



LAMI NEWS



MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL CHAIRMAN - MR VULA SHAW

Your Council has decided to publish quarterly newsletters and circulate to ratepayers, residents and stakeholders. Your Lami News Bulletin shall be posted too on our digital platforms.

Earlier this year, Minister for Local Government Honorable Maciu Nalumisa has appointed Council members for the Lami Town Council under section 9 of the Local Government Act (1972). Your Council members are Mr. Vula Shaw [Chairman] and Mr. Tirath Sharma. Council members are ratepayers and residents of Lami Town.

Key activities over the last six months have been carrying out a stock take of Council activities, understanding Council activities and re-engineering way forward. The new financial year planning [August, 2024 - July, 2025] has allowed Council members to reset activities and ensure that the best services are provided to the people of Lami.

In its aim to set directions Council has established a vision for the Council which is:

“LAMI - A Safe, Clean, Green, Resilient and a live able place for all”

Following consultations with ratepayers, residence and stakeholders, Council has established key strategic areas as follows:

NUMBER	STRATEGY
1	PROMOTING LAMI TO BE A CLEAN AND TIDY PLACE
2	PROMOTING LAMI TO BE KNOWN AS A GREEN TOWN
3	PROMOTING SAFETY AND SECURITY OF INHABITANTS AT LAMI AT ALL TIMES
4	STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIP WITH AGENCIES TO UPGRADE INFRASTRUCTURE, UTILITIES AND TOWN PLANNING
5	COMMUNITY FACILITY DEVELOPMENTS
6	STRENGTHENING ASSET MANAGEMENT
7	PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE

Your Council Business Plan 2024/25 and the Strategic Development Plan 2024-29 shall be based on the above strategic framework. Council looks forward at working closely with ratepayers and residents and please free to meet your Council members to discuss possible suggestions and grievances. Council Annual (Financial) year has been amended during the annual calendar year 2020. Financial year is now from 1st August to 31st July of the next year. Rates billing now takes place during the month of August.

I wish to take his opportunity to thank ratepayers, business houses and residence of Lami Town for the regular support provided to the Council. In this newsletter we are providing you with our key activities planned for the following year. Council is open to suggestions. My office is of the view that with your support we can strengthen service delivery to our ratepayers and residents. During the financial year 2024/25 Council plans to carry out two public consultations where Council programs and implementation status shall be provided and feedback taken. We have dedicated staffs during this year who shall manage Council digital platforms consistently.

“Lets beautify Lami”

YOUR COUNCIL OPERATIONS

The following services have been planned to be provided by your Council during the financial year 2024/25:



1. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Kitchen Waste Collection - Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays. Residents are requested to place Kitchen Waste before 8.00am as collection shall be carried out in between 8.00am to 11.00am.

Green Waste Collection - Every second last Wednesday of the month for Eastern Ward and last Wednesday of the month Western Ward.

Residents are informed that placement of Green Waste in front of your premises shall be two days before collection schedule. Placement of Green Waste outside the schedule dates shall leave Council with no option but to issue with litter infringement notice.

White Goods Collection - Special collection shall take place during the last week of September, 2024; last week of November, 2024; January, 2025; March, 2025; May and July, 2025. Residence are informed that placement of White Goods shall be allowed two days prior to pickup. Placement of White Goods on any other day shall have Council Health Section issuing Litter Infringement notices..

In addition, to the above Lami Town Council shall continue to provide Garbage refuse collection services in informal settlements and delegated peri-urban areas and these services shall be funded through Government grant.

Special Collection Green and White Goods Refuse Collection- Council provides special pickup services and you may contact Council Senior Health Inspector - Ms. Selaima Maitoga through electronic mail smaitoga@lamitowncouncil.com.fj or Phone 9987487.

Composting Program - The Council Health team with the support of a JICA volunteer is engaged in a compost program. Compost produced is sold at the Council office at \$5 for 5 kg. Any resident interested in setting up a compost at your residence may contact our Senior Health Inspector Ms. Selaima Maitoga through electronic mail smaitoga@lamitowncouncil.com.fj or Phone 9987487.

2. GRASS CUTTING, DRAIN CLEANING AND SWEEPING SERVICES

Grass Cutting, Drain Cleaning and Sweeping of streets and open spaces policies have been reviewed. Council has this area requiring additional resources and the Eastern and Western Ward shall resources well allocated to maintain public areas neat and clean at all times.



3. PUBLIC AREA GREENING

A special greening team shall be managing greening of our Town during the financial year 2024/25. The team shall be managing public space greening activities including trimming of trees.

4. STREET MAINTENANCE

Your Council has established a working relationship with Fiji Roads Authority with an aim to improve street lighting, footpaths, street furniture and road in within the Town. Fiji Roads Authority has allocated \$7m towards improving road assets at Lami. Council shall ensure that full support is provided including monitoring of street lights.

5. TOWN SUPERVISION

Council has invested in a Town Ranger for the Downtown area, Assistant Town Ranger for all other areas in within Town who shall have traffic, litter and street officer delegated powers to supervise street activities. The Building section has, in addition, to a Building Surveyor been allocated an Assistant Building Inspector and clerk position to monitor building conditions including construction within Town and delegated areas. Health Team shall have an Assistant Health Inspector and Clerk position to monitor sanitation and general Health environment condition of properties and public facilities in within Town.

6. DELEGATED SERVICES

Council shall continue providing building construction supervision services in delegated areas. The services shall be in accordance with delegated responsibilities conferred upon the Council and funded through Central Government.

7. TOWNSHIP FESTIVAL

- i. **LAMI FESTIVAL** has been planned during the month of November, 2024 at Johnny Singh Park. The weeklong festival activities shall be released to the Public during the month of September, 2024.
- ii. **NAVUA FESTIVAL** has been planned during the month of October, 2024. The weeklong festival activities shall be released to the Public during the month of August, 2024.



TOWN RATES

Council has decided to strike Town Rates as affixed during the year 2019. Sexennial valuation of properties is planned to be carried out during the year 2024/25. The last sexennial valuation was carried out in 2012. Town Rates invoice shall be generated and circulated during August, 2024. Rates paid during the month of August, 2024 shall attract a discount of 7% and rates payment during September, 2024 shall attract a discount of 4%.

YEAR	GENERAL RATES (VIP)	SPECIAL RATES (VIP)	TOTAL RATES (VIP)
2019	1.3199 cents	0.1468 cents	1.4667 cents
2020	0.95332 cents		0.95332 cents
2020/21	0.95332 cents		0.95332 cents
2021/22	0.95332 cents		0.95332 cents
2022/23	0.95332 cents		0.95332 cents
2023/24	1.010051 cents		1.010051 cents
(VAT ADJUSTMENT)			
2024/25	1.4667 cents		1.4667 cents

INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITY UPGRADE

Fiji Roads Authority following assessments have planned for a four way lane bridge to replace existing bridge next to Tikaram Park. The Council has been having discussions with Fiji Roads Authority and is working on a proposal to establish a Ring Road connecting from the proposed bridge to existing Council building site and linking to Marine Drive. The proposed Ring Road shall create space along foreshore for:

- i. An Inter Transport facility site for Bus and other commercial terminal bays and carparking area;
- ii. Market facility;
- iii. Extended Tikaram site for recreational facilities; and
- iv. Jetty for Ferry and Boats Service including water taxis.

Fiji Roads Authority has further agreed to work in partnership with the Council to upgrade roading infrastructure in within Lami Town and discuss proposed by pass from Princess Road to Delainavesi. Fiji Roads Authority shall be constructing footpaths at Nasevou Street and Delainavesi during this financial year.

A joint meeting has been planned during the month of August, 2024 with Water Authority of Fiji. Meeting shall discuss capacity upgrading programs for Lami. Council shall be releasing a joint program with Ministry for Agriculture on PET management during the month of August, 2024.

“Lets beautify Lami”

ASSETS IMPROVEMENT

During this financial year, Council shall be upgrading Makosoi Park through central government grant allocation. The upgrade has been planned for the first quarter of this financial year. In addition, the Council has been allocated grant of \$50,000 to support drainage upgrades. \$100,000 has been allocated to improve Market and Council office facilities.

COMMUNITY AND MEETINGS

During the year 2024/25 Council shall be organizing half yearly community meetings. A business network meeting shall be hosted during the month of November, 2024. Council is interested to establish relationship with business houses at Lami with an aim to promote Local Economic Development.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP PROGRAMS

Council is working together with organizations to promote community clean up programs. During this year, 2024 Council has organized 8 clean up programs including a joint Ministry for Local Government and Central Councils Tikaram Park clean up and with Japanese Embassy with the presence of Ambassadors from Japan, United States of America and France. Council looks forward at working closely with Business Houses to support weekly community clean up programs of public areas.

For support please feel free to contact Council Senior Health Inspector - Ms. Selaima Maitoga
on Phone 9987483 or electronic mail
smaitoga@lamitowncouncil.com.fj

RATES PAYMENT

1. Council is promoting ratepayers to make rates payment during the month of August, 2024. All ratepayers paying during the month of August, 2024 shall receive a cash discount of 7%.

You may directly pay the amount at the Lami Town Council during normal working hours or directly deposit in the following accounts:

HFC BANK - Account NO: 95267S18, LAMI TOWN COUNCIL

ANZ BANK - Account NO: 1226653, LAMI TOWN COUNCIL

WESTPAC PACIFIC BANKING - Account No: 980066753 LAMI TOWN COUNCIL

BSP - Account No 6966965 LAMI TOWN COUNCIL

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Please forward copy of deposit slip to the Council for reconciliation purposes.

For further information please feel free to contact Council Revenue Officer - Silvia Matia on Phone 9980410 or electronically mail on rates@lamitowncouncil.com.fj

YOUR SAY

Your suggestions including providing feedback on our services is highly valued and Council will ensure that we act upon it and keep you informed. Please feel free to visit in person to provide your feedback or email mracava@lamitowncouncil.com.fj or call on 9925533

[JULY - 2024]



Chairman with General Workers for a Morning Meet.



Council appreciates Minister for Local Government, Honorable Maciu Nalumisa in dedicating time to be part of cleanup drive at Tikaram Park.



Council sincerely appreciates support From the Eco guardian Fiji in promoting cleanup programs at Lami.



Town Council Chairman Mr Vula Shaw (left) with Special Administrator Tirath Sharma at debrief after foreshore cleanup at tikaram park