



# Council's draft plan for the next year

July 2010 – June 2011

if you don't tell us what you think, who will?

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Let Council know what you think. Complete the submission form on page 7 or online at [www.gdc.govt.nz](http://www.gdc.govt.nz) or come to a Community update meeting.

# What do you think about our plans for the next year?

We would like your input to our draft Annual Plan for 2010/11 before we finalise the activities and budgets. This year's Annual Plan is year two of the Ten Year Plan (2009 through to 2019) we consulted you about last year.

The new wastewater treatment plant was forecast to have a significant effect on rates levels in the first few years of the plan. To help ease the burden of that project and in response to the economic pressure on our community, other projects were deferred. They remain in the Ten Year Plan but you will not see any progress on them this year.

## PROJECTS

However, work is beginning on some exciting projects. These include:

- Planning for the War Memorial Theatre upgrade.
- Working with the Opotiki District Council, the Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Tourism on a world class cycling and walking route in the Motu area that will only add to the visitor attraction of our region.
- Progressing plans for developing our inner harbour to take full advantage of its potential.
- Preparing to tell the stories about the great Polynesian, European and Chinese voyagers to our region through the evolution of the Tairāwhiti Development Partnership's Navigational Traditions Project.
- Building on the network of walking and cycleways that connect the historic, entertainment and recreational areas of the city with the places where people live.

Council was really disappointed that the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA), which assists funding of these walking and cycleways, did not share our views about the priority for funding that these projects deserved. We remain committed to promoting walking and cycling in Gisborne and to securing funding as a "model community" (NZTA).

The undertakings that we have given to the Crown relating to the sale of the AML site and to the local leadership body with the Turanga claimants will be met. Discussions on the Treaty of Waitangi settlements and foreshore and seabed issues are also likely to continue. Next year should see agreements on those matters concluded.

## VITALITY

We are also continuing to improve the look and vitality of our communities through the Footrot Flats Sculptures Project which

will be externally funded through Art in Public Places, and our support for events like Rhythm and Vines to stay in, or come to, Gisborne, and be viable. Rural residents will not miss out as we work on plans to develop our townships such as footpath improvements.

## PLANNING

The quality of Council's forward planning and our responsiveness to development proposals will also be a focus. We know that the time it takes to obtain resource consents is costly and are working on process improvement. We are pleased to see that the Courthouse upgrade and the Ryman Healthcare retirement complex construction is due to start soon.

In addition to the wastewater treatment project and other future infrastructure, we will continue to deliver the range of Council activities and services that contribute to your health, safety, quality of life, recreational, business and transport needs. We look forward to telling you more about those activities and services at our community meetings.

The 2010 Local Government elections are fast approaching. This is an opportunity for our community to exercise its voice regarding the future leadership of the district.

## AND FINALLY THE COST ...

You will see that the increase in rates revenue is less than was forecast for 2010/11 in the Ten Year Plan. Outside Gisborne city our modelling shows that rates will decrease in Ruatoria and that most other areas will have an increase of up to around 4.5%. The average city residential increase is 7.2%. Over half of this increase is due to the new wastewater treatment project. We are still hopeful that the increase can be reduced with the Government's help.



**Meng Foon**  
Mayor



**Lindsay McKenzie**  
Chief Executive



# What do I get for my rates?

We carry out a diverse range of activities and services for the district. While some of these are clearly visible to you - libraries, pools and recreational facilities - many key services and activities go unnoticed but make a large contribution to our community's wellbeing. These include things such as our roads, water supply, wastewater and drainage or working with others (such as community groups) to facilitate and achieve common outcomes.

Our regulatory responsibilities, which include activities such as resource consents administration, noise control and environmental protection, all contribute to the ongoing wellbeing of our community.

## RATES

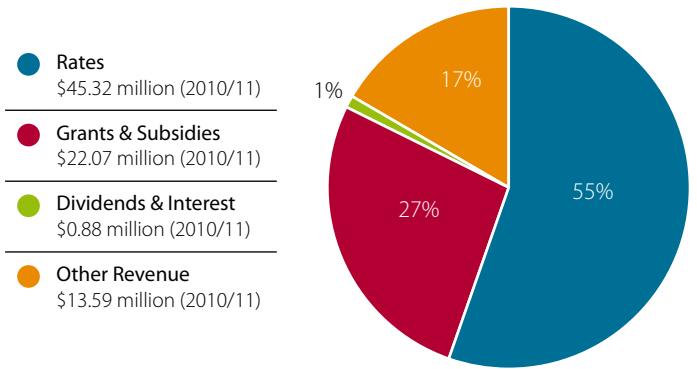
These activities are funded through a number of sources, half of which is through rates. In the Ten Year Plan the forecast in rates revenue 2010/11 was 6.37% overall. The Draft Annual Plan shows that most properties throughout the district's rural areas have increases in rates of up to 4.5%. In Gisborne city, the new wastewater treatment plant alone will increase average residential rates by 4.6% or \$101. This will bring the average city residential rate increase to around 7.2% or \$170 per household. We will be able to reduce that if the Government responds favourably to our request for a contribution of \$7.2M to help fund the industrial waste separation part of the scheme.

**Check out Council's online rates lookup tool to see how the draft Annual Plan will impact on your rates bill. [www.gdc.govt.nz](http://www.gdc.govt.nz)**

## FEES AND CHARGES

Most fees and charges for Council services will increase 3-4% next year to meet increased costs. Some fees will increase more to cover additional requirements from Government. Full details of the proposed fees and charges can be found on the Council's web site [www.gdc.govt.nz](http://www.gdc.govt.nz). Payment by credit card is being considered as a future option for ratepayers.

## WHERE WILL COUNCIL'S MONEY COME FROM?



## WHAT MY RATES PAY FOR?

The table below provides an indication of what an average city property's rates are spent on.

Activity	Amount Incl GST
Water, Wastewater and Stormwater	\$983
Wastewater Treatment Plant (New)	\$102
Recreation & Leisure Activities	\$351
Roading	\$282
Landfill, Refuse Collection & Transfer Stations	\$223
Democratic Process & Consultation	\$146
Treasury & Administration	\$118
Regulatory Services	\$76
Public Amenities	\$56
Planning	\$57
Other Services	\$122
	<b>\$2,516</b>

Source: Average Gisborne City Residential Rateable Property  
 Capital Value \$280,000 | Land Value \$130,000 | Area 0.1012Ha  
 These are based on rating information as at 08 February 2010  
 These figures are unaudited

## DISTRICT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

TABLE 1

	2009/10	<i>Next year's figures</i> 2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Rates levied (\$M)	42.7	45.3	49.1	50.5	52.2
External debt (\$M)	36	48	48	47	47
Interest expense (\$M)	2.4	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.3
Rates income % increase	3.33%	6.1%	8.09%	2.86%	3.23%

Check out  
[www.gdc.govt.nz](http://www.gdc.govt.nz)  
 or contact Customer  
 Services if you  
 would like to see the  
 full proposed plan.

Artist's impression: War Memorial Theatre



# What are our plans?

The following sections provide a sample of the things Council has planned over the coming financial year. We welcome your thoughts on our plans.

## PLACES AND SPACES

Extensions to the district's network of cycle lanes, footpaths and walkways will continue. Despite missing out last year, Council will continue to seek NZTA funding to extend the city's walking and cycleways along the Taruheru River, the beachfront from Waikanae to Stanley Road, and from Wainui into town.

In partnership with Opotiki District Council and the Department of Conservation, we will continue to seek Government funding for a world class cycling and walking route in the Motu area which will only add to the increasing visitor attraction of our region.

To help you get around our city, improvements will be made to our bus service, including new routes, changes to the fares, and better promotion of the service. A new footbridge over the

Waikanae Stream will be constructed, improving pedestrian access between Awapuni School, the city beaches and Alfred Cox Park.

We are planning a range of improvements to many of our reserves. These include constructing a viewing platform at Rere Reserve and installing interpretative information panels on Titirangi Reserve (Kaiti Hill) along with new furniture. Interpretative information and signage will also be provided at the Botanical Gardens. New picnic tables will be constructed and improvements made to the fencing and car parking facilities at the Lysnar and Wainui Beach reserves

We need your input on how we can improve the Rere Rockslide Reserve and Makorori Reserve and will be asking for this soon.

## WHAT ABOUT ALL OF THE BIG PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THE DISTRICT?

The table below sets out the overall timeframe for the big projects in the Ten Year Plan 2009-2019. Seeking external funding to support these projects remains the big challenge.

TABLE 2

	Next year's plans								
2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	Walking and cycleways								
				Library extension					
	War Memorial Theatre upgrade			Civic space					
				Waipua Landfill	Olympic Pool		Recreation Centre		
	Waipua Flood Protection								
	Wastewater Treatment Plant			Inner harbour					
	Waipaoa River flood protection								

## TOWNSHIPS

We will continue to work with local communities to implement their Township Plans. For example, a new picnic table and native garden will be installed on Waiomatatini Road in Ruatoria, while at Patutahi, we are working on street lighting improvements to help make Patutahi a 'dark sky' centre for astronomy.

This year we will continue to work with the following communities:

- Manutuke
- Matawai and Motu
- Rangitukia and Tikitiki
- Te Puia Springs and Waipiro

When these four Township Plans are finalised, 10 Township Plans will have been completed in the district.

### PROTECTING RUATORIA

*Work is underway to realign the Waiapu River. This is being done to protect the Ruatoria Township. It will also improve river flows and minimise erosion to the right bank of the river caused by flood events. This is part of a wider project that looks at the whole catchment and works with Government agencies and two Ruatoria based trusts.*

MAJOR PROJECT

## ARTS AND CULTURE

### WAR MEMORIAL THEATRE

*The War Memorial Theatre upgrade will begin soon. Council will be seeking 75% of the total cost of the \$3.5M upgrade from external funders. More details on the redesign of the theatre will be made available later in the year.*

MAJOR PROJECT

An Arts and Culture Strategy is to be developed, and our Art in Public Places policy will soon be reviewed. As part of this we plan to take a lead role in supporting the commissioning and erection of a series of bronze statues depicting the Footrot Flats characters made famous by local cartoonist Murray Ball.

The Navigational Traditions Project pre-feasibility work has been completed for the Tairāwhiti Development Partnership. Council has a key role to play in supporting the partnership to coordinate some components of the work. The project links with the Inner Harbour Development Project, other regional promotion work and Council's regulatory responsibilities.

## PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

We are responsible for protecting our local environment. Some of the ways we are planning to do this next year include encouraging landowners to restore the ecology of wetlands and waterways by making available the recently produced Working with Wetlands booklet and a native planting guide. Collaborative work will also continue with the Department of Conservation, landowners, QEII Trust and Tangata Whenua to restore the ecology of Wherowhero Lagoon. Looking to lead by example, we will plant more native vegetation on riverside reserves and parks where possible.

Advice and tree planting plans are available to landowners as part of the Sustainable Hill Country Project and our ongoing efforts to help stop our hill country from slipping away. As part of this project, plans are to be completed for properties with untreated erodible land.

We have revised our Regional Pest Management Strategy to ensure we have the best options in place to limit the impact of pests on native plants, animals, human health and primary production in the district. More money has been put aside to help deal with Argentine ants.

### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

*Construction of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant is underway with most of it to be completed during 2010. Construction of the ultraviolet disinfection plant will take place during 2013. The total cost for the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been reduced from early estimates of \$85M to \$39.6M.*

MAJOR PROJECT



## AN EYE ON SAFETY AND HEALTH

We are protecting our city's water supply, with repairs being made to the water pipe bridge that crosses the Te Arai River. This carries the city's main reticulated water supply from the Waingake Water Treatment Plant into Gisborne. The repairs will include strengthening work, sand blasting, painting and protection work to secure the concrete abutments.

Council's programme of wastewater pipeline replacements will continue. On the list over the next two years are replacements along Lytton Road, Queens Road, Haronga Road, Reads Quay, School Road, and Waverly Street.

Stormwater infrastructure is planned to be upgraded in Te Karaka but a major Ministry of Health funded water supply upgrade for the area has been put on hold by Central Government. City stormwater upgrades are programmed for Whataupoko, with most of the work likely to occur in Clifford and Whitaker streets, between Stafford and Fox streets.

The region's 1,826km of roads (not including state highways) will continue to be open, safe and accessible. Roads will be resealed and improved, and slips removed when they occur. The routes that logging trucks take as they travel into the city are scheduled to be reviewed to minimise impact on residential areas and improve public safety. The newly formed Cycling Advisory Group will look at ways to make Gisborne a more cycle friendly city by improving safety by educating road users.

Other activities we are planning to ensure your safety include running a major tsunami exercise to test the district's preparedness to respond to this kind of civil defence emergency.

Playgrounds in the district will be made safer by changing the surfaces under play equipment and important maintenance will be carried out to the walls stabilising the banks of the Taruheru and Turangunui rivers near where they meet.

### WAIPAOA RIVER FLOOD PROTECTION SCHEME

**MAJOR PROJECT**

*Some minor repairs to the Waipaoa River Flood Protection Scheme will be made ahead of a more comprehensive upgrade of the scheme from 2011. Council will consult on how to fund the upgrade and the desired level of protection.*

## WORKING WITH OTHERS TO SUPPORT COMMUNITIES

Plans are being progressed for a new facility where social service providers and small to medium-sized community organisations can operate a one-stop-shop for information, advice and services. Council will continue to source external funding and support for the Community House.

The Tairāwhiti Development Partnership has completed its Regional Economic Development Strategy and Council will be determining which actions it will progress in that strategy.

This year we will be working with the newly established Gisborne District Youth Council to obtain young peoples' views on decision-making processes. The Council will also start discussions with residents about potential projects in the Kaiti or Elgin area.

## Join Mayor Meng Foon and his team at a Community Update meeting...

### Te Wananga O Aotearoa , Childers Rd, Elgin

Tuesday 2 March • 5.30pm

### Waikirikiri School, Kaiti

Wednesday 3 March • 6.30pm

### Iritekura Marae, Waipiro Bay

Thursday 4 March • 5pm

### "The Haven" Senior Citizens Hall, Tokomaru Bay

Thursday 4 March • 7pm

### Waimata Community Hall

Monday 8 March • 6pm

### Tiniroto Community Hall

Tuesday 9 March • 6pm

### Patutahi Hall

Wednesday 10 March • 5.30pm

### Manutuke School

Wednesday 10 March • 7.30pm

### Whatatutu School

Thursday 11 March • 5.30pm

### Te Karaka Scout Hall

Thursday 11 March • 7.30pm

### Flea Market, Alfred Cox Park

Saturday 13 March • 6am

### Farmers Market, Army Hall Car park

Saturday 13 March • 9.30am

### Waiapu RSA, Rangitukia

Monday 15 March • 2pm

### Kawakawa Clubrooms, Te Araroa Domain

Monday 15 March • 4.30pm

### Onepoto Community Centre, Hicks Bay

Monday 15 March • 6.30pm

### Wainui Beach School

Tuesday 16 March • 5.30pm

### Whangara Marae

Wednesday 17 March • 5pm

### Tolaga Bay Fire Station

Wednesday 17 March • 7.30pm

### Makauri School

Thursday 18 March • 5pm

### Uepohatu Marae, Ruatoria

Monday 22 March • 6pm

### Matawai Fire Brigade Rooms

Tuesday 23 March • 6pm

### Waerenga-o-Kuri Hall

Wednesday 24 March • 5.30pm

### HB Williams Memorial Library, Peel St

Thursday 25 March • 6pm



## Request for Service

Request for Service is a handy way to tell Council about anything that is a problem and requires Council action. Please tell us . . .

What is the problem, why does it need our attention?

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What is the exact location of the problem or asset?

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What would you like us to do?

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Please fold, tape and post back to us. Insert any extra pieces of paper inside or in an alternate envelope.

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE



FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE



Have Your Say  
Annual Plan  
Gisborne District Council  
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