



TAWA TALK

December 2021



**Welcome to the latest updates from the Tawa Business Group.
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Tawa Business Group Update

It’s nearly the end of 2021. Another year that has been heavily influenced by Covid-19. We understand that some business owners have struggled more than others and in the run-up to Christmas, I would like to take this opportunity to say that if you are contemplating a large or small purchase, please remember to consider local businesses. Support local; love local.

One member at our recent AGM raised a very interesting question: Is the BID still relevant? It sparked an interesting conversation.

There are many districts throughout Wellington that are considering becoming a BID because it gives them a better working relationship with Wellington City Council. In addition to this, our strong working relationship with the Tawa Community Board and the Residents' Association gives even greater credibility and kudos when it comes to liaising with the Council.

The executive team would like to think that now, more than ever, the BID is relevant as we move into a once in 20-year journey with the District Plan. We want to represent your views, advocate on your behalf and whilst working with our key stakeholders, we want to ensure a cohesive and workable plan for the future of Tawa.

To find out about the District Plan, please check out page 4.

It was fantastic to see over thirty of our business owners at the recent Christmas networking event. Fortunately for you all, Bernadette forgot to pull out her camera and was not able to capture any pre-Christmas shenanigans.

Finally, the Tawa Business Group executive team sends you and your whanau warm wishes for an enjoyable Christmas, and we hope that you have a fun-packed summer.



Project Updates

Security Cameras

We are continuing to liaise with WCC to install cameras at each end of Tawa and are delighted to say that they have agreed to fully fund this project. Our next focus will be to install CCTV in the Plaza area. Wellington City Council have a project plan for the installation of cameras throughout the Wellington city area. Projects are agreed where there is a need to monitor or deter anti-social behaviour or there is deemed to be a risk to personal safety. WCC is only aware of these areas if incidents are reported to them and/or the Police. Please read page 6 for further information on how you can report issues.

Transport and Infrastructure

Tawa Business Group had a meeting with WCC for parking and loading around 214 to 220 Main Road in early October and have submitted our proposals for loading zones outside 218 Main Road and also in the access lane beside the Pink Pineapple. We will keep you updated once we hear further details.

Feedback around two 2-hour parking spaces on the road near 82 Main Road was mixed with businesses that have many employees wanting to park outside their place of work not wanting 2-hour parking spaces and those that have customers that want to park for a short time wanting the parking spaces.

If you have not submitted your views, please email Bernadette on info@tawabusiness.co.nz.

Destination Tawa

The next edition of the discount flyer will be distributed in early February and will run through to the end of April. This flyer will be distributed to 28,000 households from Kaiwharawhara to Pukerua Bay and readily available in over 40 businesses throughout Tawa, including the community centre and library. If you would like copies for your customers and clients, please email Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz.

This will be the fourth flyer that Tawa Business Group has commissioned, and in the New Year we will be seeking your thoughts on how this can evolve to meet the needs of the wider business community.

Flags and Banners

The Christmas flags are up. You may have noticed that some of our banners take quite a pummelling with the Wellington winds and several have had to be removed and furthermore are in need of repair. We will be working on repairing and replacing these over the next couple of months. Banners will be removed so that they can be repaired before being erected again in the New Year.



Events

District Plan Focus Groups

Two focus groups have been arranged for you to share your views on the District Plan (see next article) so that the Tawa Business Group can feed back into the engagement forums in late February/early March. These two focus groups will be held at the Tawa Community Centre from 5pm on:

Tuesday 15 February – focus group for property owners
Thursday 17 February – focus group for business owners

Please email Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz to let us know that you are able to attend.

Business Breakfast with Karen Fifield, CEO of Wellington Zoo on Wednesday 16 March 2022



For the first Business Breakfast of 2022, we welcome Karen Fifield, the CEO of Wellington Zoo and recently appointed vice-president of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

Karen has kindly agreed to join us on Wednesday 16 March to talk about Wellington Zoo's place on the world stage and the role that zoos play in the global conservation of endangered animals and conservation education.

This looks like being an incredibly interesting insight into the future of zoos, so don't miss out on joining us for breakfast to find out more. Further information will follow early in 2022, but you can book with Bernadette now.

Future Networking Events

Who would you like to see at one of our Business Breakfasts? Do you have a favourite public speaker that other business owners would be interested in hearing from? What other networking events would you like us to organise? Please let Bernadette know at info@tawabusiness.co.nz

New Businesses in Tawa

We have three new business owners starting out in Tawa this month. A big, warm welcome to you all.

New World

After eleven years, Cameron and Nicole Hogg have moved on to focus on family and enjoy the long, hot summer.

Coming down from the Four Square in Paihia with their young family, Scott and Ashleigh Jackson are the new business owners of New World on Oxford Street and are keen to get to know and be involved in the local Community.

www.newworld.co.nz/lower-north-island/wellington/tawa



Civic Group

David Tautari and his team have moved into 36 Main Road (formerly Toa ITM). Primarily picking up council contracts, they are keen to branch out and they offer a range of specialised commercial external cleaning services such as steam and pressure washing, as well as graffiti removal.

Check out their website for more information: www.civicgroup.nz/commercial-services/

Coffee Joint



Just outside the main entrance to Outlet City, the Coffee Joint will be serving up Mojo coffee from early morning till 2pm (starting from 11 December). The Coffee Joint is a small business owned and operated by Anna and Barry Prescott, who both grew up in Tawa and have strong family ties to the area.

As well as coffee, the cart sells breakfast granola cups and slices, all of which are gluten free and coeliac friendly. The couple have set up the business so that their adult son, who has a disability, will have a job in 2022. "We are opening in December, will make sure that everything is running smoothly, and the staff are confident with the setup and then he will get trained up in February and join the team. Pop in and see us sometime for great coffee!"

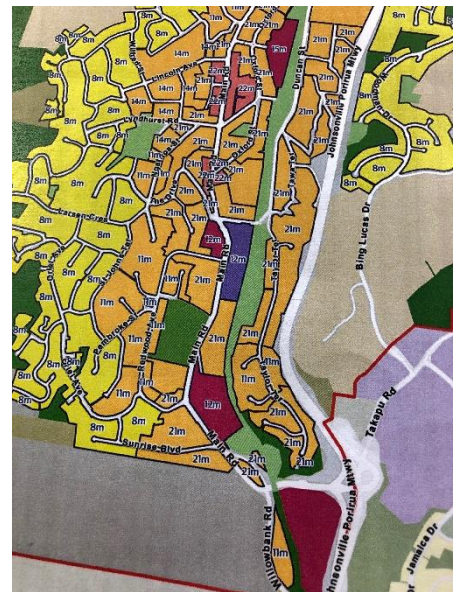
District Plan – we want your views

The draft District Plan is now available for your views and comments. Feeding in from the Spatial Plan and another key step in the Planning for Growth programme, the draft District Plan deals with the major planning and environmental issues facing the region and is a one in twenty-year opportunity for you to have your say about how and where the local centre of Tawa can and will develop and grow over the next thirty years.

Wellington City Council have produced an online interactive plan where you can [read the plan](#) and also view it, drilling down to a particular area of interest. The [view map](#) option will also highlight all the specific controls, hazards and risks associated with that area of interest that are detailed in the read plan option.

Tawa Business Group met on Monday 29 November to establish what this means for the Tawa BID area and will be producing a submission on behalf of the group. We will be focusing on four key areas:

- Parking
- Flooding
- Design specifications
- Implementation and phasing of new buildings



The deadline for submissions is Tuesday 14 December. You are encouraged to make your own submission using the steps below but we would also encourage you to include us in that submission so we can ensure that our report covers all our members' views. Part of our submission will include a request to provide further information at an engagement forum to be held in late February/early March. We will be holding two workshops: one for business owners and one for landlords, which will allow us to capture additional views and feedback on the draft District Plan.

Further details about the focus groups can be found on page 3.

How to make a submission

There are a couple of different ways you can provide feedback on the Draft District Plan.

- You can make a submission directly through the Draft District Plan. This is a great way to provide feedback on specific provisions within the Plan and makes it easy for us to understand your feedback.
- A fast way to provide broader-level feedback is through the information sheets found on this page under the Draft District Plan snapshots. Scan the QR code or follow the URL link on each information sheet to access a short questionnaire related to the topic.
- If you prefer to provide feedback through email or on paper, fill out our [PDF feedback form](#).

Business Breakfast with Nick Leggett

Tawa Business Group, along with Biz Connect, were delighted to present former student of Tawa College, former Mayor of Porirua and current CEO of Transporting New Zealand, Nick Leggett at our recent Business Breakfast.



Nick Leggett spoke to a keenly-interested group of local business people about Wellington's transport future. Touching on the proposed and potential transport projects from the much-awaited Transmission Gully to the key "missing link" from Grenada to Petone, through to other important regional projects such as "[Let's Get Wellington Moving](#)", Nick also spoke about the wider world picture in terms of transport.

To read his presentation, please click [here](#).

After the breakfast, we asked our attendees what they liked, what could be improved and what they wanted from future Business Breakfasts. The comments we received included, "Good communication prior to the event, workable layout of food, good organisation on the day" and "It was a good opportunity to network with others".

We have already booked in Karen Fifiield for 16 March but suggestions for future events included local business-related topics, economic trends and outlook, and housing.

If you have any suggestions that would entice you attend a breakfast with us, please email Bernadette at info@tawabusiness.co.nz.



On-Demand Public Transport



to the eastern and western edges of Tawa. The trial aims to give residents an alternative to walking or driving and may even alleviate some of the local parking issues.

Metlink and the Greater Wellington Regional Council will be looking for feedback not only from residents who use the service but also from business owners. Further information will be available in our next newsletter.

From late-February, Tawa will be trialling an on-demand public transport scheme. The scheme will use technology, via an app, that will allow residents to book a wheelchair-accessible vehicle from their home to any key social and retail destination in Tawa and Porirua.

Tawa Community Board has been in discussions with Metlink and Greater Wellington Regional Council for over the past year in a bid to introduce public transport

Celebrating our Successes – Big Air Gym Win International Competition

With less than two weeks to re-group after lock-down, the cheerleading squad Big Air Elite, made up of 20 girls and four boys aged 14 to 28, entered the International All Star Federation Worlds with a two-and-a-half-minute routine of pyramids, tumbling, stunts and dance. Ten days later, they discovered, via watching it on live-stream, that they had won the competition.

William Davenport, coach and owner of Tawa's Big Air Gym, said, "It's pretty massive. We were all together watching the live broadcast when we found out. There was plenty of screaming and yelling and tears."

Gathering restrictions meant the team had to work hard to bring the energy of their routine across without the support of a big crowd.

Usually, the competition is held in the ESPN Sport Centre in Orlando.



Big Air Gym's competitive cheerleading squad has just won the International All Star Federation world cheer championship, despite only emerging from lockdown 10 days before the competition.

Safety and Security

CCTV cameras

As mentioned on page 2, Wellington City Council produces a project plan for the installation of CCTV cameras throughout the Wellington City area based on the need to monitor or deter anti-social behaviour or where there is deemed to be a risk to personal safety. WCC is only aware of these areas if incidents are reported to them and/or the Police.

The corridor between Johnsonville and Porirua that runs through Tawa has been highlighted by the police as an area that needs greater CCTV camera coverage and therefore it has been agreed that WCC will fund a camera at each end of Tawa to capture those avoiding state highway 1. This will increase security for Tawa businesses as every vehicle that enters or leaves Tawa will be captured by the camera.

In addition to these cameras, Tawa Business Group has identified the Plaza as an area that would benefit from CCTV camera coverage but at present, WCC does not see this as a high priority. This means that any cameras that are installed will need to be funded by the Tawa Business Group.

Reporting of incidents

It is imperative that any incidents that occur of anti-social behaviour or risks to personal safety are reported to either the police (111 if it is an emergency or 105 as a non-emergency) or to Wellington City Council on 04 499 4444 so that they can build up an accurate picture of the area. This can more accurately identify the high-risk areas that require greater surveillance.

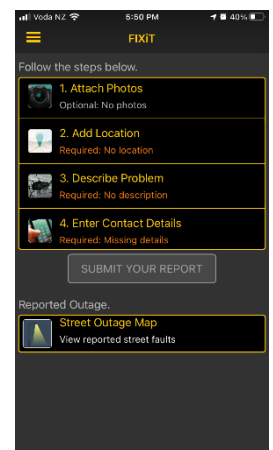
FixIt App

In addition to this, you can also download WCC's FixIt app, which allows you to report urgent hazards such as streetlights not working, major water leaks or urgent parking complaints. This app is easy to use and can be downloaded from Google Play, iTunes, Windows or your usual online app store.

Eyes On

Finally, Eyes On shares information, aims to reduce store theft and enhance safety for the retail community. We currently have around 35 Tawa businesses signed up and for those of you involved, please ensure that your contact details are up to date.

For anyone interested in signing up to Eyes On, it's FREE. You can sign up for it [here](#) and Bernadette will have stickers and paraphernalia in the office soon, should you wish to find out more.



Covid Support Update – Life at Orange

Tawa Business Group shared the feedback from the recent covid survey with our MPs and Councillors. They wanted to pass on their thanks to those of you that responded, and they were encouraged to see the good uptake of available government support.

Having spoken to several business owners, it seems that moving to the new Traffic Light Framework from Friday 3 December has been relatively drama-free. Most businesses seem to have had the occasional disgruntled customer but have responded positively and the issue has not escalated. If you would like to let us know how it has been for your business, please drop Bernadette an email.

As a final reminder, the [Covid-19 website](#) has been updated and contains plenty of useful information for what life at orange means for you and your business.

For [hospitality](#) working with the My Vaccine Pass, there are no limits on the number of people who can be at the venue. Customers do not have to be seated to be served. Staff are encouraged to wear a face covering. If a hospitality venue chooses not to follow My Vaccine Pass requirements, it can open for contactless pick-up or delivery only.

For [shopping and services](#), there may be some restrictions depending on the type of business. Further information can be found about basic needs, shopping, close-proximity business and trades and home services.

For [businesses and workplaces](#), you can chose whether to check My Vaccine Pass for customers and visitors or not, and potentially switch between the two systems assuming no mingling of groups, the rooms are well ventilate and high-touch surfaces are cleaned between groups.

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
- **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 for concerns about children and young people

NZ COVID Tracer app

If you have questions or feedback about the NZ COVID Tracer app:

- call 0800 800 606
- email help@covidtracer.min.health.nz

Managed isolation and quarantine

If you have questions about managed isolation and quarantine, including charges and exemptions:

- call 0800 ISOMIQ (0800 476 647) from within New Zealand
- call +64 4 888 1670 from outside New Zealand or if you’re in New Zealand with an international SIM
- email enquiries@miq.govt.nz

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.