

From: Brian R. Hanna
Sent: Friday, 4 May 2018 3:36 PM
To: Michelle Higgle
Subject: FW: Submission on the Long Term Plan 2018-28
Attachments: 20180501 Submission to WDC.docx

FYI

Brian R. Hanna | Mayor

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From: Marama Henare-Waho [mailto:marama2@outlook.com]

Sent: Friday, 4 May 2018 3:30 PM

To: Brian R. Hanna <brh@waitomo.govt.nz>; Phil Brodie <Phil.Brodie@waitomo.govt.nz>; Allan Goddard <allan.goddard@waitomo.govt.nz>; Sue Smith <Sue.Smith@waitomo.govt.nz>

Subject: Submission on the Long Term Plan 2018-28

Tena koe

Please find attached for your information our submission on the Long Term Plan 2018-28.

Kind regards

Marama Henare-Waho

For Te Whanau-a-Te Rira Te Huia

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4 May 2018

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Tēnā koe

Submission on the Waitomo District Council Long Term Plan 2018-28

He hōnore ki Te Atua, he maungārongo ki te whenua, he whakaaro pai ki ngā tāngata katoa.
(Honour to God, peace to the land, good thoughts to all people).

Ko Mōkau te awa, ko Pukekahu te maunga, ko Te Paerata te papakāinga. (Mōkau is the river, Pukekahu is the mountain, Te Paerata is home ground).

I write as Māori owner and kaitiaki (guardian) of land in the Waitomo District. I am a shareholder and beneficial owner in multiple Māori land blocks including Mangapapa B2 Incorporation, Manga-Awakino A1 Incorporation, Waipuna C2, Aorangi B2B2B2 and B2B2D, Kauri No 1, Kinohaku West E Section 1F No 1, Mangaawakino 1C and Rangitoto Tuhua No 61D2A No 1. I am a trustee of Te Paerata Whānau Trust, Piripiri Ahuwhenua Trust and Waikawau Trust. I am affiliated to Ngāti Tū, and Ngāti Waikorara of Mōkau, Ngāti Kinohaku of Opārure and Ngāti Rārua of Waikawau; and to Māniaroa Marae at Mōkau and to Waipātoto Marae at Opārure. I have whānau members who are interred at Mōkau Public Cemetery, Te Naunau and Kautū Urupā. Our whānau have a papakāinga, Te Paerata, on the south side of the Mōkau River.

I write on behalf of Te Whānau-ā-Te Rira Te Huia to make a submission on the Waitomo District Council Long Term Plan 2018-28.

This submission is based upon several premises. Firstly, that we have manawhenua (power and authority over their lands) within our rohe (district). Secondly, that this status was recognised and guaranteed to us under Article 2 of Te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi).

Significance and Engagement Policy

We have read the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and make the following comments:

- Any matter that affects our whenua and our mana over our whenua is significant to us.
- We expect that with respect to any matter that relates to our whenua or to our mana over our whenua that the Council will engage with us as manawhenua.
- That at the earliest identification of the matter, the Council will notify us.
- Depending upon the nature and significance of the matter, we, as manawhenua, will determine the appropriate level of engagement required between ourselves and the Council and we will work constructively with the Council to achieve that.

- Engagement may involve empowerment, collaboration, involvement, consultation and/or informing on the part of the Council.
- In general, the more significant the impact of the matter upon our whenua, and our mana over our whenua, the greater the level of engagement required.
- Differing levels of engagement may be required during the different phases of decision-making.
- Where a matter has come before the Council and the Council is not sure whether a matter affects our whenua or our mana over our whenua, then the Council should notify the matter to us and we will determine whether the matter needs to be dealt with by us.
- In the first instance, engagement shall occur with us as manawhenua. Manawhenua will be engaged with even although we may not be noted as the rate-payer on the notice of rates.

We note that with respect to the 'Mōkau Rocks' project, we were not notified directly of this initiative which could have significant impact upon us as manawhenua in the area. We would like to see the Council work with manawhenua to see how the Council could better notify manawhenua of these kinds of initiatives.

Vision Strategic Direction and Community Outcomes

The status of manawhenua (iwi, hapū, whānau) is greater than provided for in this document. Māori are the Crown's Treaty partner. Tāngata Tiriti are here because of the Treaty. Hapū were guaranteed tino rangatiratanga in exchange for the Crown putting in place a governor and the right to govern. Even though the Council is a creature of statute, the constitutional status of the Treaty requires that the Council act in a manner consistent with that agreement. Ngāti Maniapoto are manawhenua within their district. Council needs to be working with manawhenua to consider how their special place as tangata whenua should be provided for throughout the governance and operations of Council.

Papakāinga Policy

We note that the long term plan does not provide a Papakāinga Policy that sets out the Council's position for dealing with applications by Māori for the building of papakāinga (multiple-dwelling settlements on their land). We consider that the Council should work with manawhenua to develop a papakāinga policy that gives status and recognition to papakāinga; and that will enable land to be zoned papakāinga for that purpose.

Wāhi Tapu (Sacred places)

Wāhi tapu are sacred places to manawhenua. We have wāhi tapu that through various historical mechanisms were taken and have since been devolved into the ownership of the Waitomo District Council. We consider that the Council should be working with manawhenua to develop a policy around the return of those sacred places to the manawhenua, or alternatively, the implementation of co-governance arrangements with the manawhenua of those areas.

Community Development Activity Management Plan

This document is 55 pages long. At an estimate of 260 words per page, that works out to 14,300 words in the document. The word 'iwi' appears 9 times, 'Māori' 10 times, 'Maniapoto' 6 times and 'Rereahu' 2 times, 'te reo' not at all. On the other hand 'culture' appears 17 times and 'community' 419 times.

Māori culture and heritage is given recognition under Community Outcome 1 (which is 1 of 8 community outcomes identified in the plan) alongside other multicultural values, and is grouped with other 'ethnic cultures' when library services are discussed.

However, Māori are tāngata-whenua and have manawhenua in the Waitomo District. Their culture and heritage was guaranteed protection under the Treaty of Waitangi. The Māori language is also an official language of Aotearoa/New Zealand. This status is not reflected in the Council's Plan.

In the spirit of partnership envisaged under the Treaty, the Council and Manawhenua should be working together to give local Māori culture and heritage greater recognition throughout the district, and indeed within the Council. This may involve greater recognition for te reo Māori (Māori language) in terms of signage, and pronunciation of Māori terms and names by Councillors and staff. It may also involve greater recognition of tikanga Māori (Māori customs and protocols) in the processes of the Council.

Working Group of Manawhenua Representatives

We are aware that Council is preparing to establish a Working Group of Representatives (through the Maniapoto Māori Trust Board) to work alongside the Council for the Review of the District Plan. We support this initiative and suggest that this working group might be a good group to assist the Council to start working out how to better address the issues that we have identified above.

Shaping Our Community Safe Communities

We have read the consultation document produced by the Council and in principle Te Whānau-ā-Te Rira Te Huia support the work proposed by the Council with respect to the Safe Community Programme. However, we are interested to know how will the proposal to seek accreditation for the programme actually translate into practical benefits for whānau on the ground? How will it benefit the children and families who are at risk? How will it benefit the homeless and families who have low incomes? We have heard accounts of how housing rents are increasing in the district as a result of people from outside of the district buying multiple homes and increasing rents. We are concerned that this will result in families not being able to support themselves and having to seek more assistance from support agencies. We would not like to see the proposed growth in the district population result in local families no longer being able to afford the basics.

North King Country Sports and Recreation Centre

We support the proposal to provide capital funding for this project. We value the provision of a quality sports and fitness centre for all people of the district. We especially hope that the facility will benefit the rangatahi (youth) of the district.

Economic Development

We recognise the importance of economic development for our district and the need to make the most of opportunities for networking and sharing of ideas and resources with other organisations who want to promote economic development in our area. We support the Council's proposal to participate in the WREDA and the South Waikato Economic Development Action Plan. We reiterate however, that we hope that any economic development in the area will not result in local families being unable to afford the basics, such as housing and food.

Rates Remission Policy

We support the Council's proposal to introduce the new categories for remission into the rates remission policy.

Public Toilets at Mōkau and Waitomo Village

As regular users of the public toilet facilities at Mōkau, we have noticed how these are in need of an upgrade. We support the proposal for the Council to apply for external funding from the Tourism Infrastructure Fund and, if 50% funding is obtained, to upgrade the Mōkau Public Toilets and to build new toilets at Waitomo Village.

Funding Water and Sewerage Services

We agree that there is a district-wide benefit for water and sewerage services to be maintained. We support the Council's proposal to put into place a district-wide rate for water and sewerage services.

Rubbish Transfer Station at Mōkau

We note the Council's proposal to move the Awakino refuse transfer station to Mōkau, at the site of the existing Inframax depot there. We do not support this proposal and suggest that larger bin facilities for recycling and waste disposal be provided at the existing sites, with more regular collection to happen during busy holiday periods.

We hope that you will seriously consider our submission. We do not need to be heard on our submission, but I am happy to be contacted at marama2@outlook.com or on 021-267-0167 if you have any queries.

Nāku, nā

Mārama Henare-Waho

For Te Whānau-a-Te Rira Te Huia