

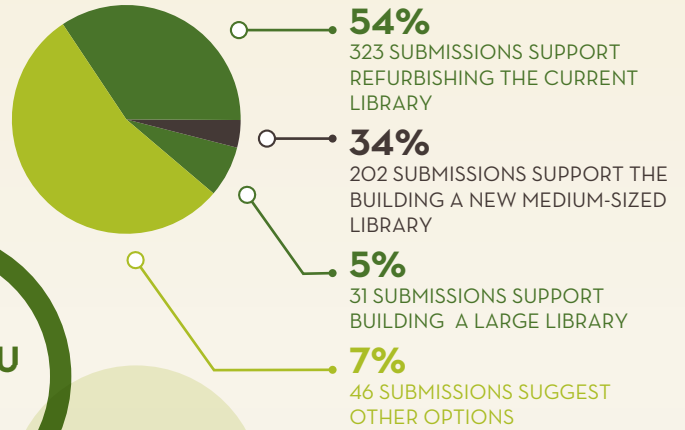
LIBRARY AND SERVICE CENTRES

Our libraries provide book lending services, places to meet, access to information technology and Council services. Over time we plan to upgrade all the libraries in our District to ensure they continue to meet our communities' needs.

Through the LTP Consultation Document we asked for your feedback on the proposal to build a new Library and Service Centre in Katikati.

We received 602 submissions on the Katikati Library project.

KATIKATI LIBRARY: 602 SUBMISSIONS



WHAT YOU TOLD US

"The current building is big enough"

"The Dunning property is the right place"

"Explore alternative solutions first"

"Design should consider sustainability and carbon footprint"

"Build bigger to cater for growth and flexible use"

"We can't afford the extra debt"

"We need a new library space"

"Stay on the current site and expand"

"Technology means we don't need more space"

"It should be medium-sized"

OUR DECISIONS

Having considered the feedback we decided to bring forward the library project to 2016. We will construct a medium-sized building on the Dunning property, between Talisman Drive and Main Road, to house the library, Council services and a multi-

use space. There will be potential to expand on the same site in the future. We have set aside funding of \$2.3m to complete this project. The annual impact on ratepayers will be \$3.85 for a \$500,000 property through to \$11.86 for a \$1.5m property.

REASONS FOR OUR DECISIONS

We believe Council has a role to play in providing appropriate library and community spaces. Our strategy for libraries is to provide a safe, relaxing environment for learning, social interaction, recreation and general participation in community life. It's our job to promote access to information and communication technology and to support heritage preservation that builds a sense of belonging to the area.

Building a new library was a key element of the 2010 Katikati Town Centre Plan - one of a number of improvements to revitalise the town centre. Relocating the library will free up the existing space. Submitters had lots of ideas for how best to utilise this area, such as office space for community groups like Katch Katikati, or for theatre and open-air art.

We think a new medium-sized facility will meet the community's needs at a reasonable cost. Most of the funding will be met through a loan paid back over the next 25 years. This is a sensible approach as the community will benefit from the library into the future. The existing building will be retained for community use. Council has considered the feedback on the future of libraries in the digital age. We are aware the digital revolution is changing the way we live our lives and do business.

Our libraries introduced e-collections almost two years ago. The uptake on this service is steadily growing as people adopt new technology. However we still have some challenges ahead with technology, particularly in terms of broadband coverage

in our rural District, and cost - both of the data and devices. Council's libraries provide free internet access as part of our core service to customers.

There will continue to be a significant shift in the way library services are delivered in the years ahead. We believe this will result in a different type of demand for libraries, rather than a reduced demand for space.

In summary, we believe the decisions respond to the concerns of those who want more investment in libraries and community spaces as well as those concerned about the cost of these types of facilities and debt.



HERITAGE MUSEUM

We have a role in protecting our District's cultural heritage. This includes acting as an advocate, facilitator and partner to assist the community to protect important cultural and heritage sites and artefacts. Through the LTP Consultation Document we asked for your feedback on the Katikati Heritage Museum and outlined some options to support and fund the museum.

We received 741 submissions on the museum project and cultural heritage.

WHAT YOU TOLD US

"Build a sub-regional facility in Tauranga"

"The museum is a community asset"

"We don't invest enough in culture and history"

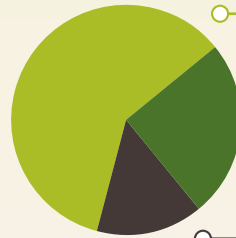
"Council should support our District's heritage"

"The museum will need ongoing Council support"

"Museums are a bad investment"

"Locals will only visit the museum once"

FUNDING OF KATIKATI MUSEUM: 737 SUBMISSIONS



60%

445 SUBMISSIONS SUPPORT ONGOING FUNDING

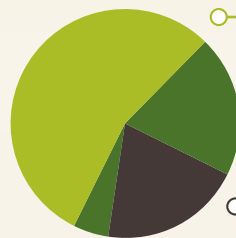
25%

186 SUBMISSIONS OPPOSE ANY COUNCIL SUPPORT

15%

106 SUBMISSIONS SUPPORT TEMPORARY FUNDING

RATING FOR KATIKATI MUSEUM: 660 SUBMISSIONS



55%

366 SUBMISSIONS SUPPORT THE 50/50 OPTION

20%

131 SUBMISSIONS SUPPORT DISTRICT-WIDE FUNDING

20%

131 SUBMISSIONS SUPPORT KATIKATI COMMUNITY BOARD AREA FUNDING

5%

32 SUBMISSIONS OPPOSE ANY FUNDING

OUR DECISION

Having considered the feedback we decided to provide temporary support to the Katikati Heritage Museum of \$60,000 per year for the next three years. This funding will be subject to a business plan from the new museum trust demonstrating the museum's viability. It is also conditional on the trust raising additional external funding to support its operations. The museum will be temporarily located in the Council-owned former fire station. Half the funding will come from Katikati ratepayers and the other half through a District-wide charge. This means Katikati ratepayers will pay \$8.70 and the District-wide charge will be approximately \$1.80. We will also consider providing up to \$75,000 funding, to be matched by the trust, to support the fit-out of the former fire station.

REASONS FOR OUR DECISION

We believe Council does have a role in protecting our District's heritage and history. But this does not necessarily mean we should operate museums.

We acknowledge there are things that contribute to the overall health and wellbeing of a community or District that aren't always sustainable without Council funding. These things include facilities such as museums, art galleries, libraries and swimming pools.

Having funding certainty for three years will enable the museum trust to develop a business plan and think innovatively about future funding options. It will also make it easier to attract other funding providers.

Council believes locating all or part of the museum collection in the former fire station is a good short-

term solution. Again, it provides the museum trust with some breathing space to determine its ongoing operation.

Council will continue to talk with the Katikati community about the best use of community spaces in the future. This is particularly significant given the development of a new library and multi-purpose space on the Dunning Block, also supported through the Long Term Plan.

Discussions about building a new sub-regional museum in Tauranga City will be ongoing. We feel that simply paying to store the museum collection until this time would be the wrong approach.

In summary, we believe this decision responds to the concerns of those who were opposed to the museum and those who advocated for it.

SPENDING ON ARTS AND CULTURE

As noted above, a number of people believe Council spends very little on arts and culture compared to recreation and parks. Consistent with our view that we do have a role in protecting our heritage and culture, it is important to note the funding Council does provide:

- \$35,000 grant funding to the Tauranga Art Gallery. A significant percentage of visitors to the art gallery come from the Western Bay of Plenty District including many children who travel to the gallery on the Art Bus
- \$18,000 annual grant to Katikati Open Air Art
- \$180,000 total funding to Katch Katikati, the Te Puke Economic Development Group and the Waihi Beach Community Events and Promotion Association to help facilitate community activities and events
- \$1.55m funding for District libraries as vital community spaces from which culture, heritage and history can be celebrated and shared.

SEAL EXTENSION ON RURAL ROADS

Council received a number of submissions seeking seal extension in rural areas.

There are 190kms of unsealed roads within the District. Seal extensions are a major and ongoing request from residents on unsealed roads. They experience dust nuisance in the summer and slushy conditions when it rains. Roads with pot holes and corrugations cause greater wear and tear on their vehicles. The dust can also reduce the value of horticultural crops.

“The seal extension priority list needs to be reviewed”

“Seal extension is a good investment”

WHAT YOU TOLD US

“The current priority list is not right”

“Our road needs to be sealed”

“Council should spend more on seal extensions”

“Use a lower standard of seal so you can do more”

OUR DECISIONS

Having considered the feedback we decided to spend savings of just over \$1m from the Joint New Zealand Transport Agency/Council Road Maintenance Contract on extra seal extension over the next two years. This equates to 3.5-6km of new seal depending on the standard of construction.

We will also review our seal extension construction standards with a view to reducing them under certain conditions. For example: no-exit roads; roads that

only service a few properties; and roads with satisfactory alignment. Road user safety is a factor taken very seriously when determining the standard of construction.

Once the review of construction standards is complete we will review the formula used to set the seal extension priority order. This review may result in a change in priority from previously published lists.

REASONS FOR OUR DECISIONS

The extra funding and changed criteria, if agreed, will allow Council to increase the amount of rural roads we seal and ensure those roads most in need of upgrading are done first.

DAIRY

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your
**DISTRICT
- COUNCIL -**

Long Term Plan 2015-2025



**Western Bay of Plenty
District Council**

If you require further information
or have any questions please phone our
Customer Services Team on **07 571 8008**
or visit your nearest library and service centre:

TAURANGA HEAD OFFICE:

Barkes Corner, 1484 Cameron Road, Greerton
Private Bag 12803, Tauranga 3143
P 07 571 8008 • **E** customerservice@westernbay.govt.nz

KATIKATI LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE

36 Main Road, Katikati • **P** 07 571 8008

WAIHI BEACH LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE

Waihi Beach Community Centre, Waihi Beach
P 07 571 8008

OMOKOROA LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE

McDonnell Street, Omokoroa • **P** 07 571 8008

TE PUKE LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE

130 Jellicoe Street, Te Puke • **P** 07 571 8008



Te Kaunihera a rohe mai i nga Kuri-a-Whare ki Otamarakau ki te Uru

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