

Papakura makes progress

Some major projects are gathering momentum in the heart of Papakura.

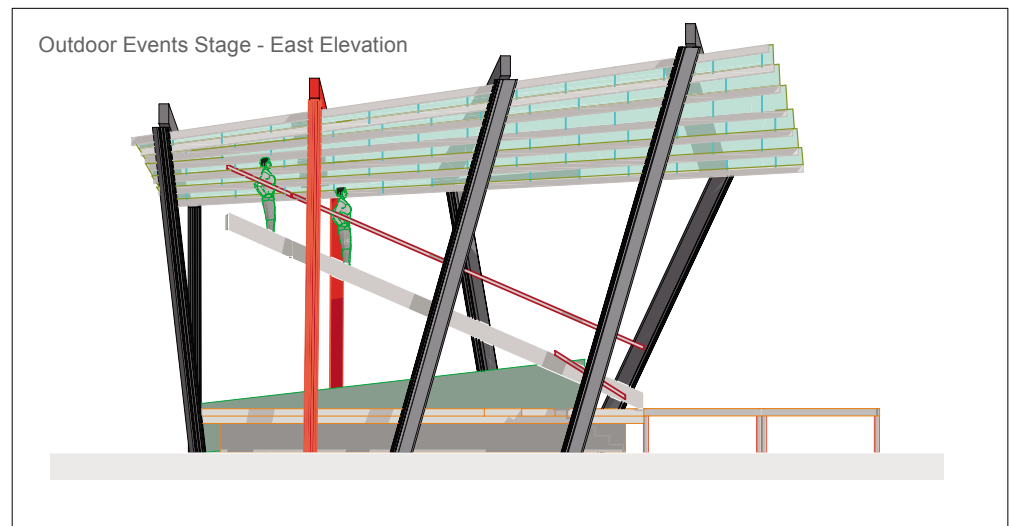
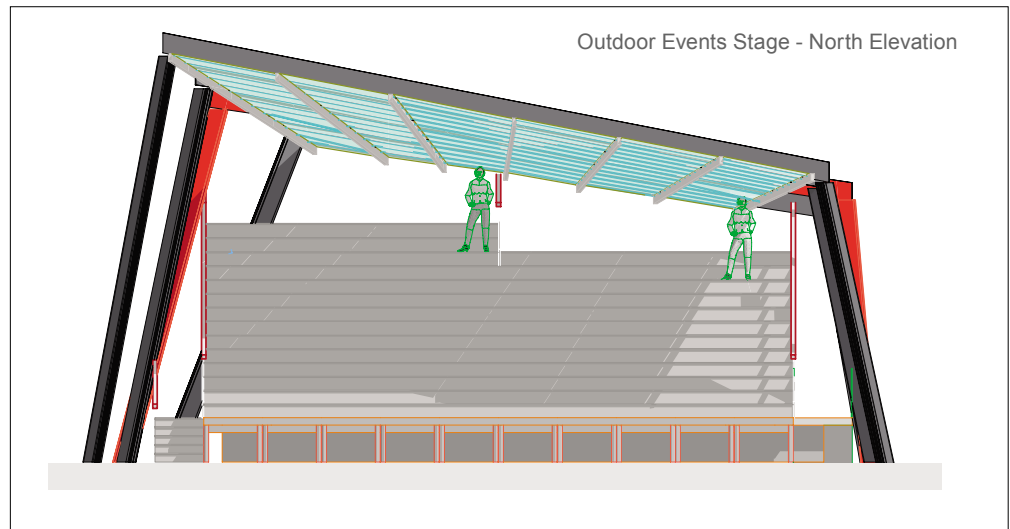
Central Park's role as a focal point for free community events will be reinforced with the arrival of a new outdoor event facility commencing construction later this year.

The aim is to have it constructed in time for the big free events organised by Council in Central Park at the end of the year, including Carols in the Park, the Christmas movie and the Papakura Christmas Parade.

The new facility will replace the former sound shell, which was demolished because it was no longer safe. It will be sited slightly further south, facing into the park to enable it to better cater to the 3,000-4,500 strong crowds that attend events like the Carols in the Park. The location of the stage is designed to minimise noise for surrounding urban areas.

Together with Central Park, the town square and the village green are taking centre stage this year as Papakura develops some exciting new projects with direct benefits to the community.

The massive \$6.1 million make-over of our town centre is in full swing. With the Broadway,



O'Shannessey Street and Great South Road upgrades complete, the Streetscape programme's most impressive upgrade is under way in the town square.

A new "mini-stage" for events and small performances, a water feature, new formal and informal seating, a signature paving design and grassed areas creating a warm and welcoming space for visitors and locals will transform our town square. As part of the upgrade, the town clock will have its

mechanism replaced and the clock structure will get a much-needed spruce-up.

At the northern edge of the town centre there's a fresh new look at the village green, creating a "northern gateway" to the central business area. New gardens, new seats, landscape lights, rubbish bins and street lights enhance the look of the area and create a pleasant place for people to meet. The village green toilets will be demolished to make way for new

In this issue

Papakura makes progress

Gathering momentum in the heart of Papakura

Speed Kills

Papakura and Franklin deliver the message

Work Programme update

Keep up to date with what the Council is doing

facilities similar to those already installed at Roselands, Ray Small Park and alongside the new playground at Central Park.

The Streetscape enhancements now strongly link Broadway and O'Shannessey Street with the rest of the town centre, making the area an appealing, attractive environment for shoppers.

Next up – and in its planning phase – is a centrally located facility that groups a wide range of community service organisations together. *Progress Papakura*, the 2006-2016 Long Term Council Community Plan, identified a pressing need for one facility that could house many community service groups.

A survey commissioned by Council of more than 20 similar facilities throughout New Zealand has provided an overview of what groups are most often found in a community house. Staff are now working with a wide range of local groups to identify the mix of services that best suits the needs of the people of Papakura.

The facility will be a “hub” for people needing to access a range of services such as budget advice, family support, violence prevention, and more. It will be located close to public transport and will offer parking and access for people with disabilities. The final design of the community house will be developed in consultation with community groups likely to use the facility.

The shared administration resource will bring savings for all groups using the facility and will enable them to direct more of their funding to helping their clients. Bringing service groups together in a single location also provides a level of anonymity for clients and a safe, friendly, “family” feeling for staff and volunteers.

Stronger, more established groups will also be able to help nurture and advise newer organisations. Above all, for the groups that will be part of the new community house, the single location will quickly build a sense of community.

Construction of the new community house is expected to begin in the second half of 2009.

Children's Forest Planting

Papakura's Children's Forest saw 39 new totara trees planted by local families last month.

The annual Children's Forest planting event is organised by Papakura District Council, and gives parents of children born in the district a chance to plant a tree to commemorate their arrival.

SPEED KILLS

Papakura and Franklin deliver the message

Hard on the heels of a national awareness campaign reminding motorists to slow down, Papakura and Franklin districts are highlighting safe driving messages as winter takes hold.



Papakura Road Safety Co-ordinator Donna Dick (pictured) says inappropriate speed is an even greater risk to motorists, their passengers and other road users when the shorter days of winter and worsening weather also begin to affect driving conditions.

“Poor available light, high winds and rain are all safety issues for motorists. Adding excessive speed to the mix can quickly create potential for crashes to happen.”

Together with Franklin Road Safety Co-ordinator Monique Haines, she has launched an awareness campaign that centres around billboards carrying the bold and simple message: “Speed Kills”. Police and Vehicle Testing Station staff in Papakura will also be distributing decks of playing cards with the same message.

In addition, Papakura district is also about to commission six driver speed feedback signs – pole-mounted speed radar units with a high visibility information screen that displays the oncoming vehicle's speed. The signs will be installed this month on Opaheke Road, on Great South Road at Drury, on Cosgrave Road, Walters Road, Manuroa Road and on Papakura Clevedon Road in the Ardmore School area.



Tessa Fagan (mum) and dad Liam O'Halloran made their third trip to the forest, planting a tree for two month old Lara.

Trees planted for their other daughters Scarlett, 3; and Kirsty, 19 months are flourishing nearby.

Papakura food operators can adopt new food safety system

Operators of cafés and restaurants in Papakura will be among the first in the country to have the chance to use a new food safety management system when a Food Control Plan developed especially for their businesses is released in July 2008.

The Food Control Plan, developed by the New Zealand Food Safety Authority, provides a structured approach to managing food safety. It's a series of information sheets detailing best practice for all steps in the food service process including food preparation, storage, display and cleaning. Papakura currently has 154 A-grade food premises, 20 B grade food premises and no food outlets with a grading less than B.

Fire reminder

The restricted fire season which has been in place in Papakura has been lifted.

Principal Rural Fire Officer Andy Baker says fires in the open within this area can now be lit without obtaining a permit from the Council. The change applies to rural fire authority areas and not to urban areas where separate rules are in place which are enforced by the Auckland Regional Council.

Mr Baker reminds Papakura people that while permits will not be required, those lighting fires must still make sure they comply with fire regulations and rules from other legislation.

People should only burn permitted materials such as dry vegetation, non treated timber, paper waste and garden waste.



Inorganic rubbish collection

Papakura's annual collection of inorganic rubbish will take place in late July and early August.

Each part of Papakura will have its own assigned day for pickup of inorganic material. Council waste contractors will pick up broken furniture, appliances, carpet, bikes and other material from private homes – but not from commercial or industrial sources. Metals and tyres are recycled and the remainder is sent to a landfill.

Residents with items that can easily be re-used are also encouraged to send them to an organisation such as DonateNZ where they can be directed to a school or community group.

Items for collection must be able to be lifted by two people. For safety, fridges and ovens should have doors removed and any child car seats or bike helmets that are being disposed of should be cut up or disabled so they cannot be scavenged for re-use.

Inorganic material should be placed at the kerbside the weekend before the day designated for pickup. Only Papakura residents are entitled to set out inorganic rubbish. The dates for each area's pickup will be advertised in the Papakura Courier.



Papakura's annual Great Spring Clean is on the way, and organisers say it's not too soon to be thinking about being a part of the annual spruce-up for the district's public places.

The Great Spring Clean was developed by Papakura District Council in 2003 as a way of celebrating some of the things that make Papakura unique. Past GSC projects have included a Hunua Gorge clean-up, work in Kirks Bush and a clean-up in Smiths Avenue along with graffiti paint-outs and school participation events and competitions.

The week also incorporates judging for the annual Harcourts Neat Street and Garden competitions and this year the GSC will finish with a new event, the Papakura Spring Carnival in the town centre.

Work programme update

This column sets out Papakura District Council's major roading, stormwater and other work - recently completed, in progress and planned. A regular feature of District News, it helps keep the residents of Papakura up to date with what the Council is doing.

Parks and recreation work completed in March, April and May

- Hingaia Stream bank stabilisation
- Upgrade to Great South Road end of Village Green
- New monkey bars at Balgowan Reserve
- Re-contouring of esplanade at Longford Park
- New path shaped in Conifer Grove esplanade (near boardwalk)
- Juvenile mangrove removal
- Coastal planting at Young's Park and Conifer Grove esplanade
- Repainting Art Gallery
- Repainting Redhill Superette
- Children's Forest planting (including replacement planting)

Parks and recreation work currently underway

- Upgrades at Don Street Housing for the Elderly
- New park signs construction and installation
- Upgrade of Pukeroa Playground
- Graffiti target hardening planting
- New toilet for Village Green
- Repainting Drury Sports Complex Amenity block
- CCTV camera trial in Central Park

Parks and recreation work planned for June and July

- Removal of exotic self seeded trees on Pukekiwiriki Pa
- Street tree planting on Great South Road, Takanini
- Replacement of air ducting system at Massey Park Aquatic Centre
- Drury Domain (Great South Road) car park renewal
- Gates at Ray Small Car park, Keri Downs Car park and South Park car park

Stormwater work completed in April and May

- Open drain at Bremner Road
- Scott Street and George Street pipe upgrade
- Pipe works in central business area

Stormwater work currently underway

- Pipe upgrades at Callis Avenue
- Pipe upgrade in Wood Street (town centre)
- Upgrade at Nelson Street and East Street
- Upgrade in Snell Avenue
- Street cesspit upgrades in Old Wairoa Road, Pricor Street and Ingram Street

Stormwater planned for June, July and August

- Stormwater works in Red Hill Road
- Pipe upgrades at Dominion Road and Settlement Road
- Debris trap at Flanagan Road

PHOTO GALLERY

Free child seat clinics



Rosehill School exhibition - Matariki at the Art Gallery

