



Report 09.746  
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Committee Regulatory Committee  
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## Regional council input into city and district council planning

### 1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of Greater Wellington's input into the statutory resource management processes of territorial authorities in the region.

### 2. District Plan Changes

Officers' are completing an assessment of the need to submit on the plan changes received from Wellington City Council and Porirua City Council which were outlined in Regulatory Committee Report 09.521

#### 2.1 Wellington City Council

Proposed District Plan Change 67 -Rezoning of 43 Spenmoor Street, Newlands

The plan change seeks to subdivide a rural area of 40 lots, granted under resource consent in June 2006, into 120 lots. Greater Wellington made a neutral submission to the plan change on 15 September 2008 highlighting the importance of protecting indigenous ecosystems, landscape values, and features, given the uniqueness of the subject site which is a significant component of the Wellington Harbour coastal escarpment. The plan change and the submission on this plan change was reported on in Regulatory Committee Report 08.718

At the hearing on 7 October, Greater Wellington gave evidence which recommended further matters for the committee's consideration, including a policy analysis against the proposed Regional Policy Statement. In particular, policy 56 (Regional form, design, and function) was highlighted; this policy provides guidance on matters that need to be given particular regard in making progress towards achieving the key outcomes of the Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy. It was unclear how this plan change will help to make progress towards achieving the objectives of the strategy in particular the outcomes in relation to improved land use and transport integration, increased mode share for pedestrians and cyclists.

Doug Weir, from Public Transport Division confirmed at the hearing that it is highly unlikely that Greater Wellington will provide bus service to the subject site.

### **3. Other policies and plans**

#### **3.1 Hutt City Council - Land Review**

The Hutt City Council is currently undertaking a systematic review of land it owns and manages as part of its reserve network. Greater Wellington made a submission outlining the main areas of concerns namely effects on the Waiwhetu Stream catchment, impacts on the East Harbour Regional Park, ecological impacts and impacts on local stream ecology. As part of this process, the Hutt City Council Strategy and Policy Committee (the committee) held a meeting on 15 October 2009. This was attended by Greater Wellington staff as well as a large number of the general public. As a result of this meeting, the committee sought significant amendments to that which was recommend in the Officer's Report for properties in both the Harbour and Eastern Ward.

For properties in the Harbour Ward, these amendments made by the committee resulted in two properties being recommended to be retained as reserve instead of being made available for disposal as stated in the Officer's Report. The other two properties are to be declared surplus and made available for disposal.

For properties in the Eastern Ward, amendments made by the committee resulted in seven other potential development sites being removed from the schedule of properties for possible development are having due regard to concerns raised by submitters and on the grounds of limited development potential versus the cost of undertaking investigations. This has left two development sites recommended to undergo detailed investigations.

The Strategy and Policy Committee's recommendations will go to a full Hutt City Council meeting on Tuesday 15 December at 6pm.

#### **3.2 Kapiti Coast District Council - Consultation on options for an expressway through the Kapiti District**

An official submission was made to the New Zealand Transport Agency on 30 October 2009 by the Greater Wellington Regional Transport Committee. A number of further informal comments were also provided to NZTA from other Greater Wellington departments including Flood Protection, Parks and Forests and Environmental Policy.

#### **3.3 National Infrastructure Plan- discussion paper**

The National Infrastructure Unit of the Treasury is working towards completing New Zealand's first National Infrastructure Plan, by early next year. It is part of a series of initiatives aimed at improving New Zealand's infrastructure.

“Infrastructure: Facts and Issues-Towards the First National Infrastructure Plan” is a discussion paper prepared by Treasury for feedback. The paper is intended to present a high-level view of the state of our public infrastructure. It covers network infrastructure like roads, electricity and telecommunications, as well as social infrastructure like hospitals, schools and prisons. It describes the principles and likely direction of future investment, trends and constraints.

Greater Wellington’s submission addressed the relationship between the priorities and issues identified in the paper and our functions and policy direction for transport, climate change effects and water supply. We highlighted the role of the Regional Policy Statement in providing regional guidance to local government.

The immediate priorities and strategic direction for broadband, Roads of National Significance and road funding and pricing are generally aligned to those identified in the Regional Land Transport Strategy and the Wellington Regional Strategy.

In the sectoral analysis, we considered that more emphasis needed to be given to the effects of climate change, beyond the effects on greenhouse gas emissions. The likely impact of sea level rise and more frequent and intense storms on low lying infrastructure needs further analysis and a plan for a response to these issues should be part of the government’s infrastructure plan. The information provided for drinking water supplies for the Wellington region was out of date and we supplied updated information.

There were a number of areas of planned investment where we asked that the significant level of investment already underway for road, rail and public transport in the region be noted, and the contribution towards the Government’s key outcomes for infrastructure acknowledged.

#### **4. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***

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