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8 April 2024

Plan Change 54 – Papakāinga
Matamata-Piako District Council

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Dear Bill Wasley (Chairperson),

Waikato Regional Council Submission to Proposed Plan Change 54 – Papakāinga to the Operative Matamata-Piako District Plan

I request that this letter is tabled at the hearing for Proposed Plan Change 54 (PC54) on 17 April 2024, confirming Waikato Regional Council's (WRC) position on the recommendations presented in the Section 42A hearing report.

WRC lodged a submission to PC54.¹ In summary, the submission:

- Raised issues concerning flooding risks in the vicinities of Waiti Marae and requested reducing the extent of MPZ-PREC1 around Waiti Marae to only cover areas suitable for development.
- Requested a change to objectives MPZ-O1 and Papakāinga-O1 to include a reference to other natural and physical resources.
- Noted that Raungaiti Marae is within a WRC drainage scheme.
- Requested the introduction of an additional objective and two policies relating to climate resilience and responsiveness to environmental change.

WRC staff's position on the Section 42A report² recommendations is as follows:

- In terms of the flooding risks in the Waiti Marae area, we consider that the section 42A report has properly considered the flooding risks for the area. They have made an appropriate recommendation to accept submission S26.4, removing the land on the eastern side of Waiti Road (specifically Māori land block RT318271 and a part of RT315700 where it occupies land to the east of Waiti Road) from the proposed Māori Purpose Zone and to remain zoned as Rural Zone (as shown on Figure 3B in Attachment C³). We support the recommendation. We consider that this outcome is appropriate considering the flood risks associated with the area. The recommendation is in alignment with the policy direction in the Waikato Regional Policy Statement.
- We also support the recommendation to WRC's submission 26.1 (accepted in part), and objectives MPZ-O1 and Papakāinga-O1 are amended as follows:

¹ [26. Submission 64199 - Waikato Regional Council.pdf \(mpdc.govt.nz\)](#)

² [A18087B 010 PC54 Section 42a Report 20240318 Final.pdf \(mpdc.govt.nz\)](#)

³ [s42A - Attachment C Figures Maps.pdf \(mpdc.govt.nz\)](#)

*Enable Māori to maintain and enhance their traditional and cultural relationship with their ancestral lands, **water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga** and to enhance their social, economic and cultural wellbeing.*

As highlighted in the section 42A report, the recommended change is consistent with a matter of national importance s6(e).

- We appreciate the explanation from the section 42A report's author in response to WRC's submission 26.3 that provisions in the Matamata-Piako Operative District Plan (MPODP) for effective stormwater management and compliance with the Development Manual are sufficient to ensure that development will consider cumulative impacts on WRC's drainage schemes, including in connection to Raugati Marae.
- Lastly, we acknowledge the justification in the section 42A report for rejecting WRC's submission 26.2 requesting the addition of an objective and policies relating to climate resilience and responsiveness to environmental change at the Papakāinga chapter. We accept that submission 26.2 could be better placed through district-wide provisions and acknowledge that currently there are provisions in the MPODP managing natural hazards and energy efficiency.

In conclusion, we support the recommendations made by the author of the section 42A report in connection with WRC's submission. However, please note that should the section 42A author for Matamata-Piako District Council change their position or recommendations on the above, WRC's position outlined in this letter may be subject to change.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this letter please contact Joao Paulo Silva – Senior Policy Advisor, Policy Implementation on (07) 849 7179 or by email Joapaulo.Silva@waikatoregion.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely,



Lisette Balsom
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