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TO THE HOUSHOLDER

«StreetAddress»

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WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK – HAMURANA OVERNIGHT PARKING TRIAL

As part of the reserve development project, Council recently carried out a trial allowing overnight parking for responsible campers at a small section of Hamurana Reserve.

With summer approaching, we would like to understand what impact that trial had on the reserve and the wider community.

Please tell us your thoughts, using the enclosed survey form and free post return slip, or online at www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/hamuranasurvey. Your feedback will assist Council's Open Spaces team to plan for the coming holiday season and future responses to overnight parking for responsible campers.

Overnight parking trial

We have heard from the community that overnight camping is an ongoing issue – especially during the summer months. In response to the same issues at other locations around the district, Council designated overnight parking areas. This has helped to alleviate some of the negative impacts sometimes associated with overnight camping or 'freedom' camping.

From a 2017 survey of the Hamurana community, residents identified that a designated overnight parking area had merit and were open to a trial. Council, with the support of Rotorua Lakes Community Board and the Hamurana and Awahou Residents and Ratepayers Association, designated a small section of parks at the northern end of the reserve to serve as an overnight parking area.

To support the trial and mitigate any negative impact Council refurbished the toilets to accommodate more visitors, designated specific parks, added rubbish bins and added signage to encourage responsible behaviour and limit parking time.

Trial results

The trial took place during summer from 18 December 2019 until the first day of Alert Level 4 in 2020. The trial site was visited by a camping 'Ambassador', which was part of the Government's national programme helping to educate visitors across the country about good behaviours that demonstrated Responsible Camping etiquette.

During the trial, the Ambassador surveyed 181 vehicles. Key points identified through the surveys include:

- Majority of visitors were from overseas.
- There was often more vehicles parked than the limit of six.
- Most visitors surveyed stayed one night before moving on.

- Rubbish was a problem a couple of times – but did not appear to be visitor related e.g. dumping vegetation/clippings.
- Security visited the site nightly and moved on any camper vans who were not in the designated area or those in tents elsewhere on the reserve.

Project background

Through its 2013/14 Annual Plan consultation, Council received a submission from the Hamurana and Awahou Residents and Ratepayers Association (HARRA) requesting that Council prepare a development plan for the Hamurana Lakefront Reserve. Subsequently Council and staff worked with representatives of HARRA and Ngati Rangiwewehi. The local community were surveyed in 2017 to identify priorities and these helped to develop the plan further.

Public feedback highlighted that the community wanted to retain the undeveloped character of the reserve but wanted to see safety improvements, a formed walkway and new signage to tell the story of the area.

Other work completed as part of the reserve development:

- Playground refresh
- Toilet refurbishment
- Reserve furniture
- Carpark resealed
- Boat ramp upgrades

Foreshore protection was also identified as an issue with erosion along the lakefront to be resolved. Funds have been allocated for this in the Council's 2018-2028 Long Term Plan.

If you would like more information or would like to speak to someone about the Hamurana Reserve development please phone Rotorua Lakes Council on 07 348 4199.

Kind regards



Barbara Curtis

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Rotorua Lakes Council

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ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL



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HAMURANA RESERVE DEVELOPMENT

Overnight parking trial survey

As part of the reserve development project, Council recently trialed allowing overnight parking for responsible campers at a small section of Hamurana Reserve.

With summer approaching, we would like to understand what impact that trial had on the reserve and the wider community.

Please tell us your thoughts, using the survey form below and free post return slip, or online at www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/hamuranasurvey. Your feedback will assist Council's Open Spaces team to plan for the coming holiday season and future responses to overnight parking for responsible campers.

Questions:

Q1 Were you aware the trial was happening this past summer?

- Yes
- No

Q2 Did the trial have any effect on you?

- No / minor effect
- Moderate effect
- Significant effect

Q3 What were those effects?

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Q4 Did this trial address any concerns you might have about overnight parking?

- Yes
- No
- Do not have any concerns about overnight parking
- If Yes or No, can you explain further?

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Q5 If your concerns are resolved, how would you view a designated overnight parking area on the reserve?

- | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---------|---|---------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Strongly
supportive | | Neutral | | Strongly
opposed |

Q6 What facilities would be useful in a designated overnight parking area?

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Q7 Is there anything else you would like to add?

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Feedback closes 3pm Friday 25 September 2020

For more information or to have your say online go to: www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/hamuranasurvey