

Ōpōtiki District Council

Pānui

Ngā kōrero o te wā mai Te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Ōpōtiki | Keeping you up to date with Ōpōtiki District Council

Waiotahe detour route upgrade



Council is upgrading the detour resilience line around the Waiotahe bluffs to improve access to Ōpōtiki and beyond when State Highway 2 closes.

When State Highway 2 closes at the Waiotahe Bluffs traffic is sent along Waiotahi Valley Back Road, Verrall Road and Paerata Ridge Road. That's about 7 km of local road built for local traffic.

Ōpōtiki District Council, with funding from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is upgrading the route so it works safely for all traffic when the Bluffs are closed. That includes widening around 15 of the narrowest corners and straights – around 1.4 km in total. Widening the two key intersections. Cutting back banks to open sightlines. Clearing vegetation and built-up shoulders to recover the full seal width of the road and new detour signage and edge line marking, to make the route safer.

Head to the Hono Mai website **connect.odc.govt.nz** to find out more, including a whole section for those residents keen to know more about how the project may impact them.

SCAN ME

Help shape the future of Te Kaha

Council is working on a project that will help guide future development, investment, and opportunities in Te Kaha and the wider east coast. We're calling it the Te Kaha masterplan.

Through this process, we'll work together with iwi, hapū, business and community to identify what makes Te Kaha and the wider coast special, what challenges need to be addressed, and what aspirations the community has for the future.

Over the next six weeks, we'll be exploring a series of key themes that will help shape the Te Kaha Masterplan. Each week, a new question will be released focusing on a different theme, giving you the opportunity to share your thoughts, ideas, and aspirations for the future of Te Kaha and the wider east coast.

SCAN ME

Share your views and help shape the future



FEELING FESTIVE?

Now's the time to get your family, friends and floats ready for this year's **Ōpōtiki Christmas Float parade**. Six prize categories on offer.

Register your float today with Whakaatu Whanaunga Trust.

wwt.org.nz



PARADE & MARKET
Friday 4 December, 4.30pm

Te Tāhuhu o Te Rangi Ōpōtiki District Library

Our wonderful library team run a series of events each week. This November features:

Monday – Slow Crafts | **Tuesday** – Lego
Wednesday – Storytime and Waiata Wenerei with whaea Anita.

Want to connect with other wāhine (women) and mothers in our community? Keep an eye on Te Tāhuhu o Te Rangi Facebook page for the date of their next Wāhine Lounge.

Coming in December: The Christmas Escape Room: Santa's Toyshop will run from the beginning of December for two weeks. Follow Te Tāhuhu o Te Rangi on Facebook for the exact dates.

Water Rates – what the new charges could mean for you



Following a review and consultation period on Fees and Charges earlier in the year, Council adopted a new fee structure for water supply from 1 July 2026.

With the first water rates bill for this year due in December, we're reminding the community that your invoice may be higher in-line with the new 2026 charges.

Water invoices will now show a lower General Rates charge, which will benefit all ratepayers, however households connected to one of the council water schemes will notice the greatest change. Volume-based charges for households connected to the Ōpōtiki township, Ōhiwa and Te Kaha water schemes, have all increased.

To read the background information, head to the Hono Mai webpage that was used to engage on the proposed changes to Fees and Charges.

For the current 2026/27 Fees and Charges head to council's website.

Need help? If you feel you may need help managing your water rates, contact our rates team as soon as you get your invoice. We may be able to transfer any credit you have from your land rates, or set a payment plan that works for you.