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COUNCIL MEETINGS

FEBRUARY 2015

[Draft Regional Public Transport Plan 2015-2025 Hearing - Deliberations](#)

Monday 23 February – 9.30am

Tuesday 24 February – 9.30am

Wednesday 25 February – if required

[Finance Committee](#)

Wednesday 25 February 2015 – 10.00am

[Council](#)

Thursday 26 February – 2pm

[Lake Taupo Catchment Committee](#)

Regional council funding helps festival focus on environment

Have you headed to any of this year's [Hamilton Gardens Arts Festival](#) events yet?



The popular festival runs until Thursday 26 February. If you're flicking through the programme keep an eye out for events marked with a 'green heart' - they're the ones we've supported.

Late last year, the council's finance committee agreed to the \$23,000 contribution, enabling the Hamilton Gardens Festival Foundation to include environmental awareness and sustainability events on the programme.

One such event is The Great Debate this Sunday about whether 'New Zealanders' expectations of water quality are too high'. The debate will be introduced by regional council chairperson Paula Southgate and include our very own water scientist, Bill Vant, on the affirmative.

The debate is at the Riverside Terrace, 4pm. Admission is free.

BUSIT to and from the cricket world cup



Friday 27 February 2015
– 9am

MARCH 2015

Regional Transport Committee

Monday 2 March –
9.30am

Civil Defence

Emergency

Management Group

Monday 2 March – 1pm

Central Waikato Catchment Committee

Tuesday 3 March – 10am

Regional Land Transport Plan Hearing - Deliberations

Tuesday 3 March – 10am

Wednesday 4 March
and Thursday 5 March – if
required.

Upper Waikato Catchment Committee

Wednesday 4 March –
9am

Nga Wai o Waipa Co-Governance Forum

Thursday 5 March –
8.30am

Audit & Risk Subcommittee

Friday 6 March – 9am

Hearing Appointment Subcommittee (if required)

Tuesday 10 March –
9.30am

Strategy & Policy Committee

Tuesday 10 March –
10.30am

Council (to adopt 2015-2025 Long Term Plan)

Thursday 12 March –
10.30am

Aka Aka Otatau Drainage Subcommittee

Friday 13 March – 9am

Waikato Spatial Plan Joint Committee

Friday 13 March –
9.30am

We've worked with Hamilton City Council to get people safely to and from all three world cup cricket matches at Seddon Park.

The first game was held last Sunday, with South Africa beating Zimbabwe. The next match to be hosted in Hamilton is on Tuesday 10 March, when India will play Ireland. Just three days later on Friday 13 March our own Black Caps will play Bangladesh.

Buses stop and depart from the Transport Centre, which is located just a few minutes' walk from Seddon Park. Additional buses will be running to help get fans home after each match.

Visit the [BUSIT website](#) for the details.

Workshop: Water quality issues and their causes



We know restoring and protecting our region's water quality is one of the big issues for people in our region. It is for the regional council too.

To help people understand current water quality and trends in different parts of the Waipa and Waikato river catchments, a workshop is being held next month which is open to interested members of the public.

It's part of the [Healthy Rivers: Plan for Change/Wai Ora: He Rautaki Whakapaipai](#) project, which is working to develop regional plan changes to restore and protect the health of the water in the two rivers.

The workshop is a great chance for people to hear more on the projects latest developments, including:

- current water quality and trends in different parts of the Waipa and Waikato River catchments
- insights into factors driving water quality
- how the project's modelling and research programme will help

West Coast Catchment Committee

Friday 13 March – 10am

Thames Valley Drainage Subcommittee

Monday 16 March – 10am

Lower Waikato Catchment Committee

Wednesday 18 March – 10am

Waihou Piako Catchment Committee

Thursday 19 March – 10am

Lake Taupo Protection Project Joint Committee

Thursday 19 March – 11am

Waikato Central Drainage Subcommittee

Friday 20 March – 10am

Council

Thursday 26 March – 10am

develop options

- the project milestones and timelines.

You can also share your thoughts with the **Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG)** on:

- how the CSG proposes to divide the catchment into areas so we can better manage water quality
- how they will determine how healthy (or unhealthy) a water body is.

The workshop is being held on Wednesday, 25 March in the Hamilton Gardens Pavilion between 10am and 3pm. People wanting to attend **need to register by Friday, 13 March here.**

Can't make it?

For those not able to attend, there will be other opportunities to get involved. Look in the next edition of our *Your Waikato e-newsletter* for details of an online survey and a series of drop in sessions that will be starting from late March.

For farmers



We're hiring



Free bus to Chiefs games in Hamilton



We're running free buses to Waikato Stadium throughout the Chiefs 2015 season so you can support your team.

Waikato Regional Council has worked with the Chiefs and Hamilton City Council to put on the services to help get people safely from the CBD to the stadium, and to relieve congestion around the venue.

Free buses depart from Hood Street (outside the Knox Street car park) at least every 10 minutes for an hour before the game.

The buses travel via Victoria, Ulster and Abbotsford streets, with passengers being picked up from any official bus stop along the way.

Visit our [BUSIT website](#) for match dates and times for this Super Rugby season.

In other news...

Nutrient reports highlight important new data

Two new reports on nutrients that can support algal growth in the Waikato and Waipa rivers indicate some potentially positive developments for protecting and restoring water quality in the region.



'Grandparented' water access applications flood in

Waikato dairy farmers and their milk companies have been extremely proactive in applying for 'grandparented' access to water takes under the region's new Variation 6 policy, says Waikato Regional Council.

Waikato's Effluent Expo turns 5

The groundbreaking Waikato Effluent Expo at the Mystery Creek events centre is turning five this year on St Patrick's Day and it will be bigger than ever.

Matamata-Piako addressing hazard risks

More research is needed on the potential effects of liquefaction, climate change and severe wind on Matamata-Piako district, says a new technical report prepared by the Waikato Regional Council's regional hazards team.

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