

CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2016  
TAHUNANUI BUSINESS ASSOCIATION INC.

The Tahunanui Business Association continues to work on various issues that affect the businesses and wider community of Tahunanui.

Recently these have included supporting the Modellers Association through negotiations with the Council regarding remedial work on the pond. While the pond forms part of the Tahunanui Reserve's recreational facilities, many do not realise that it is also a crucial part of the city's stormwater system. Indeed if it were not there as a detention pond, large parts of the Tahunanui flats would be flooded at high tide during storms.

Although Council has set aside a million dollars to fix the pond, a recent move by some Councillors has led to the Council capping their funding at \$600,000, leaving the Modellers to raise approx another \$600,000 by September this year. TBA have supported the modellers for a number of years in requesting that Council seal the bottom of the pond so that it can be cleaned mechanically. We believe the pond is a valuable community asset and are submitting that the million dollars in the Annual Plan be reinstated. In the meantime the Modellers have set up a Give a Little page to assist with fundraising for the mammoth task set for them by Council.

TBA has made a submission to the NCC Draft Annual Plan 2016/17 supporting some items in the plan relating to our community and promoting others.

These include the ongoing issues in Tahunanui from the increased traffic along Tahunanui and Annesbrook Drives, dividing the community of Tahunanui and putting pressure on inadequate infrastructure. TBA supports the relocation of the State Highway away from Tahunanui to a purpose-built route such as the Southern Link. This would also enable the development of the waterfront for walking and cycling, particularly the ability to link the city to the Great Taste Trail through Tahunanui, via the Beach Camp, Golf Course and around the Airport.

TBA has been working with Council to develop multiple cycle links through Tahunanui to cater for the different genre of cyclists including commuter cyclists and school pupils and have suggested a link via Muritai Street, a shared pathway on the wide berm along the eastern side of Pascoe Street, then via Merton Place to the planned junction development adjacent to the Mega store and on to the Railway Reserve cycleway. This would provide a safer route through to the schools in Stoke.

Members of the Association recently met with Inspector Mat Arnold-Kelly, Nelson Bays Area Commander, to discuss security in Tahunanui and a recent spate of car break-ins. He commented that such outbreaks tend to move from area to area and are usually the work of a small number of offenders, in this recent case now apprehended. He said that Tahunanui has very low crime rates but encouraged people to take care with security, locking houses, cars etc.

TBA encourages Tahunanui residents to respond to NZTA consultation initiatives regarding the State Highway/Southern Link proposals and to support the provision of an alternative route to improve safety in our community.