

Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors' update August 2025

New model for delivering roading and transport services

The Council's roading contract with Downer operating through the Waikato District Alliance has now been replaced with new roading and lighting contracts for maintaining and upgrading our roads across the Waikato District. Core transport functions have been brought in-house to give Council greater oversight of network activity and future capability, and new contracts established for the north and south of the District. The new model is designed to deliver better value for money and more efficient planning and delivery. From July our new providers are Higgins (northern contract) and Fulton Hogan (southern contract – including Tamahere-Woodlands Ward.) Lighting services throughout the district will be provided by Horizons and Odyssey.

New Waters CCO – IAWAI Flowing Waters

Hamilton City and Waikato District Councils are the first in the country to have a joint plan for the future of their communities' water services formally approved by the Secretary for Local Government, Paul James.

All councils must submit Water Services Delivery Plans by early September to show how they will deliver water services, meet environmental and health regulations, make the right investments at the right time, and secure enough revenue and debt to do the work planned. Plans must keep up with growth and be financially sustainable. The HCC and WDC joint plan allows for the delivery of services for around 280,000 people through 91,000 connections across the two council areas with a predicted 22% increase in households or businesses needing water services over the next 10 years and with investment in shared water services of \$3.6 billion over that period. The Water Services Delivery Plan can be viewed on both councils' websites. The new CCO will be fully operational from July 2026.

Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) Council Profiles

Profile have been released for every council in the country. They are designed to help easy comparisons on rates, debt, spending, and staffing, but do not take account of differing growth rates and the difference in need to invest in new infrastructure, for example. Waikato DC is compared with a group of "Small Metro/Large Provincial" councils. The report is on the Council's website.

Hearings on neighbourhood parks and sports parks

Thanks to Tamahere Community Committee for your submission and presentation today (5 August). Results of deliberations will be shared as soon as possible.

Birchwood Lane

New traffic counts and speed data have been collected for analysis by the Council. Early indications are that the 85th percentile speed remains well above the posted speed limit at both survey points. A resident survey conducted by the Council is expected to open soon and run for two weeks. Staff anticipate preparing a report summarising the outcomes of both the data collection and resident feedback to be presented to the Tamahere Community Committee at its 2 September meeting. Staff have acknowledged and thanked Andrew Mowbray, Chris Betham and the local group that have already undertaken an online survey and say they intend to include those results in the report for TCC in September as well, and look forward to a collaborative, solution-focused meeting.

Rubbish bag stickers

You can keep using two blue stickers on bags until the end of August. After that please swap any leftover blue stickers for the equivalent value in new pink stickers at any Council office. New pink stickers will be on sale from mid-August.

Contact your Tamahere-Woodlands Councillors:

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