Opotiki District Council will make towards achieving the goals contained in the Opotiki District Community Plan 2006 - 2016. The Plan provides details of the budget for the year, describes the impact of funding requirements on future years and also explains any changes or variances from the Long Term Community Plan.

The way Opotiki District Council operates is a matter of importance to all those who live or have an interest in the Opotiki District. This information is provided to enable our communities and stakeholders to consider and comment on the way we plan to manage the budget, key projects, and the day to day operations of Council.

This plan provides details of a number of new opportunities which have not been factored into the Community Plan.

This year, Opotiki District Council seeks to increase its total rate revenue by 5.69%. Growth will account for approximately 1% of this increase meaning the impact on ratepayers will be in the vicinity of 4.69%.

There are a number of main drivers behind the increase, over and above inflation. An increase in the roading budget is required to cover increasing prices

for oil products, transport and construction costs. The Harbour Development budget has increased to cover the cost of preparing a resource consent application for the groynes.

Another significant cost is the investment that must be made in resource and systems to enable Council to continue to inspect building work and issue consents under the Building Act.

This year Opotiki District was revalued and properties have seen an average increase in capital value of around 35%. Within this overall increase Opotiki Township and Woodlands area saw a 53 to 60% increase in Capital Value meaning ratepayers in these areas will bear a greater portion of the rate increase.

Council continues to work towards the growth and development of the Opotiki District and to protect and enhance the character and features our community values. Our partnership with the people of the district is essential to our success and we look forward to hearing your comments on our operations for the year 2008 to 2009.

## Major Capital Expenditure

Ohiwa Toilet c/f from 2007/08	65,000
Sport Ground Lighting	104,100
Library Book Stock	37,170
Opotiki/Hikutia Water	172,018
Opotiki Sewerage	88,890
Stormwater	37,940
Roading Programme	955,300
Harbour Development	350,000
Computer Equipment/ Development	37,250
Plant Replacements	18,180

## Speed Control

A number of residents have requested the installation of speed bumps as a means to control traffic speed in residential areas. We outline the pros and cons of two options and call for feedback from the community on this issue.

Speed bumps provide an effective and permanent means of slowing traffic but do have some drawbacks for motorists and residents. Some noise is associated with deceleration and acceleration where speed bumps are installed and nearby residents have reported vibration and clatter as vehicles negotiate the bumps. Motorists, with low slung vehicles or those who regularly used a speed bump controlled road, report damage to vehicles as a result of the bumps.

Another effective method is the installation of perception humps which are painted horizontal lines. These lines are proven to reduce the speed of most traffic by creating speed warnings and perceived speed bumps. Perception humps can be installed at 10% of the cost of formed speed humps and are an effective first alternative for problem areas.

While both these speed control methods are effective in reducing the speed of traffic they do not prevent the determined lawbreaker. Residents are encouraged to assist Police by reporting the registration numbers of vehicles that are used recklessly on our public roads.



*John Forbes*

**John Forbes**  
Mayor of Opotiki



*Vaughan Payne*

**Vaughan Payne**  
Chief Executive Officer

## What are rates likely to be?

The following is an indication of the rates in various areas. These are estimates only. They include GST but exclude any charges from Environment BOP. Variations or any changes made to the budgets as a result of consultation on the Draft Annual Plan will change these indicative rates.

	Valued at \$100,000	Valued at \$150,000	Valued at \$200,000	Valued at \$300,000	Valued at \$500,000
<b>Residential Property and properties less than 25ha located at</b>					
Opotiki Township (includes water, sewerage & rubbish collection)	1,361	1,470	1,580	1,798	2,226
Woodlands (includes water & rubbish collection)	1,092	1,201	1,311	1,529	1,967
Rural Areas (Waiotahi-Waioeka Ward and Coast Ward)	682	791	901	1,119	1,556
Te Kaha (includes Water)	953	1,062	1,172	1,390	1,828
Waihau Bay (includes sewerage)	1,028	1,137	1,247	1,465	1,903
	Valued at \$300,000	Valued at \$500,000	Valued at \$1,000,000	Valued at \$1,500,000	Valued at \$2,000,000
<b>Property from 25ha to 100ha located at</b>					
Rural Areas (Waiotahi Waioeka Ward and Coast Ward)	1,152	1,557	2,759	3,907	5,055
	Valued at \$500,000	Valued at \$1,000,000	Valued at \$2,000,000	Valued at \$2,500,000	Valued at \$3,000,000
<b>Property over 100ha located at</b>					
Rural Areas (Waiotahi Waioeka Ward and Coast Ward)	1,666	2,869	5,274	6,476	7,679

## Review of Opotiki District Council Bylaws and Dog Control Policy

The Opotiki District Council has 29 Bylaws which are to be reviewed. The Councils Trade Waste Bylaw has been reviewed and submissions on the review of that Bylaw are currently being invited.

The Bylaws that are being reviewed are set out below and are available for public consultation. Members of the public are invited to make submissions on the Bylaws and review of the Dog Control Policy.

- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Public Places Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Hostels Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Trading in Public Places Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Traffic Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Solid Waste Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Water Supply Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Control of Signs Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Animals Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Cemeteries Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Beaches Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Fire Prevention Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Speed Limits Bylaw"
- Proposed "Opotiki District Council Revocation of Bylaws"
- Amendment to Opotiki District Council Dog Control Policy 2004 and proposed Dog Control Bylaw

### Making Submissions

All persons interested in any of the proposed draft Bylaws or the proposal to revoke the Bylaws or review of the Dog Control Policy are invited to make a submission. The period for making written submissions will open on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Submissions can be sent to the Opotiki District Council, Attention – Chief Executive, PO Box 44, OPOTIKI or delivered to the Council Offices on 108 St John Street, OPOTIKI. The Council must receive submissions no later than 5pm on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

For a copy of the information pack, including the proposed draft bylaws and information about making a submission, please visit the Opotiki District Council offices on 108 St John Street, or the Opotiki District Library, cnr of Church and King Streets, OPOTIKI, or the Councils website at [www.odc.govt.nz/haveyoursay](http://www.odc.govt.nz/haveyoursay), or contact the Council on (07) 315 3030 Monday to Friday between 8.00am to 5.00pm.

### Apply for a Rates Rebate before 20th June 2008

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 \$200 to \$500. To be eligible your annual income must be between \$7,400 and \$20,000.

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

### Need to know more or need help with having your say?

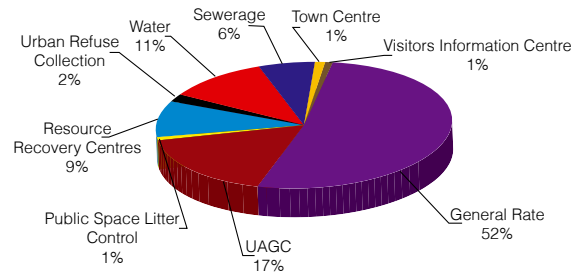
Public sessions will be held to discuss the Draft Annual Plan. Staff will be available to answer your questions and help you make your submissions.

**Te Kaha Resort**  
5.00 to 6.00 pm,  
Tuesday, 13 May.

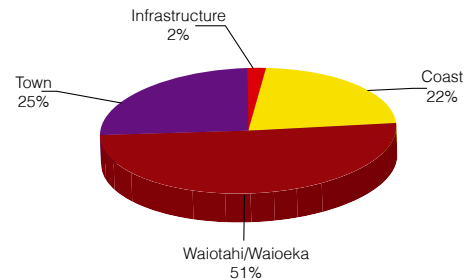
**Opotiki District Council**  
5.00 to 6.00pm,  
Wednesday, 14 May.

## Where do our rates dollars come from?

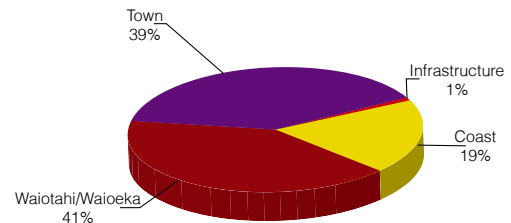
### Rate Revenue By Rate



### General Rate Revenue By Ward



### Total Rate Revenue By Ward



## Coast Community Board Focus

- The development of toilet facilities, playground areas and reseve landscaping at Maraetai Bay Reserve and Oruaiti Beach.
- The construction of new changing rooms for the Te Kaha Sports Club



This newsletter is produced by:  
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# Opotiki District Council Draft Annual Plan 2008 to 2009

## Have your say – submission form

CLOSING DATE FOR COMMENT : 5.00pm Tuesday May 27, 2008

### Privacy Act

Note : Please be aware that submissions form part of the public consultation process for the Community Plan and as such will be reproduced as an attachment to a publicly available Council agenda and remain on Council minute records

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_ (day)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Send your submission form to

The Chief Executive  
Opotiki District Council  
PO Box 44  
Opotiki

Or drop into the Council office at  
108 St John Street  
Opotiki

Or email to francesr@odc.govt.nz  
Or fax to 07 315 7050

**I / We wish to be heard in support of my / our submission**

You will be contacted to arrange a time for your hearing on Wednesday 4 June, 2008.

I / we wish to submit on the following proposals in the Draft Annual Plan

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_

I/we support/ oppose (delete one) these proposals for the following reasons

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_

I / we request that Council make the following decisions to address my / our concerns

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_

My/our opinion on speed traffic speed reduction methods

The best option for traffic control is:

- Speed bumps      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_
- Perception humps      \_\_\_\_\_
- No intervention      \_\_\_\_\_

