

WAIHI VILLAGE WATER AND WASTEWATER CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

Introduction

This is your opportunity to have your say on:

- Whether you want Council to connect the Waihi Village area to drinking water sourced from Turangi.
- Whether you want Council to connect the Waihi Village area with a wastewater collection system and for the wastewater collected to be treated at the Turangi Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Background

An application was made by the trustees of Waihi Kahakaharoa 1Z2B2B Maori Reservation Trust (Waihi Marae Trust) to Council to fund both the upgrading of the water supply and installation of a wastewater reticulation system. Through the Long-term Plan 2018-28 (LTP), Council agreed in year four to fund both projects by connecting Waihi Village to the Turangi water and wastewater schemes.

In 2014, trustees of Waihi Marae Trust initiated a project to supply Waihi Village with drinking water that meets current New Zealand standards. The trustees made an application to the Ministry of Health to fund this work via the Drinking Water Subsidy Scheme. While \$470,000 was approved, after detailed investigations, this proved insufficient and the project stalled due to lack of additional funding. \$50,000 was spent on investigations and design and the information gathered will be used to assist the project. The remaining \$420,000 of this funding is still available, but due to a lack of progress, it is at risk of being withdrawn by the Ministry of Health.

The wastewater in Waihi Village is currently disposed of via septic tanks on individual properties. Septic tanks are usually adequate from a public health perspective, but are very poor for managing sudden loading i.e. when large events are held at the marae, and do not treat effluent to a very high standard. Too many septic tanks close together in a residential type environment typically results in adverse effects on the surrounding environment.

An early assessment determined that if both projects were combined it provided an opportunity to use a common trench between Waihi and Tokaanu resulting in cost savings.

Council included \$1.5 million in the LTP 2018-28.

Cost estimates have been updated for the draft LTP 2021-31.

Project costs estimates

Connection of Waihi Village to the Turangi water scheme (MOH contribution)	\$420,000
Connection of Waihi Village to the Turangi water scheme (TDC contribution)	\$750,000
Connection of Waihi Village to the Turangi wastewater network (TDC contribution)	\$1.2 million
Total cost	\$2.37 million

Project benefits

The project will have positives for the residents of Waihi Village, as they will have access to safe, treated drinking water that is compliant with the Drinking Water Standards New Zealand (DWSNZ). The connection to the Turangi wastewater network will enable advanced treatment of the wastewater, resulting in environmental benefits for Waihi Village.

What will the project involve?

Water;

When the project goes ahead, Waihi Village residents and Braxmere Lodge will be connected to the Turangi water scheme. Council will own the mains and services to the toby at each property boundary, and will flush, fix, repair and replace the main as required. All properties connected will pay a targeted water rate as part of their rates invoice from Taupō District Council.

The construction will involve trenching up to 1m deep through the village, landslide and road reserve to connect to Turangi town supply at Tokaanu using a 100mm main. Earthwork excavation protocols will be applied should earthworks uncover anything of a historic nature.

There will be a fire hydrant installed, but due to the length of the main, full firefighting hydrant flows will not be achieved. The Fire Service Water Supplies Code of Practice allows for a mix of options to be utilised and in Waihi Village's situation this would involve available hydrants flows supplemented with greater than 45 cubic metres of storage within 90m of a dwelling. The Lake offers such a storage option.

Wastewater .

There are various wastewater collection systems available. To determine the most appropriate option, a detailed investigation will be required. The Trustees will be consulted regarding the pros and cons of each option before a final selection is made.

If the project goes ahead, Waihi Village residents and Braxmere Lodge will be connected to the Turangi wastewater scheme. Council will own the mains, services and any collection pumps, or chambers. Council will flush, fix, repair and replace these assets as required. The sewer pipe from the house to the boundary or collection chamber will remain a private pipeline.

Construction will involve trenching of around 1 metre deep through village, landslide and road reserve to connect to Turangi town supply at Tokaanu using a 50mm to 100mm main. Construction will also require deep excavations to install chambers. Earthwork excavation protocols will be applied should earthworks uncover anything of a historic nature.

Public Access and Legal Access

There are no requirements to allow public access to Waihi Village as part of this project. If the project is approved, service person access will be required to maintain, repair and renew any water and wastewater assets.

If this project is approved, Council will require legal access to its assets, i.e. mains, pumps and chambers. This will require written approval by the property owner before any work is undertaken.

What are the costs for landowners?

Residents who choose to connect to the water and wastewater schemes will be charged the targeted water rate and targeted wastewater rate. In the draft Long-term Plan 2021-31, these are:

- Targeted water rate for 2021/22 - \$532.26
- Targeted wastewater rate for 2021/22 - \$778
- Water meters will be installed for non-residential properties

For those who do not choose to connect to the new system (for example on a vacant section), a charge of 50% of the water and/or wastewater rate will be applied.

For unoccupied land and properties with uninhabitable dwellings, the owners can apply to Council for a waiver of the rates. The process for rates to be waived is detailed in section 5 of Council's "Rates Remission and Postponement Policy". Copies of this policy are viewable on Council's web site, or you can contact our rates team on 07 376 0899.

Works within private properties to connect buildings to the Council service is technically a landowner cost, but the Trustees are working with Council in finding options to assist property owners with this cost.

When Will Rates be Charged?

All properties connected will pay a targeted wastewater rate as part of their rates invoice from Taupō District Council. Water and wastewater rates will not be charged until the financial year **after** the scheme has been commissioned. Based on construction occurring in early 2022, we expect that this is likely to be the financial year beginning 1 July 2022.

You can find out more by: Emailing bsomers@taupo.govt.nz
- Calling 07 376 0899
- Or contacting Barry Somers 027 239 8912
-

Have your say

You can prepare a submission and send it to Council by:

- Visiting taupo.govt.nz (electronic submission form)
 - Emailing HaveYourSay@taupo.govt.nz
 - Dropping it into one of our Council offices
- Mailing to: Freepost No. 112497
The Chief Executive Officer
Taupo District Council
Private Bag 2005
Taupo District Council

Submissions must be received by 5pm on 24 May 2021. Hearings will be arranged in Turangi, if required. Please indicate on your submission if you would like to speak at the hearings, otherwise we will assume that you are happy for us to rely on your written submission. Council will take into consideration the points raised in all of the submissions, even if you do not wish to present at the hearings. If you have indicated that you wish to present your comments in person, you will be contacted after the submission period has closed to arrange a time. You will be given up to 5 minutes in which to present your submission and answer questions. Please make your written comments as complete as

possible and use the hearing time to highlight the most important aspects of your submission.

What are we seeking feedback on?

We are seeking feedback to see whether Waihi Village should be connected to the Turangi drinking water and wastewater networks.

Issue 1: Should Waihi Village be connected to reticulated water and wastewater?

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
<p>Option 1 – Connect Waihi Village with reticulated water and wastewater</p>	<p>The residents of Waihi Village will receive safe and reliable drinking water that is treated in accordance with the Drinking Water Standards New Zealand.</p> <p>This will remove the risk of water borne illnesses.</p> <p>The residents of Waihi Village would have their wastewater collected and disposed of at the Turangi Wastewater Treatment Plant which has better environmental outcomes than septic tanks.</p> <p>Council has specialist water and wastewater operators and provide an on-call emergency service.</p>	<p>Until another option is implemented water will not meet national standards.</p> <p>Until another wastewater scheme is installed, Lake Taupo next to Waihi village will continue to receive partially treated wastewater.</p> <p>Residents who connect would be charged targeted rates for water and wastewater. In the Long-term Plan these are \$532.26 and \$778.</p> <p>Council engaged water and wastewater servicemen will require site access.</p>
<p>Option 2 – Do not connect Waihi Village with reticulated water and wastewater.</p>	<p>Landowners would not have to pay Council for targeted rates for water and wastewater.</p> <p>The Waihi community can choose where to source its water and where to discharge its treated wastewater.</p>	<p>Landowners are responsible for providing their own drinking water and disposing of their own wastewater. The water is unlikely to be treated to the drinking water standards thereby creating a higher than average risk for the community and for any visitors.</p> <p>Septic tanks remain in use and have poor environmental outcomes. A locally trained workforce will be required to correctly run the schemes.</p>

Council’s and the Trustees of Waihi Kahakaharoa preferred option is Option 1 – Connect Waihi Village with reticulated water and wastewater. This option leads to better health outcomes for the residents of Waihi Village, who will receive water that is treated to comply with the Drinking Water Standards New Zealand.

SUBMISSION FORM - WAIHI VILLAGE WATER AND WASTEWATER CONSULTATION

PRIVACY STATEMENT:

Submitters are advised that the information supplied in written submissions may contain personal information within the meaning of the Privacy Act 2020. By taking part in this public submission process, submitters have agreed to any personal information (including names and contact details) which is contained in their submission being made available to the public as part of the consultation and decision making process. All information collected will be held by Taupō District Council. Submitters have the right to access and correct personal information. Submissions will be published in full on council’s website.

YOUR DETAILS

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Postal address: _____

Email: _____ Contact Number: _____

Organisation / On behalf of (If relevant): _____

PRESENTATION AT THE HEARING

Hearings will be arranged in Turangi

Would you like to present your submission in person, at the hearing? YES NO

WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED OPTION? (select one option below)

- Option 1 – Connect Waihi Village with reticulated water and wastewater

- Option 2 – Do not connect Waihi Village with reticulated water and wastewater

DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER COMMENTS?
