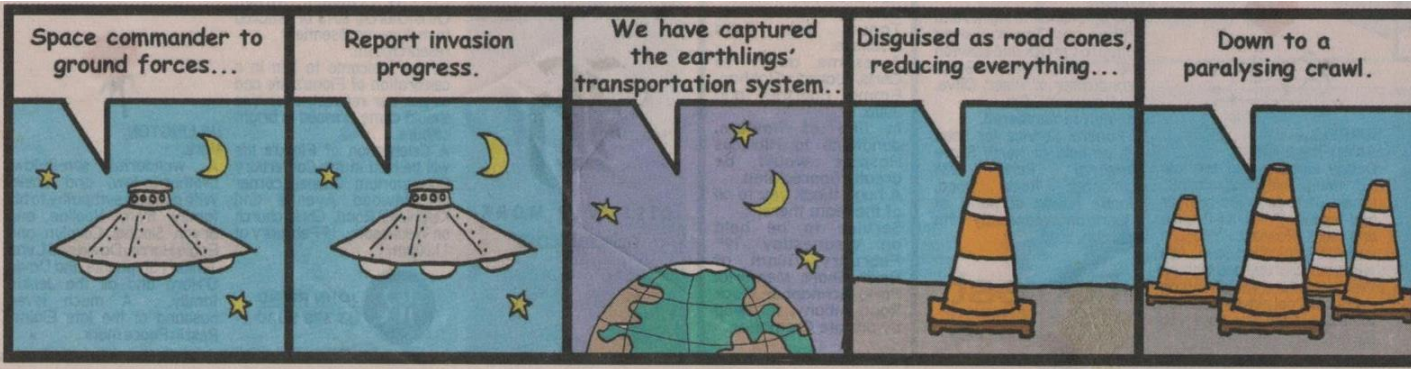


Papamoa Residents and Ratepayers Association Chairmans Report 2020



Papamoa Residents and Ratepayers Association Chairmans Report

I would like to stand up here and say to you that everything is going well. And mostly it is , we are in a wonderful part of New Zealand we enjoy living here and the friendly nature of our fellow residents.

But I get the feeling that we are losing the connection with the Tauranga City Council. Papamoa is the biggest suburb, we have great local councillors but as a community we are being ignored and told what is best for us.

Thankyou for support from councillors Steve Morris and Leanne Brown in the last term & councillors Steve Morris and Dawn Kiddie in this term. We appreciate you being so accessible to the community and attending and speaking at our meetings

And this year, the residents have started to say enough. This is bad, councils and residents should work together to achieve the best for the city, **anything a council does should be for the betterment of the community.**

Papamoa Residents and Ratepayers Association Chairmans Report

As I said in a recent Presidents report

We do not like **mock consultation**, ie talking to the community and calling it consultation after the plans have been fully developed and when it is too late to change the direction of the ship.

We also do not like **no consultation** and the associated strange results.

Our community is a valuable asset to the Tauranga City Council but generally their knowledge is ignored.

Papamoa Residents and Ratepayers Association Chairmans Report

The list to date

Street lighting

**Planting of the Wairakei Waterways, particularly the Palm Beach area.
Workshops have been recently held to tell us what will be done, not what you would like. “**

Chip sealing over the Hot mix residential roads.

Removal of the Tsunami Refuge in Palm Springs – now we know why, they want to build a private school here. Are Tsunamis different now?



Diggers remove the stockpiled fill in Golden Sands in December. Photo / Andrew Warner

Bayfair Underpass.

Proposed Council controlled kerbside pickup of rubbish, recycling and food waste. PRRA has made a submission to the mayor and councillors.

See www.taurangarubbishoptions.com

Papamoa Residents and Ratepayers Association Chairmans Report

And the latest

Rates increase of 12.6% without any public information on options and explanations beforehand.

In Dec 2019 the PRRA made a presentation to the council asking for a zero rate increase and gave suggestions on how to achieve this. We did not receive any reply or feedback from the TCC. Why did we bother? To read click on link from front page of the website.

What kind of silos do the council staff work in?

And now Councillor Baldock telling ratepayers to sell up and downsize to be able to pay the increase. He is well paid as a councillor.

No more from me, Steve Morris is going to shortly fill in the missing pieces.

What would we like

Our community is knowledgeable and would like to be in the steering committees when an idea is a kernel with the Tauranga City Council.

After all, the real knowledge of local conditions and what works and does not work lies with our local people and communities and not always in the silos of the council.

The Papamoa Ratepayers and residents Group is a good place to start. We represent the local people and want to be included in the council before any decision is made.

No invites have been received to date to anything.

What else

Congratulations to the Papamoa Surf Lifesaving Club for starting the new clubhouse construction. PRRA donated \$1000 .



A good read, someone's idea of the future of Tauranga

UFTI Urban Form +
Transport Initiative

Urban Form and Transport Initiative (UFTI) Interim Report



There is a link to this on the front page of the website. This is a business and council initiative to future gaze what Tauranga would be like with 500,000 people and the transport arrangements required. Looking at the attendees, there are no resident or ratepayer groups. Poor consultation again. If you played the game “SimCity” you will enjoy this presentation.

Another good read, The PRRA submission on the council controlled kerbside collection of rubbish, recycling and food scraps.



Keeping the lid on the cost of Rubbish & Recycling Kerbside Pickups

What is happening — Tauranga City Council proposes control of kerbside rubbish collections:

We have been told this is going to happen, it is in your best interests. And will cost you more than now. WHY??? Is this the best way forward. The PRRA thinks NO, and has detailed this – see the website below

www.taurangarubbishoptions.com

Please read, send the link to a friend. The public debate is not taking place

Disclaimer: This is a report from the PRRA committee and each member has a financial interest into the most economical way of picking up their rubbish. One member is the landlord of a bin company.

Where to:

Papamoa Ratepayers need to be heard in council before decisions are made. Too much time is spent stopping/modifying bad decisions which would not have happened with true consultation.

The PRRA needs more committee members who want to be involved and prepared to research and become experts in different local areas so we have the knowledge when we talk to council.

The majority of mayoral candidates and councillors campaigned on listening to the residents and including them in decision making. To date this has not occurred in Papamoa.

I have heard recently from council staff “the people of Tauranga have decided.....”

The PRRA philosophy, when you have a complaint, have a possible solution. Our advice to the council is

Inclusion works.

Talk to the locals.

Is it really necessary?

Please when you get an email from PRRA send it on to someone else, spread the word, ask them to send it on also.

Mythbusting

From a local paper article on the rates debacle

The council executive recommended prioritising projects like the Waiari water treatment plant, the Te Maunga waste water treatment plant, the Harington Street carpark,

the kerbside rubbish collection and road renewals.

It said the adage that 'growth pays for growth' was no longer true, partly because of long pay-back periods. This was backed by an Infrastructure New Zealand report that, nationally, it cost councils \$50,000 to pay for the pipes and roads for every new house.

The meeting heard that the lack of housing and infrastructure in Tauranga was already holding back growth.

Public consultation for the draft annual plan is expected to start on March 25.

Why isn't the carpark poor design work and problems covered under consultant's insurance.

Waste water upgrade to cover new gib board factory. Surely this is their cost. Does heavy industry have a place in Tauranga?

No need to have a ratepayer funded kerbside pickup

If this is true, then for every new section \$50,000 dollars goes on the consolidated debt and the ratepayers perpetually pay the interest on this and never repay the principal.

No more growth.

More housing and infrastructure drives us deeper into debt.

Will anyone listen if we submit – no way.

Mythbusting Answer

More detail for \$26 million waste water upgrade for the new industrial development. Thankyou to Steve for taking the question to council and providing their answer.

“Costs relate to the Tauriko Business Estate, future industrial extension south of Belk Road and Tauriko West.

Developers in the Belk Road and Tauriko West areas will be required to fund all internal infrastructure within these growth areas, infrastructure costs to the boundary of these growth areas (including these costs) ***are debt funded by TCC and recovered through development contributions.***

The scale of these costs and multiple landowners and developers that they serve make it difficult to consider developer forward funding.”

The issue being, the debt to provide infrastructure to the boundary sits on TCC's balance sheet until the last \$ in development contributions is paid in say 20 years.”

Therefore we need more revenue (code for rates) to stay within our net debt to revenue ratio of 250%.

So the **Bank of the Ratepayer** will pay for all this development, including all interest costs for 20 years at no charge to the developer and he only pays at 2020 costs.

A better solution, the developer borrows the money and he pays the council up front for the works, he also pays the interest costs.

Also as we know construction costs escalate over the years, so the council should charge the price of the works plus to cover the increased costs. Refund any difference in 20 years time.

Why does the Bank of the Ratepayer have to pay out all the time? This is our money being wasted by gross negligence in the bowels of the council. Only takes a simple computer program to manage.

Same for large scale property developments. This council is too development orientated.