

Article for Waihi Leader

## **FRONTING UP TO STREET APPEAL**

Following on from the successful 2013/14 and 2015/16 Streets Ahead schemes in Waihi East, the Waihi Community Forum has announced its latest Streets Ahead project - a \$300 Street Front Home Improvement grant for each home in Waihi East. 'The Forum has listened to residents and investigated several proposed projects, and the initiative that has been requested the most, and is the most feasible, is some form of 'home improvement grant' says Forum Chairperson Bindy Burke. 'As the aim of Streets Ahead is to improve the Waihi East area we've agreed that this grant should focus on street frontages on all homes in Waihi East'.

The Streets Ahead scheme is voluntarily funded by OceanaGold through the Waihi Community Forum, as part of a package of programmes rolled out when the Correnso underground mine was first announced in 2011.

'We believe this grant will be a great way of adding what real estate agents call 'street appeal' to Waihi East' says Bindy. 'Property owners can use the grant in several ways - the money can be used to tidy fences or driveways, plant trees, or replace an old letterbox for example. The grant can also go towards larger projects like house painting, anything that improves the front of a house.'

Homeowners who live down a right-of-way also have the opportunity to apply for funding. Anyone living in Waihi East interested in applying for a grant can do so by completing an application form available at: [www.waihicommunityforum.co.nz](http://www.waihicommunityforum.co.nz) and at Hauraki District Council's service centre in Waihi. If you would like a copy mailed to you, or if you have any questions, please contact the Forum on [wcfinformation@gmail.com](mailto:wcfinformation@gmail.com).

The Forum also has a Facebook page ([@waihicommunityforum](https://www.facebook.com/waihicommunityforum)).

Applications for a grant close on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.