



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## TRUST SUPPORTS HOCKEY TURF

The Eastern Bay Energy Trust has approved in principle a grant of up to \$200,000 for the hockey turf to be built at Warren Park in Whakatane. Construction starts in November, and EBET has approved provisional funding for floodlighting, car park lighting, irrigation pumps and other energy related items for stages one and two. Final funding will be approved when the tendering process has been completed.

Grants totalling almost \$480,000 were approved at the August meeting, for community projects throughout the Eastern Bay. Other successful recipients included Te Kura Kaupapa Motuhake o Tawhiuau (\$17,050 for heating); Whakatane District Caledonian Society (\$65,089 for heating, ventilation and kitchen upgrade); Opotiki Golf Club (\$28,893 for heat pumps, hot water and kitchen appliances); Opotiki Volunteer Coastguard (\$24,316 for generator, water blaster, heat pumps, lighting and appliances); Kawerau Community Daycare Centre (\$11,631 for heat pumps and appliances); Ohotu Marae (\$53,409 for hot water, electrical, lighting, insulation and kitchen equipment); Wairaka Marae (\$22,282 for heat pumps); Whakatane Society Arts & Crafts (\$13,814 for heat pumps, lighting, electrical work and appliances); Ohope Christian Camp (\$23,090 for heat pumps, lighting, electrical work and appliances).

A donation of \$20,000 to the Eastern Bay Flood Disaster Trust was approved, along with funding in principle to cover three other flood relief projects being undertaken by the Trust. Final costs for the projects to assist with the pumping of floodwaters off flooded farms, the supply of diesel to badly affected farms for recovery work, and the \$100 credit to the power accounts of those people who were evacuated during the floods and landslips, are expected to total \$250,000.

Trust Chairman Toni Owen said "The Trustees have approved a major portion of the annual budget this month, and this is expected to be repeated next month when the full costs of the flood relief projects are known. We are pleased to support the hockey turf as it will be an important community asset that will not only benefit the sports people involved, but will also attract people to the region".

### ***For further information contact***

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