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COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 2015

[Te Arawa River Iwi Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee](#), Rotorua
Monday 2 November 2015 – 12pm

[Waipa Catchment Committee](#), Te Awamutu
Tuesday 3 November 2015 - 10.00am

[West Coast Catchment Committee](#)

Celebrity mobility scooter race feature of Have A Go Day

Have A Go Day and disability expo Celebrating International Day of Persons with Disability



Hamilton's largest ever Have A Go Day is being held next week to promote a range of disabled-friendly products and services, and will include a local celebrity mobility scooter race in the CBD.

It is the fourth year Waikato Regional Council and CCS Disability Action have run Have a Go Day on the buses, and the second year they will be joined by Hamilton City Council and Life Unlimited in Civic Square on **Thursday, 3 December**, between 11am and 2pm.

It's timed to coincide with International Day of Persons with Disabilities, a global event to celebrate disability and educate the public.

Two buses will be on site for people to get on and off, with a disability expo showcasing what's on offer from more than 10 local organisations to help people live the life they choose.

[Read more about it here.](#)

Environmental advocates sought



Thursday 5 November
2015 - 10.00am

[Waikato Central Drainage
Advisory Subcommittee](#)

Friday 6 November 2015 -
10.00am

[Thames Valley Drainage
Advisory Subcommittee,](#)
Te Aroha

Monday 9 November
2015 - 10.00am

[Upper Waikato Catchment
Committee,](#) Putaruru

Tuesday 10 November
2015 - 9.00am

[Waikato Plan Joint
Committee,](#) Te Awamutu

Wednesday 11 November
2015 - 9.30am

[Lower Waikato Catchment
Committee,](#) Ngaruawahia

Wednesday 11 November
2015 - 10.00am

[Waihou Piako Catchment
Committee,](#) Te Aroha

Thursday 12 November
2015 - 10.00am

[Aka Aka Otatau Drainage
Subcommittee,](#) Waiuku

Friday 13 November 2015
- 9.00am

[Healthy Rivers Wai Ora
Committee](#)

Friday 13 November 2015
- 1.00pm

[Waikato Raupatu River
Trust and Waikato](#)

[Regional Council
Co-Governance
Committee,](#) Ngaruawahia
Wednesday 18 November
2015 - 1.00pm

[Audit and Risk
Subcommittee](#)

Friday 20 November 2015
- 9.00am

[Waikato Civil Defence
Emergency Management
Group](#)

Monday 23 November
2015 - 1.00pm

[Hearings Appointment
Subcommittee](#) (if required)

Tuesday 24 November
2015 - 9.30am



A voluntary organisation is seeking environmental advocates from across the region to fill five vacancies.

The Advisory Committee for the Regional Environment (ACRE) is a voluntary organisation which acts as an environmental advocate for the greater Waikato region. Its 15 members represent or have associations with many environmental groups regionally and nationally.

Members are appointed for a three year term and are eligible for re-election. Consideration will be given to the geographical spread of applicants, their associated networks and environmental knowledge.

[Visit the Waikato Regional Council website](#) for nomination forms and more information about the group.

Alternatively, contact [Aimee Christensen](#) on 07 859 2720 or chair [Rex Bushell](#) on 021 237 3857.

Nominations close on Friday, 4 December 2015.

Diesel spill exercise will test emergency team



The exercise scenario is a tricky one. An imaginary fishing vessel will run aground in bad weather off the Coromandel coast in the early hours of the morning and lose 2000 litres of diesel into the ocean. Another 2000 litres remains on board.

Come morning, the weather has eased and the vessel, located between Tainui Cove and Tararu, north of Thames is now “stable”. But north-east winds are pushing the spilt diesel towards shore and there’s a threat that more could leak.

[Strategy and Policy Committee](#)

Tuesday 24 November 2015 - 10.00am

[Finance Committee](#)

Wednesday 25 November 2015 - 10.00am

[Integrated Catchment Management Committee](#)

Thursday 26 November 2015 - 10.00am

[Regional Transport Committee](#)

Monday 30 November 2015 - 9.30am

December 2015

[Hamilton Public Transport Joint Committee](#)

Tuesday 1 December 2015 – 1.00pm

[Lake Taupo Protection Project Joint Committee, Taupo](#)

Thursday 3 December 2015 – 1.00pm

[Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee, Taupo](#)

Friday 4 December 2015 – 12.00pm.

[Aka Aka Otatau Drainage Subcommittee, Waiuku](#)

Friday 11 December 2015 – 9.00am

[Council](#)

Tuesday 15 December 2015 – 10.30am

[Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee](#)

Tuesday 15 December 2015 – 2.00pm

This is the theoretical situation which will confront Waikato Regional Council's regional marine oil spill response team on the morning of **Thursday, 3 December**. It's the focus of the team's annual field deployment exercise.

The exercise will involve 20-25 responders, at least one vessel and crew, staff from other emergency agencies, as well as about 10 council staff assisting with the running of the event.

Those responding to the scenario will deploy booms used to contain the spread of contaminants and practice using equipment for scooping diesel and other substances out of the water. They'll also carry out an environmental impact assessment.

Besides giving team members a chance to practice their skills, the exercise is required to help keep their response qualifications up to date.

Info day for flood mitigation project near Thames



An information day is being held for people to find out more about a multi-agency project to mitigate frequent and sometimes severe flooding at Kirikiri near Thames.

Details of a stopbank upgrade and bridge replacement at Kirikiri will be available.

Where: Thames Golf Club

Time: Between 4pm and 7pm

Date: Monday, 7 December

The Kirikiri area has previously experienced localised flooding, made worse by the way the current Kirikiri Stream Bridge on State Highway 26 affects flood waters.

Waikato Regional Council has been working with the NZ Transport Agency on a solution, which involves the bridge being replaced to

enable the council's Waihou Valley flood control scheme to be completed to its original design standard.

The new bridge will handle the flow of a 100-year flood event. It will be about three metres higher and won't have a central support structure. This will prevent debris accumulating under the bridge and contributing to flooding.

Following construction of the new bridge, Waikato Regional Council will widen the stream channel and floodway, upgrade the stopbanks to a higher level, shift some stopbanks back from the stream's channel, and in a few areas construct timber floodwalls.

The project, scheduled to be constructed between 2018 and 2021, is dependent on the Transport Agency finalising funding for the bridge replacement.

The combined budget for the proposed works will be confirmed following the detailed design. However, there will be no impact on Waikato Regional Council rates because this work is a completion of the already funded Waihou Valley Scheme.

For farmers



We're hiring



Our Waikato road code promotion is back!

Are you a learner driver, or do you know someone who is? Our Waikato road code promotion is back, with 500 Road Codes up for grabs to help you get your learner's licence the first time! Our promotion ends on **Sunday, 13 December** - just head to the [Reduce the Risk website](#) for details on how to enter.

WHEN MUST I NOT OPEN
MY CAR DOOR?



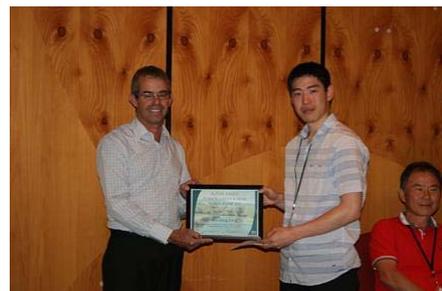
Pass first time!

Don't miss this chance to get
your own Road Code.

Top Te Aroha student wins scholarship

Congratulations to Min-Song Kang, a top student from Te Aroha who has won this year's \$6000 Roger Harris (Waihou Valley Scheme) Scholarship.

Min-Song Kang, pictured this week with councillor Stu Kneebone, has just completed his second year of a civil engineering degree at Auckland University. In his first year at university he



received the Alumni Scholarship and achieved an A+, A, and A- in three of his courses.

The Roger Harris (Waihou Valley Scheme) Scholarship was established in 1995 to mark the substantial completion of the Waihou Valley Scheme and, in particular, to acknowledge the contribution of the late Roger Harris to the successful implementation of that major project.

The scholarship is available to students from the Waihou Piako rating zone area who are undertaking study in the fields of civil engineering or resource management.

Min-Song completed his secondary education at Te Aroha College in 2013 and received the Dux award.

Your Waikato in your letterbox

Keep an eye out for the last print edition of *Your Waikato* for 2015, due to arrive in letterboxes across the region in early December.

Read about the work our staff will be doing over the summer holidays around our waterways, new interim bus services for Hamilton's northern suburbs, as well as a project we've got underway looking at water quality and quantity.

And Ruben the Road Safety Bear has some tips to keep kids safe around the roads too.



Also in the media...

Waikato Regional Council working on sea level rise modelling tool

An online tool to help people see the impacts of projected sea level rise scenarios on coastal properties is being worked on by Waikato Regional Council.



Dame Te Atairangikaahu Scholarship Awards for 2015

A desire to contribute to good outcomes for Māori and the environment is common amongst this year's five winners of the Waikato Regional Council and Waikato-Tainui Dame Te Atairangikaahu Scholarships.

[Regional council acknowledges Piako farmers' efforts](#)

The efforts of farmers to improve the health of the Piako River have been deservedly recognised at an awards ceremony in Wellington last night, says Waikato Regional Council chairperson Paula Southgate.

[Be careful with bar crossings](#)

Waikato Regional Council's maritime services team says a recent mishap on the west coast is a reminder for boaties of the need for extreme care when crossing the region's coastal bars.

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