

MEDIA RELEASE

Ruapehu District Council



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RUAPEHU DISABLED CAR PARKS RE-PAINTED HIGH VISIBILITY BLUE

Ruapehu's 16 disabled car parking spaces in Ohakune, Raetihi and Taumarunui have been repainted in a 'high visibility' blue to make them more easily recognisable.

Ruapehu District Council (RDC) Team Leader Land Transport, Warren Furner, said that the observance of parking rules for disabled person's parking spaces is sometimes not good, and the re-painting of the disabled spaces in bright blue makes them impossible to miss, or not recognise that they are spaces reserved for disabled persons only.

"Council believes that painting disabled parking spaces in high visibility blue is a 'passive way' to encourage compliance with the parking rules without the need to have Compliance Officers issuing tickets to the community," he said.

"A 2010 amendment to the Land Transport Traffic Control Devices Rule specifies that disabled car parking spaces are the only spaces that can be painted blue."

Mr Furner said that RDC was following many other New Zealand and overseas jurisdictions where parking spaces for disabled persons have been made more easily recognisable by painting them in a strongly contrasting colour to the surrounding road and pavement.

"New Zealand has undertaken a field trial of the blue marking which found that there was a marked improvement in driver compliance and recognition of disabled parking spaces," he said.

"The new high visibility blue marking of disabled parking spaces may assist to raise consideration for disabled road users and also highlight RDC's commitment to improving accessibility for Ruapehu's disabled community."

DAVID HAMMOND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CJH : PRW

Photo attached page 2

RDC Team Leader Land Transport, Warren Furner, on one of the new 'high visibility' blue disabled parking spaces



Photo of German Imperial Army field gun, 7.7cm Feldkanone 96 n.A., showing original wheels