

Update on Draft District Plan Engagement – March to May 2021

The following is a synopsis of the most prominent issues identified to date via engagement on the draft District Plan grouped against relevant Significant Resource Management Issues identified for the draft District Plan.

Tangata Whenua Partnerships

- Strong negative commentary on draft Significant Natural Area (SNA) mapping and associated methods, with significant concerns raised citing inappropriate regulation of Māori land, use of Māori land and lack of respect for te tiriti
- · Direct objection to the application of mapping and management of Māori land
- · Requests for the mapping and associated data to be made available to Māori landowners
- Advice that biodiversity value has been achieved due to inability to utilize land for economic purpose, and that further economic impact is constrained by regulation of SNA, including provision of papkainga housing
- Positive feedback on Māori Purpose Zone and enabling provisions for papakainga housing

Coastal Management

- Some concerns over the change from coastal zones to a coastal overlay where this translated to loss of some development potential
- Desire to enable more density in some coastal locations, especially where previous coastal zones were no longer identified to fall in the coastal environment. In some instances, this has meant a transition to a rural production zone from coastal living.

Urban Sustainability

- Positive sentiment for enabling further density in residential zone, with further suggestions that further enablement is required for subdivision and not just residential intensity.
- Requests for improved connectivity in existing urban areas, including creating more choice and diversity for roading connectivity
- · Request for better regard of active transport modes
- Requests for extension of residential zoned land to enable additional urban development to meet market demands and address affordable housing matters - with associated provision of infrastructure to support urban growth

Rural Sustainability

- Requests for enablement of further density in the rural zones and rural residential zones and extending the spatial coverage of the lifestyle and rural residential zones, especially where the rural production potential is less viable
- · Similar requests for enablement of further density in the Horticulture Zone for lifestyle development
- · Concerns expressed over the enablement of horticultural industry via the Horticultural Zone
- · Positive comments on protection of versatile soils and safeguarding the role of production land

Historic Heritage

• Strong concern expressed over increase over the spatial extent of Mangonui Heritage Area and demands for further engagement or withdrawal of changes

- Strong concerns over the nature of changes to Russell Heritage Precinct and Special Zone, resulting in less specific management or the character and values of Russell. Requests for reinstatement of strong and specific controls
- Requests for further engagement on heritage area spatial extent and appropriateness of management methods

Indigenous Biodiversity

- · Strong concern expressed over the management of indigenous vegetation on private land
- Requests that support and compensation be made for landowners for the public good that would be provided via the management of private land
- Some support for the methods but most seeking more flexibility in the use of land affected by a Significant Natural Area (SNA)
- Strong concerns over lack of recognition over the guardianship and good practice that has resulted in the good biodiversity outcomes for many areas