

HE ARA TĀMATA CREATING GREAT PLACES

Supporting our people

January 2022

News updates about the Far North District Council

Sports hub pace picks up

New sports and recreation facilities are quickly taking shape at Kaitiāia and Waipapa. Construction milestones on Te Hiku Sports Hub are being ticked off almost weekly with concrete floors for the dry sports wing now poured and underfloor plumbing for the aquatic wing installed. The concrete base and block walls for the learn to swim and hydrotherapy pools are also complete. Following a brief Christmas break, work resumed on wet wing footings and dry wing steel framing. The hub is due for completion by the end of 2022. At Waipapa, a new entrance to the Bay of Islands Sports Hub from State Highway 10 has been built and construction of sports fields will begin mid-year, once the work is consented. This will see premier football and rugby league fields created, along with multipurpose fields for winter and for summer cricket games. Work on carparking and footpaths is also due to begin soon.



The Far Northland District Council's Building Consents Authority Team processed nearly all consent applications in 2021 within the 20-day statutory period, placing it among the top building consents teams in New Zealand. Go to page 4 to read about the Council's top achievements in 2021.

Te Hiku 'pumped' by tracks



Te Hiku youngsters are loving new all-weather pump tracks built at Memorial Park, Kaitiāia, and this one at Korora Park, Ahipara.

Kids of all ages and abilities have flocked to two new pump tracks opened at Kaitiāia and Ahipara late last year. The competition-grade tracks constructed by Velosolutions have been a huge hit with young people eager to try out the courses. The tracks are part of Te Hiku's Open Spaces Revitalisation Project, funded by the Government's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, and supported by Council. Revitalisation projects also support local businesses and boost employment.

Hokianga wharves completed



Significant upgrades to Māngungu wharf have improved safety for boats and other users.

Far North Holdings has upgraded Hokianga wharves at Māngungu, Te Karaka, and a boardwalk at Motutū. It has also completed a new wharf at Rangī Point. Upgrades at Te Karaka and Māngungu saw wooden decking and handrails replaced, and new pontoons and gangways added. New piles (plastic-sleeved to protect them from worm damage) were also added to Māngungu wharf. Finally, a pontoon was added to Motutū boardwalk. The work was completed before Christmas.

Holiday treat for skaters



Skateboarders and scooter riders are making the most of the new Kerikeri Domain skateboard ramp and bowl since it was opened in December.

A new skateboard ramp and bowl at Kerikeri Domain is proving a huge hit with adrenaline junkies. The skate park was built by pro skater turned builder Dave Crabb and will be officially opened along with a new basketball court in March. The skate park section was unofficially opened mid-December so it could be used over the holiday period. The skate park is part of a wider Domain upgrade funded by the Government's COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund.



Are you prepared if you need to isolate at home?

If you test positive for COVID-19, you'll need to isolate at home for at least 10 days. Plan ahead and make sure you have everything you need.

For more info and checklists to help you prepare go to northlanddhub.org.nz





Te Hiku

We operate eight refuse transfer stations across Te Hiku Ward. Our Kaitāia and Taipā facilities open daily and accept bagged and bulk rubbish, green waste, and other rubbish types. Most recycling is free, including scrap metal and whiteware. Our remaining six Te Hiku transfer stations accept fewer types of waste, but all take bagged rubbish and recycling. Please check our website for details.



Kaikohe-Hokianga

Our Kaikohe-Hokianga Ward population is dispersed across many remote communities making disposal of rubbish and recycling a challenge. There are currently four refuse transfer stations and five community recycling centres serving these communities. Our Class 1 Kaikohe Refuse Transfer Station accepts a full range of rubbish and recycling. Most recycling is free, including scrap metal and whiteware. It also takes car bodies.

District rubbish and recycling centres

We operate 16 refuse transfer stations across the Far North and 11 permanent community recycling centres. This map shows the location of each facility in our three wards. Go to our rubbish and recycling pages at www.fndc.govt.nz for address information, opening hours and other details.



Bay of Islands-Whangaroa

Our Bay of Islands-Whangaroa Ward population is growing. It also increases dramatically over the summer holidays, putting extra pressure on our waste facilities. To help meet demand, we opened a new refuse transfer station at Waipapa in 2018 in partnership with Northland Waste. This year, we worked with Te Tii (Waitangi) B3 Trust to open a community recycling centre at Waitangi.

KEEP THE FAR NORTH
tidy and beautiful this summer

Refuse transfer stations

Class 1 facilities

- Mon-Fri: 7:30am-5pm
- Sat & Sun: 9am-5pm
- Bagged and bulk rubbish
- Household recyclables
- Most sites accept batteries, hazardous waste, tyres, oil, green waste and scrap metal

Class 2 facilities

- Mon, Wed, Fri: 7:30am-1pm; Sat & Sun: 9am-1pm
- Additional hours for 20 Dec to 13 Feb (Tue & Thu): 7:30am-1pm
- Bagged and bulk rubbish accepted
- Household recyclables accepted
- Most sites accept batteries, hazardous waste, tyres, oil, green waste and scrap metal

Class 3 facilities

- Open three days a week, times vary
- Awanui, Herekino, Kohukohu, Panguru: Open three days a week, times vary
- Te Kao: Tues: 7:30-12pm; Sat: 9am-12pm
- Bagged rubbish only
- Household recyclables and batteries accepted

Recycling centres

Community recycling centres

- Opening hours range from daily to three days a week
- Household recyclables accepted
- Rubbish not accepted
- Opua - Seasonal service from 26 Dec to 29 Jan
- Rāwhiti - Open 1 to 19 Dec (9am-noon), 20 Dec to 28 Feb (8am-4pm)

What can I recycle for free?

- Glass bottles and jars
- Tin and aluminium cans
- Plastic bottles and packaging with a recycling symbol or number recycling symbol
- Please rinse containers
- Cardboard and paper
- Waste oil and batteries
- Whiteware and scrap metal (at selected refuse transfer stations)

Our top 10 achievements in 2021

The Far North District Council's mission is to create great places and support our people. In the last 12 months, we have delivered a substantial programme of new infrastructure that will help to make the District a great place to live. We are also a progressive organisation and have made big improvements to our systems, processes and services. Below are ten of our biggest achievements in 2021.



A boardwalk extension the Council and Far North Holdings Ltd are building at Mangonui is part of a \$107 million, Government-subsidised investment in new infrastructure across the district.



The Northland Transportation Alliance completed 94% of planned capital works in its Far North capital works programme in 2020/21, far exceeding capital works the Council has been able to deliver in the past.



Mayor John Carter opened a new Northern Area Animal Shelter at Kaitāia in July. The Council is Developing a new Southern Area Animal Shelter near Kaikohe.

1 In May, we completed the largest infrastructure project the Council has undertaken when we switched more than 1,300 Kerikeri households and businesses to a [new wastewater plant](#) and extended sewerage network. The new wastewater scheme positions Kerikeri for growth and reduces the town's dependence on septic tanks, which can pollute waterways if they are not maintained correctly.

2 We progressed, with Far North Holdings Ltd, a [\\$107 million works programme](#) funded largely by the Government's Provincial Growth Fund and COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund. Infrastructure improvements include road and maritime facility upgrades and place-making projects. A new enterprise park at Ngāwhā near Kaikohe will create jobs and education opportunities for local people.

3 In July, [we started work on a 14 km pipeline](#) that will connect a Council-owned aquifer bore at Sweetwater near Awanui with our Kaitāia Water Treatment Plant. This long-awaited infrastructure will reduce the town's reliance on the Awanui River, making the Kaitāia Water Supply more resilient in dry weather. We aim to complete this project before the 2022/23 summer.

4 The Northland Transportation Alliance (NTA) which manages Northland's roading network on behalf of Northland councils, [completed 94% of planned works](#) in its Far North District capital works

programme in 2020/21. This is a big increase on the road and footpath works the Council has historically been able to deliver. It is largely a result of the NTA's ability to manage resources and contracts across the region.

5 We started developing a [Bay of Islands Sports Hub](#) on a 46-hectare site at Waipapa.

The sports hub has a long-term vision of operating seven days a week and catering for seven sports codes. The Council is also supporting the development of sports hubs at Moerua Park in Kaitāia and at Lindvart Park in Kaikohe. The Te Hiku Sports Hub in Kaitāia will have an indoor aquatic centre when it opens this year.

6 We opened a [new, purpose-built Northern Area Animal Shelter](#) in Kaitāia. The new shelter caters for up to 20 dogs and has facilities that exceed minimum welfare standards. We are also developing a new, 14-kennel Southern Area Animal Shelter near Kaikohe and aim to open this later this year. We were fortunate to secure \$1 million of Government COVID-19 funds for these projects.

7 The Council [improved its overall rating in a local government excellence programme](#) that rates the performance of councils. The CouncilMARK™ Independent Assessment Board awarded the Council a BB rating on a nine-point scale (AAA to C) in April. The rating is an improvement on the B rating we received when we were one of the first councils to ask to be assessed under the programme in 2017.

8 [Our Building Consents Authority Team was ranked among the top building consent authorities](#) in New Zealand, processing 99.63% of applications between July 2020 and October 2021 within the 20-day statutory period. This was despite high numbers of applications. In addition to this, the team received mainly positive feedback when International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) audited it in October.

9 Our efforts to ensure the Far North gets 100% connected to the digital world were recognised nationally when [our digital strategy, Nothing But Net, won the Martin Jenkins Award for Better Policy and Regulation](#) at the 2021 Taituarā Society of Local Government Managers (SOLGM) Awards in May. Since then, other Northland councils have accepted the strategy as a foundation document for region.

10 We [implemented a hybrid working model](#) that gives staff more choice about where they work. Allowing staff to work from home, as well as at the office, has boosted productivity and wellbeing, while reducing our operating costs and carbon footprint. The model helped to qualify the Council as one of three finalists for a Future of Work Award at Human Resources New Zealand's NZ HR Awards 2022.

Contact us

Got questions or comments about this newsletter?

Email: communications@fndc.govt.nz

