

*Have your say*

# REPRESENTATION REVIEW 2021

TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL IS UNDERTAKING A REVIEW OF THE DISTRICT'S REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS, FOLLOWING THE DECISION TO INTRODUCE A MĀORI WARD.



# CONTENTS

|                                                |    |
|------------------------------------------------|----|
| INTRODUCTION                                   | 2  |
| COUNCIL PROPOSAL                               | 4  |
| HOW WILL THIS CHANGE THE CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS? | 6  |
| OUR COMMITMENT TO LOCAL REPRESENTATION         | 8  |
| SUBMISSION FORM                                | 12 |

*Have your say*

*Have your say*

**WHIRIA TE TANGATA**  
WEAVE THE PEOPLE TOGETHER

# INTRODUCTION

**ELECTIONS FOR YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL ARE HELD EVERY THREE YEARS SO YOU CAN DECIDE WHO WILL REPRESENT YOU. TO ACHIEVE FAIR AND EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION, COUNCILS MUST REVIEW THEIR REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AT LEAST ONCE EVERY SIX YEARS. OUR COUNCIL'S LAST REVIEW WAS IN 2018.**

However, as a result of our recent decision to introduce a Māori ward, we are now required to take a fresh look at how many elected members there are and what communities they represent. Your feedback will help shape what representation in the Taupō District looks like going forward.

## **What is being reviewed as part of this process?**

The aim of this representation review is to ensure fair and effective representation for our people and their communities that provides an effective voice and strengthens local democracy.

The scope of such representation reviews cover:

- how many councillors we should have
- which geographical areas they should represent
- the boundaries and name of our new Māori ward - Te Papamārearea
- whether we should have community boards

Please note that the decision to establish a Māori ward has already been made and is not in scope for this representation review.

As part of the review, we must identify the Taupō District's communities of interest. Local Government Commission guidelines recognise a community of interest according to three criteria:

- perceptual – a sense of belonging to a clearly defined area or locality
- functional – the ability to meet with reasonable economy the community's requirements for comprehensive physical and human services
- political – the ability of the elected body to represent the interests and reconcile the conflicts of all its members

We must then ensure effective representation of these communities of interest and take into account fair representation of electors - based on the plus-or-minus '10 percent rule', which for our district means one Councillor for every 2,900 - 3,600 people.

Have your say

# COUNCIL PROPOSAL

FOR THE 2022 AND 2025 ELECTIONS, COUNCIL IS PROPOSING THE FOLLOWING:

## **Taupō Ward (7 councillors)**

being the area comprising the urban area of Taupō encompassing Acacia Bay to Waitahanui and including Kinloch and the part of Oruanui that comprise the areas to the south of Poihipi Road.

## **Taupō East Rural Ward (1 councillor)**

being the predominantly rural and afforested areas of Broadlands, Rangitaiki, Taharua, Oruanui (north of Poihipi Road) and Wairakei-Aratiatia which includes Ohaaki and Wairakei Village.

## **Mangakino/Pouakani Ward (1 councillor)**

being the area comprising the urban township of Mangakino and the predominantly rural area from Waihaha to Kawakawa including the rural localities of Tihoi, Mokai, Orakei Korako, Tirohanga and Whakamaru and the hydro villages of Whakamaru and Atiamuri.

## **Turangi/Tongariro Ward (1 councillor)**

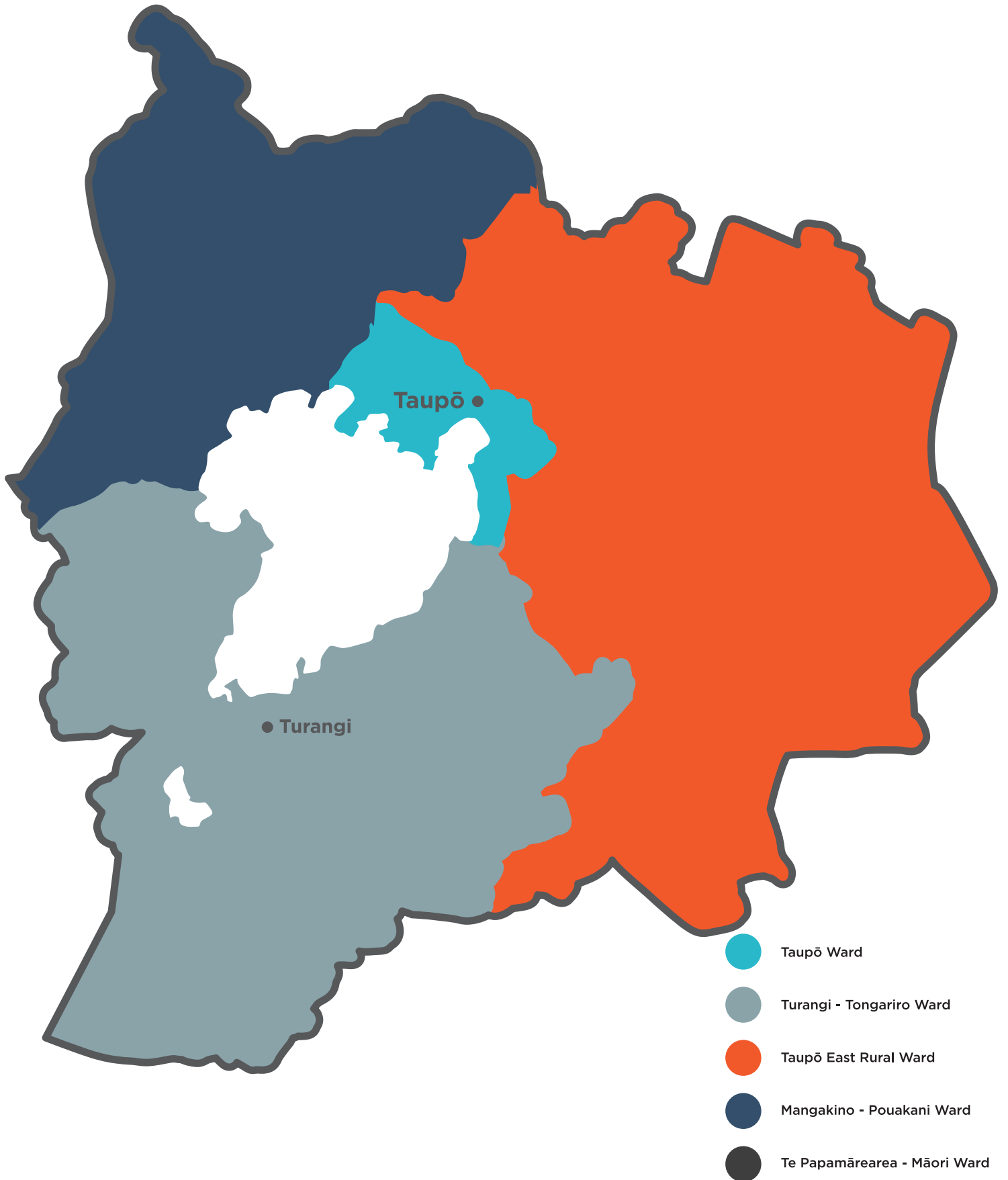
being the area comprising the Turangi Township and predominantly rural and afforested area from Hatepe to Whanganui Bay including the lakeshore settlements of Omori, Pukawa Bay, Kuratau, Whareroa, Tokaanu, Waihi, Motutere, Motuoapa, Te Rangiita and Hatepe.

## **Te Papamārearea - One District-wide Māori Ward - (2 councillors)**

## **One Mayor - Elected At Large**

## **Disestablishing the Turangi-Tongariro Community Board**

We think that the combined changes will ensure that no matter where you are in the district, there will be someone who knows your area sitting at making decisions on your behalf.



# HOW WILL THIS CHANGE CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS?

COUNCIL'S CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS AS CONFIRMED AT THE LAST REVIEW IN 2018 INCLUDE A MAYOR ELECTED AT LARGE AND COUNCILLORS ELECTED VIA FOUR WARDS AS FOLLOWS:

| Ward               | Councillors |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Taupō              | 7           |
| Mangakino/Pouakani | 1           |
| Taupō East Rural   | 1           |
| Turangi/Tongariro  | 2           |

| Community Board   | Members |
|-------------------|---------|
| Turangi/Tongariro | 6       |

This means that there will be some changes as a result of this proposal. These are:

### Taupō Ward

7 elected by voters in the Taupō town area.

1 councillor per 3,500 people.

**SAME AS PRESENT**

### Taupō East Rural Ward

1 elected by voters in the Taupō East Rural area.

1 councillor for the 2,600 people.

**SAME AS PRESENT**

### Mangakino/Pouakani Ward

1 elected by voters in the Mangakino - Pouakani area.

1 councillor for the 2,200 people.

**SAME AS PRESENT**

### Te Papamārearea -

### One District-wide Māori Ward

2 elected for the whole Taupō District by those in the district on the Māori electoral roll. (i.e. a district wide Māori ward).

1 Councillor per 3,900 people.

### Turangi/Tongariro Ward

1 elected by voters in the Turangi - Tongariro area.

1 councillor for the 3,200 people.

Decrease from 2 councillors currently due to the creation of a Māori ward.

**Total - 12 councillors plus the Mayor (there are currently 11).**

**Everyone will get to vote for the Mayor.**

Note - all elected councillors are required to act on behalf of everyone in the district.



# OUR COMMITMENT TO LOCAL REPRESENTATION

**WE KNOW THE TURANGI - TONGARIRO, MANGAKINO - POUAKANI, AND TAUPŌ EAST RURAL AREAS ARE ALL DIFFERENT, AND HAVE THEIR OWN NEEDS FOR COUNCIL SERVICES.**

So, in addition to the wards ensuring a councillor from each area, Council usually sets up a Council Committee (known as a Representative Group) for each area. These have a mix of councillors, appointed locals, and Māori. Their job is to review and provide advice on proposals that affect the area, and make decisions on local matters.

This means that if you've got an issue or need some help with council's services you have a number of people you can contact:

- The Mayor
- Your local councillor
- Any other councillor
- Any of your local representative group members.

While it is up to the new Council elected in 2022 to determine its council committees and their delegations, these Representative Groups are a longstanding convention, which is expected to continue.

**WHAKAPŪPŪTIA MAI Ō  
MĀNUKA, KIA KORE AI E WHATI.**

CLUSTER THE BRANCHES OF THE  
MĀNUKA, SO THEY WILL NOT BREAK.

# PROPOSED DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE TURANGI - TONGARIRO COMMUNITY BOARD

**CURRENTLY WE HAVE A TURANGI-TONGARIRO COMMUNITY BOARD, WHOSE JOB IS TO REPRESENT, AND ACT AS AN ADVOCATE FOR, THE INTERESTS OF THE TURANGI-TONGARIRO COMMUNITY. IT ALSO REVIEWS AND PROVIDES ADVICE ON PROPOSALS THAT AFFECT THE AREA, AND MAKES DECISIONS ON LOCAL MATTERS. THE COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERSHIP IS A MIX OF TWO COUNCILLORS, FOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES FROM TURANGI, AND TWO ELECTED FROM THE WIDER TONGARIRO AREA.**

Ngāti Tūrangitukua is the mana whenua (the iwi that holds authority) of the Tūrangitukua rohe (area) which includes the Tūrangī township and its surrounds. Ngāti Tūrangitukua has a special relationship with the whenua (land) and people located within its rohe which is reflected through their role as kaitiaki (guardians) and landowners of most reserves located within its rohe.

Historically, Ngāti Tūrangitukua land was acquired for the purposes of constructing the Tūrangī township. This was not agreed to by Ngāti Tūrangitukua and was held to be a breach of the Treaty of Waitangi by the Waitangi Tribunal. The Ngāti Tūrangitukua Settlement Act 1999 saw the return of some of this land and as a result of Ngāti Tūrangitukua's generosity, a vast majority of their land including public recreational reserves located in Turangi remain accessible for the wider community and visitors alike to enjoy.

To support the partnership aspirations of both Council and Ngāti Tūrangitukua, we are currently developing a Mana Whakahono partnership agreement which will cover a range of matters including opportunities for Ngāti Tūrangitukua to make certain decisions either jointly with Council or alone as landowners over what happens within their rohe. The Mana Whakahono will also see the establishment of a co-governance committee responsible for the implementation of the Mana Whakahono which will effectively fulfil the role that the current community board does within the Tūrangitukua rohe.

As a result, we are proposing to replace the community board with two Council Committees.

- A co-governance committee for Turangi township and its immediate surrounds, which will involve a partnership with Ngāti Tūrangitukua and therefore

ensure their active involvement in making decisions on Council-related functions within its rohe. The co-governance committee will be established once the agreement has been signed.

The Committee will be made up of an equal number of members to represent Ngāti Tūrangitukua and the Council. It is likely to include:

- The Mayor
- The local Councillor
- 1-2 Turangi locals appointed by Council
- 3-4 members appointed by Ngāti Tūrangitukua

Once the Community Board is disestablished in October 2022, a representative group for the remainder of the Turangi-Tongariro Ward (known as the Tongariro part of the Ward) is planned to be established to cover the wider Tongariro ward including:

- Whareroa – Kuratau/Omori – Pukawa
- Waihi – Tokaanu, and the wider Tongariro / Rotoaira settlements
- Korohe - Motuoapa – Tauranga-Taupō - Hatepe

It is likely to include the Mayor, the local councillor, appointed members from these local settlements, and iwi.

The main difference between the community board and the new bodies is that they will be committees of Council, meaning that their members are appointed by Council, rather than elected (voted-in by the public).

# ONE COUNCILLOR FOR THE TURANGI-TONGARIRO WARD

OUR ONE COUNCILLOR PROPOSAL FOR THE TURANGI - TONGARIRO WARD REPRESENTS 3,200 PEOPLE ON THE GENERAL ELECTORAL ROLL, BROADLY IN LINE WITH THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION FOR THE OTHER AREAS OF TAUPŌ DISTRICT.

This is a reduction from the current two councillors representing the ward, but it should be noted that this is because of the relatively high Māori electoral population in that ward.

These proposed changes ensure that Turangi and the wider Tongariro area will still have a strong voice at Council, and influence over local decisions on council services. Ngāti Tūrangitukua as Treaty settlement partners will be empowered to make decisions in partnership with Council in relation to their rohe, and the representative group model which has worked well for other areas will ensure representation for people living in the Tongariro part of the Ward.

*Feedback wanted - How do we Ensure Turangi - Tongariro has a local voice and decision making?*

We want to ensure that Turangi and the wider Tongariro areas have a strong voice at Council, and influence over local decisions on Council services.

We also want to ensure that you have a number of people you can contact if you have an issue or need some help with Council's services.

We think the disestablishment of the Turangi-Tongariro Community Board and instead having two Council committees to represent the Turangi, and wider Tongariro areas will achieve this, as well as achieve our goal to work more closely with our Treaty settlement partners Ngāti Tūrangitukua.

*Make sure to let us know if you agree, or instead suggest another approach.*

# ENSURING MANGAKINO - POUAKANI HAS A LOCAL VOICE

THE MANGAKINO - POUAKANI AREA HAS HAD A DEDICATED SEAT AT COUNCIL FOR A LONG TIME. THIS ENSURES THAT THERE IS SOMEONE AT THE DECISION-MAKING TABLE WHO KNOWS THE MANGAKINO - POUAKANI AREA.

We think this is important, because it's a unique part of the District, with its distinct needs for Council services.

Judging solely according to population, this area wouldn't get its own seat. This means this decision will be subject to a review by the Local Government Commission.

*Feedback wanted - keep the Mangakino - Pouakani ward?*

We think keeping the Mangakino - Pouakani ward to ensure this area has a seat at the Council table is vital.

But the Commission must review this decision, and will be really interested in whether this is something that is important to you.

*Make sure you let us know if you want to keep it, or if you think it should change.*

# TE PAPAMĀREAREA A DISTRICT-WIDE MĀORI WARD

**THE PROPOSAL, DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH MĀORI AND OUR IWI PARTNERS IS TO HAVE ONE DISTRICT-WIDE MĀORI WARD; TE PAPAMĀREAREA.**

Anyone on the Māori electoral roll will have two votes for their preferred candidates for the Māori ward, plus a vote for the Mayor. Please note that the decision to establish a Māori ward has already been made and is not in scope for this representation review.

There will be two councillors for the Māori ward, which is determined by Māori electoral population.

Our recent decision to introduce a Māori ward will ensure a Māori voice at the Council table – in the same way we have area wards to ensure a voice for particular communities and our iwi partners.

Following consultation with Māori and our iwi partners, our initial proposal is for two councillors

(determined by numbers on the Māori electoral roll) for a single Māori ward that covers the whole District.

*Feedback wanted – how should our Māori ward work?*

We think a district-wide Māori ward with two councillors (in line with the population on the Māori electoral roll) for the whole area is the best option rather than subdividing representation into wards.

*Make sure to let us know if you agree, or instead suggest another approach.*

# ENSURING THE WIDER TAUPŌ RURAL AREA HAS A LOCAL VOICE

**THE TAUPŌ EAST RURAL VOTING AREA WAS ESTABLISHED FOR THE 2019 LOCAL ELECTIONS. THIS ENSURED THAT THERE WAS GUARANTEED TO BE A RURAL REPRESENTATIVE FROM THIS AREA AT COUNCIL.**

We've found this rural voice useful. Though it's still in its infancy, already it has provided a different view and raised new questions and perspectives about council services.

We are proposing to keep the Taupō East Rural arrangement in place, to ensure that this rural voice remains represented at Council. Without it, it is very difficult for a rural candidate to be elected with the high population of Taupō town voters.

Judging solely according to population criteria, this area wouldn't get its own seat. This means this decision will be subject to a review by the Local Government Commission.

*Feedback wanted – keep the Taupō East Rural ward?*

We see strong value in ensuring some diversity of views and a rural voice from the Taupō East Rural area at the Council table. But we also recognise that you still have strong links to Taupō town.

So we, and the Commission who must review this decision, are really interested in what you prefer:

*Should we ensure a voice at Council for this rural area by keeping the Taupō East Rural ward?*

*OR, would you rather just vote as part of Taupō town?*



Have your say

# SUBMISSION FORM

## HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION

You can make an online submission by going to [www.taupo.govt.nz/repreview](http://www.taupo.govt.nz/repreview) or you may complete the form below. Submissions open on 7 July 2021 and close at 4.30pm on 9 August 2021.

Submitters are advised that the information supplied in written submissions may contain personal information within the meaning of the Privacy Act 2020. By taking part in this public submission process, submitters have agreed to any personal information (including names and contact details) which is contained in their submission being made available to the public as part of the consultation and decision making process. All information collected will be held by Taupō District Council. Submitters have the right to access and correct personal information. Submissions will be published on the council's website as part of the public process.

## WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS CAN BE POSTED TO

Freepost  
The Chief Executive Officer  
Taupō District Council  
Private Bag 2005  
Taupō District Council  
Freepost No. 112497

## SUBMISSIONS CAN ALSO BE EMAILED TO

[representationreview@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:representationreview@taupo.govt.nz)

## HEARINGS HAVE BEEN SET DOWN FOR 24 AUGUST 2021

If you have indicated that you wish to present your comments in person, you will be contacted after the submission period has closed to arrange a date and time. You will be given up to 5 minutes in which to present your submission and answer questions. Please make your written comments as complete as possible and use the hearing time to highlight the most important aspects of your submission.

Council will then deliberate (consider changes based on written submissions and hearings) at a meeting to be held on 7 September 2021.

# HAVE YOUR SAY NOW!



# CONSULTATION SUBMISSION FORM

## YOUR DETAILS

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

## CONTACT DETAILS

POSTAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

BEST DAYTIME  
CONTACT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

## YOUR FEEDBACK

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ**  
Taupō District Council

LOOKING AFTER THE PLACE  
we lōve