

News & Information from Mackenzie District Council



Mackenzie
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mayors United In Disappointment Over Three Waters Working Group

Three South Canterbury Mayors are united in their disappointment with the outcome of the Government's Three Waters Working Group. The mayors of Timaru, Waimate and Mackenzie district have been part of a nationwide campaign to get the Government to stop and rethink the Three Waters reform it is currently imposing on communities.



Timaru District Mayor Nigel Bowen said that the working group did nothing to allay the bigger questions over property rights being undermined by the proposal. "The tinkering over the ownership structure that the working group has proposed does nothing to make us more comfortable about the proposal," said Bowen. "Again they have delivered a Claytons ownership model where you have a share, but little influence over your assets, and then adds another layer of bureaucracy diluting community voice even further. "It's not ownership as we understand it and underlines the importance of the high court proceedings we're undertaking.

"Through Communities 4 Local Democracy we've tabled a common sense and community oriented solution that would meet the government requirements, but would also enjoy broad support, something which the Government doesn't have."

Waimate District Mayor Craig Rowley, said: "We are disappointed in the report to be presented to the Minister with what appears to be only some minor changes, at best. "It's really just tinkering around the edges and does not in any way solve or clarify the major issues around ownership, representation and local voice."

Mackenzie District Mayor Graham Smith expressed his disappointment that the three waters working party findings and recommendations to Government failed to address some of the fundamental concerns for the Mackenzie District. "Ownership of infrastructure belongs to our community and it needs to have a voice," said Smith. "Mackenzie should not be paying for larger councils' problems; rural concerns aren't addressed and the governance structures remain overly complex. We remain focussed on achieving the best outcomes for our communities and hope the government will engage in further discussion to understand and resolve our concerns."

Timaru, Waimate and Mackenzie District Councils are among the 31 members of Communities 4 Local Democracy He hapori mō te Manapori. The group is the local government action group campaigning for better reform for three waters.

For more information about its proposals visit www.communities4localdemocracy.co.nz

Submissions welcomed for the Heritage Protection Fund



Council are currently taking submissions for the Heritage Protection Fund. This fund is available to assist and actively encourage property owners and members of the Mackenzie community to manage, maintain, preserve and enhance the heritage values of items or areas. It provides a partial contribution towards the costs of a specific project related to a building, item or place.

The fund is allocated \$5000 each financial year by Council which is then contestable by applicants.

Eligible for funding are: Buildings, items or places listed on the Heritage Items Schedule of the District Plan, Trees listed in the Protected Trees Schedule and archaeological sites and wahi tapu sites as identified by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. Projects eligible may be: preservation/conservation projects, enhancement/management projects or research and education projects. The fund does not apply to projects that will demolish or remove buildings or items, or add or extend buildings or items, nor any work that has been completed prior to the consideration of an application. However, Council does reserve a right to consider these types of projects for funding if appropriate circumstances exist.

At least two quotes must be supplied that provide a breakdown of the costs. The criteria and amount of funding available for different categories of heritage items is provided in the Policy, as well as a full breakdown of the information that needs to be attached with an application.

Council calls for applications to be made for the Heritage Protection Fund in March each year. The applications are presented at a Council Meeting. Information provided will be publicly available as it will be a part of the Council Agenda.

For more information please email our planning team at planning@mackenzie.govt.nz or call us on (03) 685 9010.



TE MANAHUNA KI UTA
Mackenzie Destination
Management Plan

Work to develop the Te Manahuna Ki Uta Destination Management Plan for the Mackenzie District has been making great progress. A considerable amount of work has been underway over the past few months, and we are almost at the stage of releasing the material to industry and the community for feedback.

We have worked through a process that has seen the development of three potential 'future state' scenarios and then analysed them against a range of measures including economic, cultural and sustainability metrics. We have also undertaken a significant amount of manawhenua engagement and incorporated that thinking and partnership into our work.

The project team are now developing a proposed set of projects that will be delivered as part of the Destination Management Plan, as well as outlining the future state of the visitor economy in the Mackenzie. This is really where the project starts to become real, and your feedback will help shape the final plan that will go to Council and Government for approval.

We expect to launch public engagement around this work in early April, and this will run for a month.

As part of this public engagement we will be holding a range of in person drop in sessions – the dates and locations of these are below. We will also hold another online webinar – likely to be later in April.

Fairlie

- Rural / Community Drop-In Session - Wednesday 6 April – 5pm-7pm
MDC Council Chambers, 53 Main Street, Fairlie

Tekapo

- Tourism / Commercial Drop-In Session - Thursday 7 April – 12pm-2pm
- Community Drop-In Session - Thursday 7 April – 5pm-7pm
Tekapo Community Hall, 8 Aorangi Crescent, Tekapo

Twizel

- Tourism / Commercial Drop-In Session - Friday 8 April - 12pm-2pm
- Community Drop-In Session - Friday 8 April – 5pm-7pm
Mackenzie Country Hotel Conference Room, Cnr Ostler & Wairepo Road, Twizel

The most up to date Te Manahuna Ki Uta information will be available online via the Mackenzie District Council Lets Talk website - letstalk.mackenzie.govt.nz/te-manahuna-ki-uta

This will include an engagement document that summarises the process so far, as well as an online survey where you can provide feedback on the proposed projects and vision. This will be updated as we finalise the details.

Tourism Kick Start Fund

Mackenzie District is one of five regions identified by government to receive additional support for the tourism sector to help prepare for the return of international visitors.

Part of the Tourism Communities - Support Recovery and Reset Plan, government announced in March "the Tourism Kick-start Fund is linked to the border re-opening, so the accelerated move to re-opening our border and the removal of self-isolation for vaccinated travellers means it is timely to now open the fund".

The Fund available for eligible businesses is between a minimum of \$10,000 to a maximum of \$50,000 per business operation (excluding GST). This grant is a contribution to increasing businesses' levels of service in preparation for the return of international visitors and should not be relied upon to sustain the business. Businesses can apply from 1 April 2022. ChristchurchNZ is administering the funds for the Mackenzie and Kaikōura regions. To find out more, email enquiry@christchurchnz.com.



Dates of Upcoming Meetings

Monday 11 April	Twizel Community Board	3pm
Tuesday 12 April	Council Meeting	9.30am
Wednesday 13 April	Tekapo Community Board	3pm
Thursday 14 April	Fairlie Community Board	4.30pm
Friday 22 April	Upper Waitaki Zone Water Management Committee	9:30am

COVID-19: Please note meetings may be re-scheduled or moved to zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions. Please check our website for the latest information.

Committee meetings follow the preceding meeting and so start times will vary. The public are welcome to attend meetings. Occasionally times and venues change so please call and check beforehand. There is a public forum at the beginning of each Council and Community Board meeting and members of the public are invited to address Elected Members on relevant matters. Agendas are available on the Council website at least two working days before each meeting.

0800 685 8514

mackenzie.govt.nz

April 2022