

VISION 2030 | The Rotorua Way

Proposed policy restricts sale of legal highs in Rotorua as much as possible

Council will be asked to adopt a local policy to ensure if legal highs can be sold in New Zealand in future, their sale in Rotorua is as restricted as possible.

At this week's Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee councillors expressed their reluctance to allow such retail at all but acknowledged current legislation does not allow a total ban and the local policy is the best means to restrict the sale of these products.

Community consultation occurred in 2015 and this week councillors supported the option to restrict sale to within 200m of the police station, restrict opening hours to between 9.30am and 2.30pm, Mondays to Fridays only,

excluding public and school holidays and to limit the number of retailers to a maximum of two.

This option was supported by local police because the area has good CCTV coverage and a good presence of police and City Safe Guardians.

Legislation changes mean products will only be approved if it can be proven they are not harmful and retail licenses must be obtained from the Ministry of Health. Applicants must have confirmation from the local council that their application meets local policy requirements.

There are no products approved for sale in New Zealand at this time.

Council wants input into Vision 2030 – The Rotorua Way

We want your input into a refresh of the district's 2030 vision to set the direction for the next few years.

The district has made progress and we are now moving to the next chapter for progressing Rotorua, Vision 2030 – The Rotorua Way. We need to be more specific about how we're going to achieve our shared long-term goals.

To do that we need to identify what's truly special about Rotorua and identify our key strengths and the opportunities that will help us build on those.

Council wants the community's input, feedback and ideas.

You can provide input in a variety of ways – you can take a survey, share ideas and stories, enter our photo competition or give feedback via email. You can also post us your feedback.

What do you think? He aha ō whakaaro?

Visit us online at Council's new engagement hub, rotorualakescouncil.nz/letstalk or rotorualakescouncil.nz/koreromai to find out all about Vision 2030 – The Rotorua Way, to view the discussion document, provide feedback and register for updates

and to be involved in consultation on future projects.

Copies of the Vision 2030 – The Rotorua Way discussion document are also available at Councils' customer centre (Haupapa St) and at the library (Pukuatua St). Access to our online information and hub is also available at both locations.

In Brief



- > Work to resurface Arawa Street (above) starts tomorrow [Sunday] and is expected to take a few days, weather permitting. The work will be carried out each night from 6pm to minimise disruption to businesses in the area. During the day the road will function as normal and no parking will be affected. The roundabouts at either end of Arawa Street are scheduled to be resurfaced a week later. For more information go to rotorualakescouncil.nz and search 'Arawa Street resurfacing.'
- > Roadside mowing schedules, rural street improvements and use of glyphosate on council reserves and rural roadsides are on the agenda for the 20 March meeting

of the Rotorua Rural Community Board. The meeting starts at 1pm. The agenda, which also includes minutes from the previous meeting, can be viewed on rotorualakescouncil.nz/livestreaming

- > Rotorua Lakes Council is working with skate park users to plan for a proposed new or improved multi-use facility. Options would go out to the wider community for feedback if, once options and costings are firmed up the Council approves moving forward with the project. It's envisaged it would be considered as part of the 2018-28 Long-term Plan process later this year. Council supported staff investigating options for skate park facilities following feedback received during consultation on the 2015-25 Long-term Plan.
- > Council's Strategy, Policy and Finance Committee will recommend that the full Council approve proposed changes to Council's Water Services and Trade Waste Bylaw and approve the reviewed bylaw for consultation. One proposed change the committee supported was the removal of a rule requiring water metering in new residential subdivisions in the Rotorua Urban Water Supply area. This is a rule that has never been enforced. If the bylaw changes are approved by the full Council later this month a 30 March to 1 May submissions period is proposed, which would be followed by hearings for those who wished to be heard on their submissions.
- > All reported slips on roads around the district have now been cleared but work continues on Paradise Valley Road which suffered the most damage.

 Let's talk | Kōrero mai

REGISTER to get involved!

Win prizes
in our Vision
2030 photo
comp!

