

Annual Plan adopted

Hamilton City Council is sticking to its financial plan and is ready to reinvest in the city.

This was reflected this week when Council signed off its 2014/15 Annual Plan.

The Annual Plan outlines what the Council will deliver over the next year (from 1 July 2014 through to 30 June 2015) and how much it will cost.

The Council has kept the rates increase at 3.8 per cent in place, with an additional \$10 charge for the Hamilton Gardens development.

The Plan includes budget allocated to significantly develop Hamilton Gardens, finish a plan for development around the river, upgrade two key city destination playgrounds and allow free access to

pools for children under 5 years old.

The Council also agreed to invest an additional \$362,000 on city safety initiatives. This is in response to an urgent call for action from the community to address concerns that people were feeling unsafe in some public areas.

For Hamilton Mayor Julie Hardaker, the Plan is incredibly exciting for the city.

“After three years of tightly managing the city’s finances, the Council is in great shape to start reinvesting in Hamilton”

“These projects and initiatives identified in the Plan are fantastic for the city and they are projects that matter to Hamiltonians.”

Council received 167 submissions to the plan and heard from more than 60 people during the hearings.

THE FINANCIAL PLAN

2016 The Council will
BALANCE THE BOOKS

\$440m total overall **DEBT CAP**

\$15m to be **SAVED** each year by 2015



The Annual Plan and new fees and charges schedule will be available at www.hamilton.govt.nz on 1 July.

A QUICK SNAPSHOT OF THE KEY PROJECTS

Development of Hamilton Gardens

Hamilton Gardens is an outstanding city asset and our biggest tourist attraction. The Council approved completing another five themed gardens and additional infrastructure at the Gardens over the next four years. The four year programme includes:

- completion of the Tudor Garden and Surrealist Garden (both in progress)
- development of the Concept Garden, Mansfield’s Garden and Picturesque Garden
- a new jetty into the Italian Renaissance Garden
- Turtle Lake car park extension
- an information centre upgrade
- a destination playground
- security improvements.



Medieval Garden



Tudor Garden

Central City Transformation Plan

Council agreed to \$80,000 to develop a plan to transform the Central City into a strong commercial and residential centre.

Safety in the central city

Council agreed to invest an additional \$362,000 on city safety initiatives. This includes reinstating daytime City Safety Ambassador patrols, increased litter collection, new CCTV cameras, increased bylaw and policy enforcement, and increased vegetation maintenance.

Destination playgrounds

An additional \$13,000 was approved to upgrade the playground at Minogue Park. \$170,000 will also be spent upgrading the Lake Domain destination playground.

Free entry to Council Pools for under 5 year olds

Council agreed that \$30,000 be included to enable children under 5 to receive free casual entry to Waterworld and Gallagher Aquatic Centre.

The River Plan

Council agreed to fund the development of the city’s River Plan with \$150,000. The Plan will identify development opportunities for the river over the next 30 years.



Boathouse

To read the full Annual Plan visit www.hamilton.govt.nz/annualplan

Safer streets

Work on making our streets safer for everyone is continuing throughout the city. For the next couple of weeks, the focus is on the Bankwood Rd / Heaphy Tce / Clarkin Rd intersection in Chartwell.

The key things happening include:

- **Construction of two roundabouts at the Heaphy Tce/Clarkin Rd and Bankwood Rd/Clarkin Rd**
This will increase the safety of the whole intersection by slowing down traffic and maintaining traffic movements along Clarkin Rd.
- **Installation of a raised pedestrian platform on Clarkin Rd, between the two roundabouts.**
This will allow safer and more visible pedestrian crossing across to the shops.
- **Installation of a shared path on the northern side of Clarkin Rd**
This will enable cyclists who are not confident with negotiating roundabouts to continue off-road through this intersection if they wish.

The improvements are expected to be finished in early July, and we apologise for any inconvenience to traffic.



Campbell Smith receives major city award

Poet, playwright, wood engraver and gallery director Campbell Smith has become the 17th resident to receive Hamilton's Freedom Holder of the City award.

It is the highest civic honour bestowed by the city and is given to residents who have made a significant and sustained contribution to Hamilton for more than 20 years. Hamilton Mayor Julie Hardaker says Campbell Smith is a Hamilton icon and a driving force in the development of the arts in the city.

"Hamilton owes Campbell Smith a great debt of gratitude," she says. "His wisdom and foresight have played a major role in the development of the arts in Hamilton and he leaves us a rich legacy."



Mayor Julie Hardaker with award recipient Campbell Smith

HAMILTON ZOO RECEIVES CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

Hamilton Zoo has been awarded with a Certificate of Excellence on the Trip Advisor New Zealand website. The Certificate of Excellence is awarded to accommodations, attractions, restaurants and vacation rentals that consistently achieve outstanding traveller reviews on TripAdvisor.co.nz. Hamilton Zoo is now ranked second place out of 16 Hamilton attractions reviewed on the website. Hamilton Gardens remains the top attraction with Taitua Aboretum coming in third place.

COUNCIL NEWS

Visit www.hamilton.govt.nz to read our latest media releases

- Event funding grant open soon
- Hamilton City Libraries partners with Theory Test
- Te Rapa Sportsdrome scores an upgrade
- New face to lead Hamilton Youth Council
- Fluoride interim hearing delayed
- Three Hamilton parks vandalised
- Campbell Smith receives major City award

SURVEY DUE TO START

The Council's 2013/2014 residents' survey is about to begin. A randomly selected group of 400 people in the city will be phoned over the next two weeks to assess their satisfaction with a range of Council provided facilities and services.

Survey to help plan for people and pooch-friendly parks



Rebecca Brown and Rebecca Aston enjoy a game of fetch with dogs Monty, George and Sam at Hamilton's Day's Park.

Hamiltonians are being asked how they use the facilities the city provides for dog owners to exercise their pets, and for their ideas on how to improve them.

There are 10,522 dogs in Hamilton and Council is using the review of the current dog control policy and bylaw as an opportunity to create a long term plan for dog exercise areas in the city.

The survey is being sent to dog obedience clubs and the 2000 dog owners who have registered their email addresses with Council. Answers will provide feedback on the dog exercise areas in 15 of the city's parks. The wider community is also being invited to complete the survey and can access it via <http://tiny.cc/poochparks>. The questionnaire closes on July 7.

Cr Angela O'Leary, who is part of the working group of councillors reviewing the policy, says she wants Hamilton to be a much more dog friendly city.

"For many people, dogs play an important role in family life," she says. "We want to create a long-term plan to provide family and dog friendly parks by making areas safe and fun for people and their pooches."

Libraries review

Hamiltonians have spent the last few weeks giving their views on what libraries in the future might look like.

The feedback is part of the Hamilton Libraries Strategic Review which aims to deliver a more effective and efficient libraries service for the city.

1125 people have provided feedback from 4 – 18 June and these views will be part of the information provided to the working group.

A plan for the libraries will be presented back to Council later this year.





Mayor Julie Hardaker

Celebrating Hamiltonians

Recognising those who have contributed to Hamilton and celebrating their achievements is a great way for our community to say thank you.

Recently we acknowledged Campbell Smith, awarding him the city's highest honour, the Freedom of the City, for his outstanding contribution to the Arts sector. He has been an influential figure in Hamilton's arts scene for a long time as an artist and play writer and was the first director of the Waikato Museum. It was a special day for me to spend time with Campbell and thank him for his long list of achievements.

The city makes Civic Awards each year to recognise those special people who have given their own time to do great things for Hamilton. This year we will be making some awards in this category in honour of our 150th celebrations and I encourage everyone to think of who might be worthy of a Civic Award.

For the first time, in August, we will announce a new award, Hamiltonian of the Year. This will be our opportunity to say thank you and to recognise someone who has made a significant contribution to Hamilton over a long period of time.

Civic honours are much more than the honour itself; they are about our identity as a city and what makes our community what it is today, and they allow all of us to share in the success and contribution of others.

Hamilton is home to many wonderful people who everyday make a contribution to our place. I am looking forward to celebrating that in the months to come.

Hamilton recovers quickly from storm

Hamilton definitely did not go unscathed following the storm event a couple of weeks ago, however the quick clean up times meant disruption was kept to a minimum.

Over the 24 hour period from midnight Wednesday 11 June to midnight Thursday 12 June, Hamilton received 34.2 mls of rain.

During that 24 hour period, 139,000m³ came through the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This is equivalent to the volume of about 55 Olympic sized swimming pools and was the highest volume ever recorded to flow through the Plant. On average, approximately 1900m³ of wastewater flows through the wastewater treatment plant each hour.

Although winds only reached 44km/h, the gusts managed to



A fallen tree takes out power lines on Firth Street in Hamilton East. cause more than 20 trees to fall, blocking roads and pathways throughout the city. The New Zealand Fire Service Northern Communication Centre received 50 calls overnight relating to power outages and trees down in Hamilton.

Thank you to everyone who contacted Council to report damage in their areas.

Memories flow at reunion to mark city's 150th birthday



Civic leadership over the decades was the focus of a reunion of more than 70 former mayors, councillors and town clerks held to mark Hamilton's 150th birthday.

The evening was an opportunity for many guests to reacquaint themselves with colleagues they hadn't seen for more than

30 years and to reminisce about life as a councillor over the years.

Mayor Julie Hardaker says the evening also provided an opportunity to contemplate the way in which the city has changed and to reflect on some of the major decisions that the former elected

officials were involved in that helped shape the city.

"The reunion was a wonderful opportunity to reminisce with civic leaders from the past and present and to talk about the important role this group of people played in making the city what it is today," Mayor Hardaker says. "Throughout history many people have given their time to contribute to Hamilton and its development. Everyone at the reunion was honoured and proud to have played their part in the development of the city."

Adding to the sense of history on the evening was a former Mayoral chair, which was made in 1908 and transported to the Council for the night from Hamilton Museum, the sword used by Captain Hamilton and the first Hamilton Borough Council minutes, covering the period from 11 February to 14 November 1879 and a series of photos depicting important civic events over the last 150 years.

The photo gallery of Councils over the years is now on permanent public display in the Council Chamber foyer and the public is welcome to come and view them.

Te Rapa Sportsdrome scores an upgrade

Work on making Te Rapa Sportsdrome warmer, drier and easier to access has begun.

Insulation work on the walls and ceiling began last week and will reduce heat loss and noise levels, create a drier environment and see a reduction in energy and money being spent on heating and cooling the building.

Work has also begun on making the Sportsdrome more accessible for people with disabilities. This work includes installation of automatic doors and ramps and changes in road markings and the addition of one extra parking space.

For Community Wellbeing Manager Jen Murray, these works

are great news for the Sportsdrome and its users.

"The insulation will make the Sportsdrome a much better space right throughout the year. Council is committed to creating facilities that are of a high standard and to ensure our facilities are inclusive and accessible for all people."

"We do realise that the work will cause some disruption and have been in touch with the user groups to minimise this as much as possible. The long-term benefits will definitely be worth it but we do apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works."

The improvements are expected to be completed by 31 July.

June/July
2014

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www.whatsonhamilton.co.nz

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YOUR MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

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OCEANIA INLINE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

SATURDAY 5 JULY

- TUESDAY 8 JULY

HAMILTON IN-LINE HOCKEY CLUB

Hamilton is hosting the trans-Tasman Oceania Inline Hockey Championship for the first time this year! Australia and New Zealand teams will battle it out for supremacy in the seven divisions 12 and under, 14 and under, 17 and under, junior women, masters and veterans. Junior women, masters and veterans play a series of five games and 12s, 14s and 17s play a best of three. The overall wins determine the winner of the Trans-Tasman Trophy. New Zealand is the current trophy holder and aim to retain in 2014. This year we are introducing the Southern Cross Series where Australia will also play regional representative teams in the 12, 14 and 17 grades. There are six New Zealand teams, six Australian teams and nine regional teams three from each region) in total event. Entry is free! Come and support New Zealand in an exciting spectator sport, suitable for all ages to view. The event is hosted by the New Zealand Inline Hockey Association utilising the Hamilton Inline Hockey venue, Lugton Park, Dey Street, Hamilton. For more information visit www.inlinehockeynz.org.nz or phone 021 845 977.

CHIEFS VS HURRICANES

FRIDAY 4 JULY

WAIKATO STADIUM

The mighty Chiefs take on the Hurricanes next weekend and it's sure to be a good one. Come down and the support the boys in their last home game for the regular season. To grab tickets visit www.ticketdirect.co.nz.

SMOKEFREEROCKQUEST FINALS

FRIDAY 4 JULY

CLARENCE ST THEATRE

Smokefreerockquest is New Zealand's only nationwide, live, original music, youth event. Now in its 25th year, the series of more than 40 events reaches audience numbers in excess of 10,000 every year. Come along and support the 100% original New Zealand music Smokefreerockquest finals! To book visit Ticketek outlets, www.ticketek.co.nz or phone 0800 842 538.

STATE HIGHWAY 48

THURSDAY 10 JULY

- SATURDAY 12 JULY

CLARENCE ST THEATRE

A typical middle aged couple, their kids and their friends grapple with their daily lives, relationships and work against the backdrop of a changing world and all the issues that come with it. Along the way they come face to face with many of the dramas and trials we all have to face at some stage. Middle age is a tough and sometimes lonely road so with his rock opera the writer, Chris Williams, has tackled some of the issues we face including the recession, depression, job loss and communication while focusing on the important things – family, friends and love. Designed to make us feel normal and happy in our skins, it's raw and it's real with lots of laughs and a few tears. Don't miss the world premiere! To book tickets visit Ticketek outlets, 0800 842 538 or www.ticketek.co.nz

MORETON BAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY 2 JULY

GARDEN PLACE LIBRARY

MBSO is a friendly, community-based orchestra from Queensland Australia that performs a selection of classical and light music. This international tour is a first for MBSO and the MBSO Youth Symphony and is providing the musicians with the opportunity to develop their musical skills as an ensemble and in collaboration with several regional community and youth orchestras in New Zealand. This is a free music concert – just turn up at 12.30pm and enjoy. For more details visit www.hamiltoncitylibraries.co.nz

OPEN ALL HOURS

SATURDAY 5 JULY

- FRIDAY 18 JULY

RIVERLEA THEATRE

Open All Hours, adapted from the television series written by Roy Clarke. It's not often that a simple trip to the grocers leaves you vulnerable to a bout of the giggles, but with Arkwright and Granville behind the counter it's a c-c-c-certainty. Ger-Granville! Fer-fetch yer cloth! For more information and to book tickets visit www.iticket.co.nz



For more events and further information visit www.whatsonhamilton.co.nz or scan this QR code with your smartphone.

WHERE TO GET YOUR EVENT TICKETS:

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