



# TAWA TALK

October 2022

***Welcome to the latest updates from the Tawa Business Group. In this issue:***

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## Tawa Business Group Update

It was great to meet and talk to so many of you at our AGM this month. It was a wonderful opportunity for many of you to network with each other as well as hear about our plans for this year. We are already planning our Christmas networking event for **Wednesday 30 November** at the Sprig and Fern, so make a note in your diary now and message me if you would like to join us.

Over the last year, one thing I have noticed is that everyone has a view on parking! Now is your opportunity to let me know as we are currently reviewing the parking within the BID area (and any knock-on effect this would have just outside the BID area). We know that parking is a finite provision, numbers will not be increasing, so we need to make sure that we have a robust parking plan that meets the needs of the majority of business owners. Read page 3 to find out more.

With Christmas fast approaching, we are finalising the finer details of the Christmas window display competition. We have nineteen businesses who have signed up and early indications are that many are already busy planning their Christmas-themed showcase displays. Read page 2 to find out how you can help promote this inaugural adventure.

Finally, if you haven't already, please follow and/or like us on Facebook. It's an additional source of information: [Tawa Business Group Incorporated | Facebook](#)

Bernadette  
BID Manager

## Project Updates

### Improving Safety

There have been several ram-raids over the past few months and Bernadette has been liaising with Wellington City Council (WCC) and the Police to work through the various mitigation options available. WCC is working closely with Auckland Transport to gauge what has been successful there and one option being considered is strengthening storefronts. Bollards in front of shops can be considered on a case-by-case basis but they require a two-metre footpath clearance to meet with accessibility requirements.

Crime Prevention workshops are being run in Auckland and two have been organised in Wellington in November. Check out page 7 for further information. Bernadette would be keen to run one of these workshops in Tawa, so please let us know if you would be interested in attending.

### Transport and Infrastructure

Bernadette has finished an initial parking review and is now seeking your comments and observations. Please read page 3 for further information.

### Destination Tawa

Our Job Board has been live for nearly two months and is attracting over 30 people per day who are looking for work. We've advertised over 25 jobs and received feedback from a couple of business owners who have noticed an increase in Tawa-based candidates applying for local jobs.

This initiative is completely FREE for all BID members and is promoted on social media, our website, in the Residents' Association newsletter and through Tawa College. You can check it out: ([Job Vacancies \(tawabusiness.co.nz\)](#)).

If you are looking for staff, please email Bernadette at [info@tawabusiness.co.nz](mailto:info@tawabusiness.co.nz) to arrange for your vacancy to be included.



Jobs

Casual Retail Staff

Qualified or LBP Builders



The Christmas elves have been busy, and nineteen businesses have signed up for the Christmas window display competition. This will run from the beginning of November through to Sunday 19 December and is a great opportunity for anyone throughout the greater Wellington region to pop into Tawa to check out the window displays and do a spot of Christmas shopping along the way.

There will be further updates about this project but please support it by displaying the flyers in your business and through your social media channels. There will be regular posts on our Facebook page, which we would be happy for you to share. Please email Bernadette if you would like any flyers.

Check to see if your details are correction our Business Directory and email Bernadette at [info@tawabusiness.co.nz](mailto:info@tawabusiness.co.nz) if you would like them updated. [Business Directory \(tawabusiness.co.nz\)](#)

## Events

### OCTOBER

#### Spring Into Tawa

After having to be cancelled last year, Spring Into Tawa is back in 2022 on **Saturday 29 October**. Check out page 6 for further details.

### NOVEMBER

#### Crime Prevention Training

EyesOn have organised two Crime Prevention Training sessions on how to manage antisocial and aggressive behaviour. Check out page # for further details.

- **Tuesday 8 Nov 8.30am- 9.30am** at Te Pokapū Hapori, 105 Manners Street, opposite Te Aro Park
- **Friday 11 Nov 8.30am - 9.30am** at Wellington City Council, Level 16, 113 The Terrace

#### Tawa Business Group Christmas Networking Event

Our annual Christmas networking event will be held at the Sprig and Fern on **Wednesday 30 November from 5pm**. Email Bernadette at [info@tawabusiness.co.nz](mailto:info@tawabusiness.co.nz) to book in.

### DECEMBER

#### Tawa Christmas Parade

The Tawa Lions are organising the Christmas Parade for **Saturday 3 December from 2pm** with Tawa Rotary organising the after party in the Plaza.

## Tawa New Businesses and Business Updates

Please welcome the following new business owners to our community.

#### Pizza House

Gargee and Ashutosh Mohanty are the new owners of Pizza House at 218 Main Road, Tawa. They have recently launched a new menu that caters for all. You can check it out here: [www.pizzahouse-tawa.co.nz](http://www.pizzahouse-tawa.co.nz)



#### Janice Laundry

Chris and Melinda Leatham have recently opened a brand-new, self-service 24/7 laundromat at 120 Main Road. This laundry was set up in the memory of Melinda's mum Janice, who passed away from cancer and 10% of all profits will be donated to the Cancer Society Wellington.

Check out their website to find out more: [www.janicelaundry.co.nz](http://www.janicelaundry.co.nz)

## On-Street Car Parking Review

After a recent observational review of the on-street parking, we have noted that on average the demand for on-street parking has reduced slightly on pre-Covid times. Many commuters are still working from home one or two days a week and train station car parks have increased security with CCTV cameras, making them a more attractive option for parking rather than on streets within the BID area. The introduction of the on-demand public transport trial is also helping to reduce the demand for parking.

However, the review has identified two main areas that are currently experiencing issues around parking:

- Loading/short-stay parking around 214-220 Main Road, near the Pink Pineapple.
- Lack of on-street, customer parking around 82 Main Road, as this is mainly used for staff parking all day.

### Loading Zone next to 214 Main Road

We are currently working with Wellington City Council around options for providing a loading zone in the access lane between 212 and 214 Main Road.

### Two 2-hour Parking Spaces Proposals

There is still a high demand for parking between 72 to 98 Main Road. On-street parking around this area is predominately free to park all day except for two 10-minute spaces outside Nada Bakery. This is suitable for the number of businesses that have large numbers of staff wanting to park all day but not for those that have clients and customers wanting to drop in for shorter periods of time.



Several business owners have off-street parking that they pay a premium for but unfortunately this still does not fully meet the needs for their customers and clients.

There is currently a proposal to convert two spaces along the Main Road into 2-hour and business owners and landlords in the area are in the process of being consulted. Please respond to Bernadette's email request if you have not already done so.

We are aware that parking is one of the most contentious issues that many business owners have and a robust plan would deliver a mix of options that would meet the majority of needs. If you feel that there are specific issues with parking in the vicinity of your business, please email Bernadette at [info@tawabusiness.co.nz](mailto:info@tawabusiness.co.nz). Please note that changes can only be made with a majority agreement from business and property owners and when Wellington City Council considers decisions using road space, private motor vehicles and motorcycles take the lowest priority.

## Our Annual General Meeting

It was wonderful to see so many of our members and key stakeholders attending our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 12 October. Attendees had the opportunity to hear about the projects that the Tawa Business Group worked on last year as well as those new projects for this financial year.

Minutes and financial statements are available so please email Bernadette at [info@tawabusiness.co.nz](mailto:info@tawabusiness.co.nz) if you would like copies.

Our five strategic goals remain the same, although new projects have been added and older projects, delayed due to Covid, carried forward. We are budgeting to spend \$160,220 during this financial year and further details of the projects are below:



### Strategic Goal One: Communications

This strategy includes ensuring that the Tawa Business Group website is up to date.

### Strategic Goal Two: Destination Tawa

This strategy includes:

- Improve safety in the BID environment.
- Identify activities and events that will improve the vibrancy of the town centre, such as the Christmas window display competition, flags and banners, hanging basket contributions and our new job board.

- Improve parking and transport by establishing a robust parking plan and supporting the on-demand public transport trial.
- Develop a Town Centre document to encourage new businesses.
- Develop a traffic review plan, which will follow on from the parking plan.
- Identify options for investment in public art and improve signage.
- Engage with WCC on the Bike Network Plan.

### **Strategic Goal Three: Stakeholder Engagement – Members**

This strategy includes:

- Improve and support engagement with different member groups to ensure that all members are heard.
- Increase engagement through a topical and relevant event programme. Last year nearly 20% of you turned up to one of our events and we would like to see many more of you this year. Let Bernadette know if there is a particular topic that you would like to hear about.
- Inform members of activities and events through emails and newsletters.
- Inform members about the Proposed District Plan. See page 7 for more on this.

### **Strategic Goal Four: Stakeholder Engagement – External**

This strategy includes:

- Grow and foster relationships with the Tawa Residents' Association and newly-appointed Tawa Community Board members.
- Engage with WCC to improve the overall visitor experience.
- Build strong working relationships with our MP and new councillors.
- Develop strong networks with other BIDs.
- Establish connections with Porirua City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council.
- Review the Proposed District Plan.

### **Strategic Goal Five: Operational Management**

This strategy includes retaining the BID manager and premises, and ensuring that policies and procedures are implemented and updated as required.

After the presentation, there was an opportunity for members to ask the pertinent questions of the day. Below is an extract from the AGM minutes:

#### **What is the Tawa Business Group planning for parking and the number of cars driving through Tawa each day**

Bernadette said that she was currently working on a parking review and would be seeking views from members in the next newsletter. See page 3 where you can submit your comments.

Bernadette went on to say that the number of cars driving through Tawa had reduced by about 14% from a high of 20,000 cars per day. WCC were not sure if the reduction was due to Transmission Gully opening or that many commuters were still working from home for some days each week. Further studies had been undertaken in August 2022, but the report had not been released yet.

#### **General conversation around EV parking**

Mexted Motors are planning to have four EV charging points on their premises for customers. There was a concern that there could be queues of cars waiting to recharge. There are currently no EV charge stations within Tawa, but WCC is working on providing these throughout Wellington, including in Tawa. It was noted that Outlet City are planning to install six charging stations with a view to installing a further six at a later stage.

#### **What is Tawa Business Group doing to reduce the risk of ram raids**

Bernadette said that each time there was a ram raid in Tawa, she informed the Police, WCC and our local MP and from these discussions, WCC has set up an advisory group to look at various options. Rula Awad talked about options to strengthen shop fronts and the use of bollards if accessibility criteria could be met.

Bernadette will feed back further information from the advisory group in the next and subsequent newsletters.

#### **What happens if a building has graffiti?**

It depends on where the graffiti is as to who is responsible for fixing it. Graffiti on public buildings such as the library or Welcome to Tawa signs will be removed by WCC. The best way to do this is via the Fix It app or by calling WCC on 04 499 4444.

Graffiti on private buildings is the responsibility of the landlord. Bernadette has the number of a local company that can remove it. WCC also has details of contractors who are able to remove it. There would be a fee to the landlord for removal.

## Spring Into Tawa

Here are a few words from the Spring Into Tawa team:

Spring Into Tawa is just over a week away and final arrangements are being made. This will be an exciting day for Tawa, bringing crowds to Tawa to experience a fun day out. We would like to thank all the businesses for their support - we understand that Spring Into Tawa can be disruptive for some of you, but the benefits of bringing people into Tawa are great for the community and businesses alike. Advertising is now happening across Wellington and Porirua - spreading the word far and wide about this great event.



Some key information for you about Spring Into Tawa includes:

- The Main Road will be closed between Surrey Street and Lynhurst Street from 5am - 5pm on Saturday 29 October. Setting up the road closure will start from around 4.15am but traffic will still be able to get through until 5am. We aim to get the road open as fast as possible at the end of the event, but have an obligation to make sure it is safe to do so. 5pm will be latest that it will reopen. Signage has been erected at either end of the closure zone this week advertising the road closure. We have engaged ATMS to manage the road closure.
- This will mean after 5am there will be no non-event vehicle access to the closure zone. This includes business owners, residents, deliveries, couriers, and others that might usually be accessing the Main Road during the day. This is a strictly enforced rule for Health and Safety reasons - so please tell those that might usually access your business by vehicle after 5am that they will not be allowed in.
- There will be no stalls on the footpaths - except those being run by businesses within the closure zone. Thank you to those businesses that have let us know that they will have a stall, and have paid a donation towards supporting this event. This helps with the considerable costs of making this a truly a regional "must-do" event.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your support of this event. If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us at [info@springintotawa.nz](mailto:info@springintotawa.nz) - we would really welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns that you have and work with you to address these if possible.

Nga mihi nui,  
The Team behind Spring Into Tawa

## Welcome to our New Takapū Northern Ward Councillors



The Tawa Business Group works closely with the Takapū Northern Ward councillors and we would like to welcome Ben McNulty, Tony Randle and John Apanowicz as our new Wellington City Councillors.

Together they bring a wealth of experience and although none of them currently live in Tawa, they have promised to advocate for services throughout the whole of the Northern Ward, including Tawa. We look forward to building a strong professional relationship with them that champions the Tawa business community.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jill Day and Jennie Condie for all the advice and support we have received from them. They have undoubtedly made the BID Manager's job that much easier and provided invaluable advice around the District Plan.

Photo credit: Ben McNulty

## Submission for the Proposed District Plan

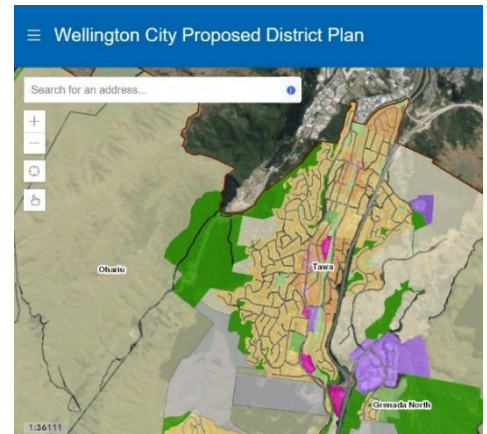
As was mentioned in our previous newsletter, some of the points that we raised in our submission on the Draft District Plan were addressed in the Proposed District Plan and some were not, so our most recent lodgement focused on three specific areas of concern.

After an in-depth review of the Proposed District Plan mapping app, it was discovered that several properties were incorrectly zoned. All the landlords and business owners were contacted to ensure that they wanted their properties to be re-zoned. Incorrect zoning could cause issues should the landlord wish to implement future additions or alterations to the property.

Secondly, we felt it imperative to advocate for the need for an integrated transport strategy to ensure that traffic congestion around the Main Road would not worsen because of increased density. We were able to identify areas within the Proposed District Plan where further clarification could be given.

Finally, we noted that one property seemed to have a permitted building height inconsistent with others in neighbouring areas. We were able to highlight this anomaly and advocate for an increase in the maximum permitted height.

Our submission was lodged before the due date of Monday 12 September.



## FREE EyesOn Crime Prevention Training Session

OurCBD is organising training session for EyesOn Retail Staff. These are available for all consumer-facing businesses in Wellington. They are **FREE** and just require you to register.

The training sessions will be delivered in partnership with Wellington Police, OurCBD and Wellington City Council's Pōneke Promise initiative.

These sessions will help build capability and provide direct insight from Police on how best to manage antisocial and aggressive behaviour and they will be sharing tactical ways to deal with risky and challenging situations in and around your store/business.

OurCBD are offering two 1-hour morning sessions in two separate locations and places are limited so please ensure you register your spot for the session you wish to attend.

They encourage you to get as many of your team along as you can to either of these sessions.

- **Tuesday 8 Nov 8.30am- 9.30am** at Te Pokapū Hapori, 105 Manners Street, opp Te Aro Park
- **Friday 11 Nov 8.30am - 9.30am** at Wellington City Council, Level 16, 113 The Terrace

[REGISTER HERE](#)

*\*Please note both these sessions will start at 8.30am sharp and the doors will be open for you from 8.00am*

# On-Demand Public Transport

The on-demand public transport trial is now in its sixth month and is continuing to gather momentum, with over 130 rides per day during September.

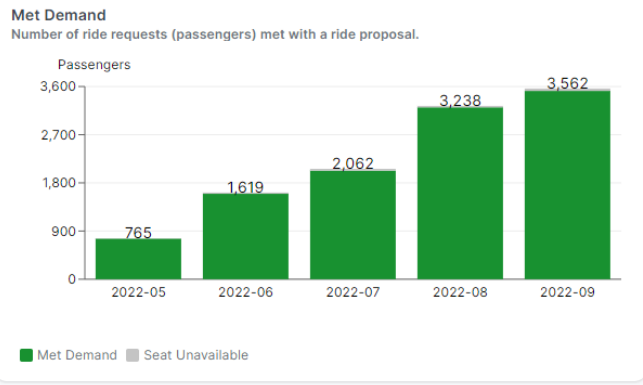
There are further drop-in information sessions in December where Metlink staff will be available to explain what the services is and how to use it.

### Tawa Community Centre

- Tuesday 6 December 7 – 8pm and
- Thursday 8 December from 11am – 1pm

### Linden Community Centre

- Friday 9 December midday to 2pm and
- Saturday 10 December 11am to midday



To find out further information and download the app, please click [here](#). Metlink are keen to gather any feedback that you may have on the trial, so please contact them directly via their Contact Centre on 0800 801 700 or email [info@metlink.co.nz](mailto:info@metlink.co.nz).

# Pride In Work Awards

Members of the Tawa Business Group recently attended the Tawa Rotary Pride In Work awards evening to celebrate Bernadette receiving an award. Businesses and organisations within the wider Tawa area were encouraged to publicly acknowledge employees who are outstanding performers in the workplace, demonstrated an ongoing sense of pride in their work and went above and beyond normal employment expectations to achieve excellent outcomes.



Over 100 people joined in the celebrations of seventeen successful nominees. There was no overall winner as each nominee received an individual certificate and generous gift. The evening started off with a thought-provoking presentation from Liz Koh, founder of Money Max, active Rotarian and recently elected councillor for Kāpiti Coast District Council, around Financial Resilience, which touched on three key areas that determine financial resilience: personal characteristics, financial resources and financial capability.

The awards and citations were announced by Judith Gray and Pat Waite, and the nominees received their awards from Rotary President, Joe Asghar; District Governor Marilyn Stevens and Tawa Business Group Chair Darcy Brittliff.

The Tawa Business Group sponsors this event and recognises the importance of acknowledging the key personnel that contribute to the success of local businesses.



## Celebrating Our Successes – Easyswim’s Innovation Award

It has been a while, but we are back with Celebrating our Successes.

Exciting news for our local swim school Easyswim. In August, they won the NZSCTA 2022 Innovation Award for their ‘Rip Current Machines’.

After a summer of 10-year high drowning statistics, Easyswim decided to add something new to their Water Safety Programme, a Rip Machine at each pool. Made from scratch, each Rip Machine fits each of the four main pools – at Khandallah, Johnsonville, Rewa Rewa and Tawa School Pools.

Easyswim wanted to add new and fun ways to educate kids about water safety. At each lesson, teachers discuss currents in water, whether it is a river or at the beach. Having the Rip Machine going gives children a chance to feel and swim in a current while in a safe learning environment, without feeling scared or unsure.



Easyswim aimed to:

1. Promote more water safety options, and that being safe in the water is fun too!
2. Increase children's knowledge of what a rip current is, and talk about different currents in different situations
3. Show our parents that we are always evolving and upskilling our kids – adding to their water safety ‘toolbox’

The prizegiving was run during the Annual Conference of the New Zealand Swim Coaches and Teachers Association (NZSCTA) in August. Todd Morton, owner and operator of Easyswim, was delighted with the result: “It’s great to be thought of among other top swim schools in New Zealand. We tried to think outside the square of what we currently offered. We are always looking to upskill kids, so they are prepared when something goes awry in or around water.”

Click [here](#) to watch the video of the Rip Machine in action.

## Waste Minimisation Seed Fund

Do you have an idea on how to reduce waste and improve efficient use of resources? You can apply for the Waste Minimisation Seed Fund for a grant to help realise that idea. Applications for the fund will close on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October.

Wellington City Council is currently developing a zero-waste strategy, with the aim of transitioning Wellington’s waste system to a circular economy. A number of projects are already underway to review what they do and inform what and how they will do things in future, including a review of the kerbside collections. Commercial collections of waste and recycling will be considered within this, as will the potential for organics collections from both commercial and residential properties.

In addition to this, the Waste Minimisation Seed Fund supports the development of innovative solutions for reducing waste and improving efficiency of resource use, so that Wellingtonians can be leaders in waste minimisation. WCC are looking for new initiatives that complement and enhance existing programmes or address gaps or opportunities.

Priority waste streams and focus areas include:

- organic waste
- commercial and industrial waste
- community action and behaviour change
- alignment with circular economy principles

Wellington City Council will prioritise initiatives that focus higher up the [waste hierarchy](#), by rethinking and redesigning waste out, or by reducing waste at source.

They welcome applications from businesses, iwi/Māori organisations, education providers and community organisations, and can fund up to a maximum of \$25,000 per project. You can find out more and apply [here](#).

## Useful Helpline Contact Numbers

As a result of a number of enquiries to NZ Police, our Community Liaison Officer, Constable Sarah Steed has collated a list of service organisations in NZ who are there to support people through challenging times:

### If it's an emergency

Call 111 immediately in an emergency. (Police non-emergency number – 105)

### Healthline

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, call the dedicated COVID-19 Healthline:

- for free on 0800 358 5453
- on +64 9 358 5453 if you have an international SIM.

For any other health concerns, call the general Healthline number on 0800 611 116.

### Mental wellbeing & abuse helplines

These are some of the helplines available that offer support, information and help.

- 1737, need to talk? - For support with anxiety, distress or mental wellbeing, call or text 1737 to talk with a trained counsellor for free, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Youthline— call 0800 376 633, free text 234 or email [talk@youthline.co.nz](mailto:talk@youthline.co.nz)
- Kidsline—call 0800 54 37 54 (0800 KIDSLINE) for young people up to 18 years of age.
- Skylight —call 0800 299 100 helping children, young people and their families and whānau through tough times of change, loss, trauma and grief
- Lifeline —0800 543 354 (0800 LIFELINE) or free text 4357 (HELP)
- Suicide Crisis Helpline —0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO)
- Depression and Anxiety Helpline —0800 111 757 or free text 4202 to talk to a trained counsellor about how you are feeling or to ask any questions.
- Anxiety phone line —0800 269 4389 (0800 ANXIETY)
- Family Services 211 Helpline 0800 211 211— for help finding, and direct transfer to, community-based health and social support services in your area
- OUTline NZ— call 0800 688 5463 for confidential telephone support for sexuality or gender identity issues
- Women's Refuge by calling 0800 743 843 (0800 REFUGE) to be linked up with an advocate in your area
- Elder Abuse Helpline — call 0800 32 668 65 (0800 EA NOT OK). 24-hour service answered by registered nurses who can connect to local elder abuse specialist providers
- Hey Bro helpline— call 0800 HeyBro (0800 439 276). 24/7 help for men who feel they're going to harm a loved one or whānau member
- Oranga Tamariki —call 0508 325 459 (0508 FAMILY) or email [contact@ot.govt.nz](mailto:contact@ot.govt.nz) for concerns about children and young people

### Deaf, hearing impaired, Deafblind or speech impaired

If you are deaf, hearing impaired, Deafblind or speech impaired you can use the New Zealand Relay Service to call.