

Ruapehu District Council  
**Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu**



# Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2026

## REVISION HISTORY

| Date         | Revisions made                                | Authorised         |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 24 June 2026 | <i>Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2026</i> adopted | Council resolution |

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# PART ONE - INTRODUCTION

## 1. TITLE

- 1.1 The title of this bylaw is the *Ruapehu District Council Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2026*.

## 2. PURPOSE

- 2.1 The purpose of this bylaw is to set requirements for Parking and control of Vehicles, Parking, and traffic on any Road or area under the care, control, and management of the Council.
- 2.2 This Bylaw will be administered by Council in accordance with its *Use of Council Roads and Road Reserve Policy* which sets out further information on how Council manages the use of its Roads and Road reserves.

## 3. AUTHORITY TO MAKE THIS BYLAW

- 3.1 This bylaw is made under section 22AB of the *Land Transport Act 1998*.

## 4. COMMENCEMENT

- 4.1 This bylaw comes into force on 25 June 2026.

## 5. DEFINITIONS

- 5.1 In this bylaw:

|                     |                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ACT                 | means the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> and the regulations and rules made under that Act.                                                     |
| AUTHORISED OFFICER  | means an officer or other Person delegated authority by Council to perform duties or give permissions under this bylaw.                         |
| CARRIAGEWAY         | means the part of a Road intended for movement of Vehicles. It does not include the Road Verge or footpath but does include a Vehicle crossing. |
| COUNCIL             | means the Ruapehu District Council, or any Person with delegated authority and authorised to act on behalf.                                     |
| DISTRICT            | means the area administered by the Ruapehu District Council.                                                                                    |
| EMERGENCY VEHICLE   | has the same meaning given in clause 1.6 of the <i>Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004</i> .                                                   |
| FOOTPATH            | has the same meaning given in clause 1.6 of the <i>Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004</i> .                                                   |
| HEAVY MOTOR VEHICLE | has the same meaning given in Section 2(1) of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> .                                                              |
| HOURS OF DARKNESS   | has the same meaning given in clause 1.6 of the <i>Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004</i> .                                                   |
| MACHINERY           | means a mechanical device or Vehicle that may not be legally used on the Road.                                                                  |

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MAINTAINED ROAD                   | means any Road for which Council currently funds the improvement or renewal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| MOBILITY DEVICE                   | has the same meaning given in clause 1.6 of the <i>Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| MOTOR VEHICLE                     | has the same meaning given in Section 2(1) of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| NETWORK UTILITY OPERATOR          | has the same meaning given in section 166 of the <i>Resource Management Act 1991</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| OHAKUNE MOUNTAIN ROAD             | Means the Road beginning at the intersection of Old Station Road, Thames Street, and Mangawhero Terrace, and ends at the operational buildings for the ski field.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| OWNER                             | has the same meaning given in Section 2(1) of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PARKING                           | has the same meaning given in Section 2(1) of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| PARKING PLACE                     | has the same meaning as in section 591 (6) of the <i>Local Government Act 1974</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| PARKING OFFICER OR PARKING WARDEN | means a Parking Warden / Officer appointed by Council under section 128D of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| PERSON                            | means any individual, body corporate or partnership.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| ROAD                              | has the same meaning given in Section 2(1) of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> .<br><br>For the avoidance of doubt, Road includes unformed legal roads, sometimes referred to as paper roads, that are legally vested in, or under the care, control, or management of the Council, whether or not they are formed or maintained. |
| ROAD RESERVE                      | means land that has been legally designated for Road purposes, including formed and unformed portions, and typically includes the full Road corridor from boundary to boundary—even if only a portion is physically used as a Road.                                                                                                 |
| ROAD VERGE                        | means the margin of a Road adjacent to, but not forming part of, the Carriageway or Footpath (if any).                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| TRANSPORT STATION                 | has the same meaning as section 591 (6) of the <i>Local Government Act 1974</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| UNFORMED LEGAL ROAD               | means any Road in the District that has never been formed or was once formed and has become Unformed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| VEHICLE                           | has the same meaning as section 2(1) of the <i>Land Transport Act 1998</i> and includes a horse under the control of a Person, whether or not it is being ridden.                                                                                                                                                                   |

- 5.2 In this bylaw, any undefined words, phrases, or expressions used in this bylaw have the same meaning as in the *Act* unless the context plainly requires a different meaning.

## **6. RESOLUTIONS MADE UNDER THIS BYLAW**

- 6.1 Council may, by resolution, impose prohibitions, restrictions, or controls under this bylaw, including (without limitation):
- (a) stopping, standing, or Parking of Vehicles;
  - (b) the use of specified Roads by particular Vehicles or classes of traffic;
  - (c) locations of bus stops, taxi stands, or other designated Parking places;
  - (d) any other traffic control authorised by this Bylaw.
- 6.2 Council may rescind, amend or revoke any resolution made under this Bylaw at any time by further resolution.
- 6.3 Every resolution made under this bylaw will be recorded in the Ruapehu District Council Traffic and Parking Bylaw Register of Resolutions, which is available for public inspection at Council offices and on Council's website.
- 6.4 A breach of any resolution made under this bylaw is a breach of the bylaw.

## **PART TWO – TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS**

### **7. PERMANENT ROAD USE RESTRICTIONS**

- 7.1 Council may, by resolution and subject to any conditions it considers appropriate, restrict the use of any Road, including by:
- (a) specified classes of traffic (including Heavy Vehicles);
  - (b) any Vehicle or class of Vehicle that is unsuitable due to size, type, weight, or the goods carried;
  - (c) restricting Vehicle use on Unformed Roads;
  - (d) specifying one-way travel for Vehicles, horses, or bicycles;
  - (e) establishing height or dimensional limits for Vehicles or structures;
  - (f) prohibiting or restricting engine braking;
  - (g) regulating the construction of any structure on, over, or under a Road or cycle track;
  - (h) setting rules for the use of Roads and cycle tracks.
- 7.2 A Person must not use a Road in a manner that contravenes any restriction imposed under clause 7.1.

### **8. HEAVY MOTOR VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS**

- 8.1 Council may, by resolution, prohibit the use of any Maintained or Unmaintained Road by Heavy Motor Vehicles.
- 8.2 A Person must not drive a Heavy Motor Vehicle, other than a bus, on a Road where such Vehicles are prohibited, unless access is required for loading or unloading goods or passengers at a property with no other suitable or safe Vehicle access.
- 8.3 This prohibition does not apply to:
- (a) a Network Utility Operator or its authorised agent; or
  - (b) a contractor carrying out road works or maintaining a network utility on a prohibited Road.

### **9. TEMPORARY ROAD RESTRICTIONS FOR SAFETY**

- 9.1 Council may temporarily close or restrict the use of any Road, bridge, or other structure at any time if it considers the site unsafe for Vehicles, animals, or pedestrians.
- 9.2 An Authorised Officer may temporarily restrict the speed, type, or use of Vehicles on any Road if they consider there is, or is likely to be:
- (a) danger to the public or Road workers, or
  - (b) potential damage to the Road.

## **10. OTHER ROAD SAFETY AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROHIBITIONS**

### **10.1 A Person must not**

- a) leave a Motor Vehicle on the Maintained Road for more than 24 hours, if the Vehicle cannot be safely driven.
- b) display a Vehicle or object for sale on any Road if doing so obstructs traffic, reduces visibility for Road users, or creates a Road safety hazard.
- c) display a Vehicle or object for sale on any Road during the Hours Darkness
- d) damage, remove, obscure, or otherwise interfere with any traffic control device, or temporary traffic management equipment.
- e) carry out work on, in, or over a Maintained Road without an approved Temporary Traffic Management Plan (TMP) except where immediate action is required to save lives or prevent serious injury.
- f) at any Road intersection or within 100 metres of an intersection on any approach:
  - i. wash or clean the windows of Vehicles in exchange for payment or donation,
  - ii. solicit or request any subscription, collection, or donation, or
  - iii. sell or offer any goods or services.
- g) drive a Motor Vehicle on any Road with wheel chains fitted, unless snow or ice makes the Road unsafe for Vehicles.
- h) leave any property within the Road Reserve,

## **PART THREE – PARKING**

### **11. GENERAL PARKING RESTRICTIONS**

11.1 Council may, by resolution, in respect of any Road or area within the Road Reserve:

- a) limit, restrict, or prohibit the parking of:
  - i. all Vehicles;
  - ii. specified classes, types, weights, or descriptions of Vehicles;
  - iii. Vehicles used for specified purposes;
  - iv. Vehicles belonging to, or used by, specified Persons or classes of Persons;
  - v. Heavy Vehicles in residential areas;
- b) specify the days, times, and duration for which any parking control applies;
- c) set fees payable for the use of any Parking place.

#### **11.2 Officer directions and emergency parking**

- a) The Owner or Person in charge of a Vehicle parked on a Maintained Road must move the Vehicle when directed to do so by an authorised officer.
- b) In cases of necessity or emergency, an authorised officer may designate any part of a Road as a temporary Parking area.

### **12. PARKING OFFENCES**

12.1 A Person must not park a Vehicle in breach of a restriction imposed by Council under clause 11.

#### **12.2 Exceptions**

- a) Clause 11.1 and do not apply to:
  - i. use of a Vehicle accessway constructed to access a property;
  - ii. riding a bicycle where permitted on a Footpath, walkway, shared path, or cycleway;
  - iii. Mobility Devices;
  - iv. Emergency Vehicles in the course of duty;
  - v. utility Vehicles operating in the course of duty;
  - vi. Heavy Vehicles stopping solely for loading or unloading where no reasonable alternative access is available.

## **PART FOUR - OHAKUNE MOUNTAIN ROAD**

### *Explanatory notes:*

- *Ohakune Mountain Road is owned and maintained by Ruapehu District Council. It is a Road of cultural significance.*
- *For clarity, Bruce Road (from Rehua Place, south of Whakapapa Village, to Iwikau Village at the Whakapapa Skifield) is owned and maintained by the Department of Conservation.*

### **13. TEMPORARY CLOSURES AND ACCESS RESTRICTIONS**

- 13.1 Council may, by resolution, temporarily prohibit the use of Ohakune Mountain Road, or any part of it, by all Vehicles or by specified types of Vehicles where Council considers the Road:
- a) is dangerous or unsafe for Vehicle use;
  - b) impassable or likely to become impassable due to snow, ice, slips, volcanic activity, accidents, or other hazards;
  - c) required to be closed for safety reasons, including snow or ice clearing or other emergency works.
  - d) subject to traffic management measures necessary to manage traffic volumes, flow, or safety.
- 13.2 Resolutions made in accordance with 13.1 may include:
- a) full or partial road closures;
  - b) one-way operation;
  - c) restrictions on specified turning movements.

### **14. WEATHER AND VEHICLE-CAPABILITY RESTRICTIONS**

- 14.1 Where adverse Road or weather conditions exist, are imminent, or are forecast, Council may restrict access to Ohakune Mountain Road to:
- a) Vehicles fitted with suitable snow chains; and/or
  - b) suitable four-wheel-drive Vehicles with off-Road tyres.

### **15. TEMPORARY ACCESS RESTRICTIONS TO PARKING AREAS**

- 15.1 Council may temporarily prohibit Vehicle entry to specified car Parking areas on Ohakune Mountain Road where necessary to ensure:
- a) the orderly and safe management of traffic volumes and flow; or
  - b) the orderly and safe management of Parking areas.

### **16. IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTRICTIONS**

- 16.1 To give effect to any restriction under this section, Council may:

- a) erect and maintain temporary or permanent signs; and
  - b) erect or place supervised or unsupervised barriers to prevent Vehicle access.
- 16.2 Vehicles already within a restricted or prohibited area may exit using the affected parts of the Road.

## **17.OFFENCES**

17.1 A Person must not:

- a) enter or remain on any part of Ohakune Mountain Road that is closed or restricted under sections 13-16;
- b) obstruct the Road in a manner that interferes with its safe use; or
- c) move, deface, or interfere with any sign, notice, or barrier placed by authority of Council under this section.

## **18.PARKING ON OHAKUNE MOUNTAIN ROAD**

18.1 In addition to the general parking controls in this bylaw, Council may, by resolution in relation to Ohakune Mountain Road:

- a) prohibit stopping, standing, or Parking; or
- b) designate parts of the Road for specific uses, including bus stops, Transport Stations, accessible Parking spaces, cycleways, clearways, no-stopping areas, or traffic lanes for specified classes of Vehicles.

## **19.PARKING OFFENCES ON OHAKUNE MOUNTAIN ROAD**

19.1 On Ohakune Mountain Road, a Person must not:

- a) park a Vehicle, boat, machinery, or structure otherwise than in accordance with this bylaw;
- b) leave a Vehicle that is disabled, unsafe, or unable to be driven; or
- c) display a Vehicle for sale, unless it is in genuine use for travel and has stopped only temporarily.

## **PART FIVE – ADMINISTRATION**

### **20. EXEMPTIONS**

20.1 This bylaw does not apply to any of the following Vehicles when used in the execution of duty:

- (a) Emergency Vehicles; or
- (b) Vehicles used by Parking Wardens or enforcement officers.
- (c) Road maintenance or construction Vehicles.

### **21. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

21.1 Every Person who breaches this bylaw, including any prohibition, restriction, or resolution made under it, commits an offence under the *Land Transport Act 1998* and is liable to the penalties set out in the *Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999*, or any replacement regulations.

### **22. DEFENCES**

22.1 A Person is not in breach of this bylaw if they prove that the act or omission complained of:

- (a) was done as a direct result of an emergency on the Road or immediately adjoining the Road; or
- (b) complied with the directions of a police officer, Parking Warden, Authorised Officer, traffic control signal, or traffic sign.