

Council adopts Traffic Bylaw, Guidelines and Parking Policy

Rotorua Lakes Council would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who took the time to submit and provide feedback about the Traffic Bylaw, Guidelines and Parking Policy.

During consultation Council received 547 official submissions.

Overall, the submissions showed that there was strong support from the community for the changes to the Bylaw, Guidelines and Policy:

- 84.6% of the submissions approved of the changes to the Proposed Traffic Bylaw 2026
- 80.59% of the submissions approved of the changes to the Proposed Parking Policy 2026
- 85.49% of the submissions approved of the improvements to the parking system

Submitters also provided feedback on the number of coin machines available throughout the city:

- 49.11% want to keep the current number of coin machines.
- 24.6% wanted to reduce the number of coin machines to high use areas.
- 26.43% wanted to remove coin payment options.

These results and all submissions were shared with Rotorua Lakes Councillors. A hearing was held on 24 February, and Councillors made their final decision at the full Council meeting on Wednesday 25 March.

All three documents were adopted and will be operative from 1 July 2026 providing a strong framework for future parking changes and improvements to the inner-city itself.

Go to p17 of the [25 March Council meeting agenda](#) to view the report that went to Council.

You can view the live stream of the full Council meeting and the parking discussion here – <https://youtu.be/1Lp8RUYnAEo?t=2303> (38 minutes)

Further changes to the parking system:

Through this consultation submitters also shared feedback on a range of other parking related topics. Rotorua Lakes Council is currently reviewing the inner-city parking system and a number of the issues raised by submitters will be addressed.

We have provided a high-level overview of those topics raised and the current approach that council is taking in response:

- Coin machines:
 - In line with public feedback, council will retain a similar number of coin operated machines and concentrate their location to where coins are currently used most.
- Reliability of parking machines and app:
 - In 2025 Councillors made the decision not to renew the iPark contract and to bring parking services back in house. Last month, we announced that from 1 July

new parking machines will be in place around the inner-city and a new app will be available to use.

- All customer services will be managed by Rotorua Lakes Council.
- Affordability and cost:
 - Council recognises the need to balance a well-functioning parking system that encourages the right parking, in the right places, at the right price. Work is underway to find the most affordable options while ensuring the parking system can support itself financially.
- Confusion and complexity of the parking system:
 - Council staff are working hard alongside the new technology provider to ensure any parking changes are as simple and as effective as possible.
- Payment methods, preferences and accessibility:
 - Council staff are working to ensure there are a range of payment options to suit all users and are engaging with local accessibility advocates to make the system as accessible as possible.

Again, we thank you for your submission. Your feedback will help shape the way parking is managed in the future.

We encourage you to follow this project and keep an eye out for important updates about parking changes, especially if you visit the inner-city regularly.

You can stay updated by:

- Following us on Facebook or Instagram
- Visiting the Parking Changes webpage