

WHO WILL REPRESENT OUR COMMUNITY?

Nominations for the 2016 local election closed at midday Friday 12 August 2016. The candidates are:

Mayor (1 vacancy)

- Jan Barnes

Matamata Ward Councillor (4 vacancies)

- Joanne Aoake
- Brian Hunter
- James Sainsbury
- Kevin Tappin
- Adrienne Wilcock

Te Aroha Ward Councillor (3 vacancies)

- Teena Cornes
- Peter Jager
- Ash Tanner

Morrinsville Ward Councillor (4 vacancies)

- Donna Arnold
- Paul Cronin
- Neil Goodger
- James Thomas

Voters in Matamata are advised that they will need to choose who will represent them on local council as well as Waikato District Health Board. Electors on the Maori roll will also need to choose who represents them in the Ngā Tai ki Uta Māori Constituency of Waikato Regional Council. No election was required for the Waihou General Constituency of Waikato Regional Council as the number of candidates did not exceed the number of vacancies.

While candidate numbers are lower than previous years we encourage people to get involved in the election. "These decisions will have a big impact on the future so it's really important that people vote" says Electoral Officer Sandy Barnes.

Voting papers will be sent from 16 September 2016 when the voting period opens. Voting papers must be received by the Electoral Officer by midday 8 October.

Rates notice

First instalment rates notices for 2016/2017 have been posted out.

Last day for payment of this instalment is Thursday 25 August 2016.

A 10% additional charge will be added to any part of this first instalment which remains unpaid at 5pm 25 August 2016.

Payment Options

- **Cash, cheque, credit card and eftpos** – at any Council office.
- **Automatic payment** – please check that your payments will cover the current year's rates.
- **Direct debit** – will be processed on the night of 25 August 2016.
- **Electronic banking** – please ensure the correct references are lodged with your payment. These are on the back of your rates invoice.
- **Credit card** – www.mpdc.govt.nz/pay-my-rates.

If you have not received your rates notice or need to check your account balance please contact Customer Services on 0800 746 467.

Business Awards finalists

We received over 1000 votes for the 2016 Gull Customer Service Award! Good luck to the finalists who will be announced at the Business Night Out on Thursday 1 September.

We have had a panel judge the entries for the Bayleys Business Excellence Award. The finalists for this prestigious award are:

Matamata

Ador Hair, Skin & Beauty
Hobbiton Movie Set
Redoubt Bar & Eatery
Scene Newspaper

Morrinsville

Diprose Miller
Flex Fitness
House of Travel
NV Motorcycles

Te Aroha

Axis Automotive & Electrical
Healthfit Te Aroha
Kaimai Valley CrossFit
K9 Country Kennels

Good luck to all of the finalists!

Rating Information Database

Did you know you can use our Rating Information Database (RID) to search the property details for any property in the district. This can tell you information such as land area, land value and rates levies.

Call into any of our Council offices between 8am-5pm, Monday to Friday and our Customer Services team are on hand to help you use our self service kiosks. You can also access the RID online at www.mpdc.govt.nz/rates-property-search.

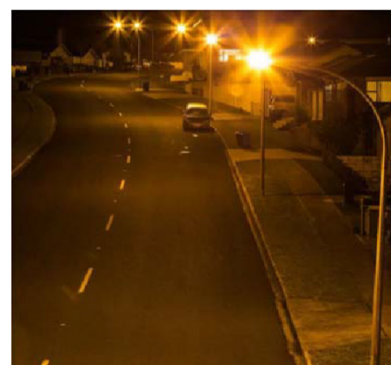
New street lights will save millions

We have started replacing the district's street light network with superior modern LEDs. This technology offers many benefits, such as significant energy and maintenance savings, improved lighting, reliability and safety, and reduced carbon emissions.

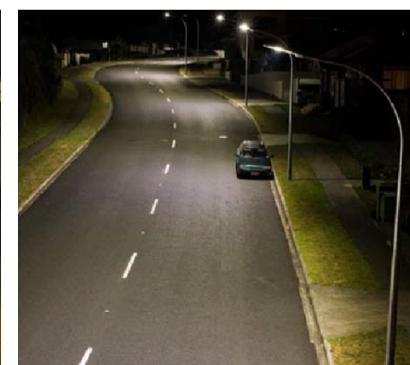
The regular lamps in our current network have to be replaced every three years, whereas the new LEDs have a 20 year life span, they use less power and require minimal maintenance.

Over the expected 20 year life of LED light fittings we have projected a saving of approximately \$3.1 million. This is made up from \$0.6 million in energy costs, \$1.04 million in maintenance costs and \$1.48 million in replacement costs

Electricity consumption will reduce from just under 14 million kWh to around 7.8 million kWh over 20 years based on the current number of street lights.



Current street lighting



LED street lighting