

Report 99.575

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Report to the Environment Committee
from Richard Peterson, Policy Advisor, Resource Policy

Regional Council Input to District Planning

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of Regional Council input to the statutory resource management processes of territorial authorities in the western part of the Region.

2. Overview

2.1 Resource Consents

Ten notified resource consents were received during the period since the last report (written on 25 August). No submissions have yet been made as a result of the notified consents. However, one of the consents that has been received is for a 16 lot subdivision on a coastal site immediately to the south of Te Horo. The site is subject to an existing subdivision consent which was approved through an Environment Court consent order in December 1995. The new proposal is significantly different to that allowed by the existing consent and does not include some measures aimed at mitigating the effects of the subdivision on the natural character of the coast. The Council will be making a submission on the application.

In addition, three consents were sent to the Council to either get our written approval as an affected landowner, or in order to consult, prior to the application being submitted to the territorial authority. A response was made to each of these three consents.

Following discussions with the applicant, written approval was given to a proposed retirement home to be developed next to the Council's Mabey Road depot. Secondly, a letter was sent outlining concerns about the limited pedestrian access to another retirement home at Trentham. The third application raised no issues for the Council and a letter was sent saying so.

2.2 District Plans

On Tuesday 5 October, Hutt City Council held hearings on the Utilities and Natural Hazard provisions of their Proposed District Plan. Most of our concerns on natural hazards had been resolved in previous hearings. As a result, only minor points of evidence relating to

earthquake terminology were presented. Supported by Phillip Purves of Flood Protection, evidence was also presented in relation to utilities within Hutt City's River Recreation Activity Area.

Since the last report, Upper Hutt City Council has notified all submitters on the St Patricks Estate (ProMall) variation that they intend to resume the hearing on that variation on 20 October 1999. The purpose of resuming the hearing is to hear further information that the City Council has asked their officers to provide.

2.3 **Transit Designations**

A series of Transit designations are at varying stages of development.

At the last Committee it was reported that a submission had been made by the Regional Council on the State Highway 2 upgrade between Kaitoke and Te Marua. The hearing for this designation has now been scheduled for 3 and 4 November 1999.

Transit intends to submit its notice of requirement for the State Highway 58 upgrade to the relevant territorial authorities before Christmas. This requirement will include provision for the upgrade of the intersection with State Highway 2 and for the "four-laneing" of State Highway 58, between State Highway 2 and Harris Road.

Finally, recent discussions have been held with Transit's representatives on the MacKays Crossing Upgrade and the widening of the State Highway 1 along Raumati straight. While these two upgrades are being run as separate projects, the ideal solution from the Council's viewpoint is likely to involve some co-ordination between Transit's two project teams.

3. **Communications**

The matters referred to in this report are part of on-going statutory processes, and these processes are the appropriate way of communicating the information.

4. **Recommendation**

That the report be received and the information noted.

Report prepared by:

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