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11 August 2023

Plan Change 26 – Residential Zone Intensification Hearings Panel  
Waipā District Council

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Dear David Hill (Chairperson),

**Letter to the hearings panel - Proposed Plan Change 26 – Residential Zone Intensification to the Operative Waipā District Plan**

1. I request that this letter is tabled at the Session 3 hearing for Proposed Plan Change 26 (PC26) in relation to financial contributions and the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB) confirming my position on behalf of Waikato Regional Council (WRC) on the recommendations presented in the Section 42A hearing report on financial contributions.
2. WRC made a submission (submission 30) and further submission on PC26 which I spoke to at the Session 2 hearing for PC26 on 28 April 2023.
3. The initial submission sought relief which related to the PC26 financial contributions provisions and the further submission supported Waipā District Council's submission points which relate to the NPS-IB, as identified by the Section 42A author.
4. I am generally supportive of the recommendations set out in the Section 42A report on financial contributions and consider that the proposed amendments to provisions satisfy most of WRC's submission points and align with the Waikato Regional Policy Statement (WRPS).
5. Specifically, my position on the Section 42A report recommendations is as follows:

Financial contributions

- a. I support the Section 42A author's recommendation to accept in part WRC's submission point 30.25 and amend provision 18.5.1.6(b) to include multi modal transport options.
- b. I support the Section 42A author's recommendation to accept WRC's submission point 30.26 and amend provisions 18.5.2.18, 18.5.2.19 and 18.5.2.20 to refer to cycling and walking.
- c. I agree that provision 18.4.2.7 broadly addresses a range of adverse effects and does not exclude the effects of climate change. I do not oppose the Section 42A author's recommendation to reject WRC's submission point 30.14.

NPS-IB

- d. I support rule 2A.4.2.6(f) which requires a 20m setback from SNA boundaries for two or more dwellings. I agree with the Section 42A author that this gives effect to the NPS-IB.
  
  - e. I support rule 2A.4.2.24A which requires additional landscaping in the River/Gully Proximity Qualifying Matter Overlay. I agree with the Section 42A author that this gives effect to the NPS-IB.
6. I support the work done by Waipā District Council in this plan change and the efforts made to address the WRC submission.
7. Should you have any queries regarding the content of this letter please contact me directly on (07) 859 2831 or by email [hannah.craven@waikatoregion.govt.nz](mailto:hannah.craven@waikatoregion.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely,



Hannah Craven  
**Senior Policy Advisor, Strategic and Spatial Planning, Waikato Regional Council**