
Submission on Napier City Proposed District Plan

Form 5 Submission on publically notified proposal for policy statement or plan, change or variation

Clause 6 of Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Napier City Council - Planning Unit

Date received: 14/12/2023

Submission Reference Number #:264

This is a submission on the following proposed plan (the **proposal**): Napier City Proposed District Plan

Submitter:

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

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Attachments:

NCC Proposed Plan Cover Letter.pdf

HBRC NCC Proposed Plan Submission.pdf

I wish to be heard: Yes

I am willing to present a joint case: Yes

Could you gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission?

- **No**

Are you directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that

(a) adversely affects the environment; and

(b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition

- **Yes**

Submission points

Point 264.1

Section: MUZ - Mixed Use Zone

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

MUZ-06: Sustainable design and infrastructure

Public health and environmental wellbeing are maintained and, where practicable, enhanced through sustainable design and provision of infrastructure to meet anticipated demand.

Relates to SD-SRCC-01

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC supports in principle the efficient provision of infrastructure in order to promote public, active, and multimodal forms of transport as a method to support wellbeing and improved environmental outcomes.

Relief sought

None.

Point 264.2

Section: EW - Earthworks

Sub-section: EW - Earthworks - Standards Table

Provision:

EW-S1: Extent of earthworks

<i>Purpose: to enable earthworks to occur within extent limits and to manage adverse effects when large earthworks are proposed.</i>	Zone	Volume	Criteria (for any 12-month period)	Matters of discretion:
	Rural Production, Rural Lifestyle, Airport, Settlement, Tertiary Education Zones, Mission (all), Jervoistown Precincts, Rural and Wastewater Special Control Areas	100 m ³	Per hectare of site	1. Sediment control for the protection of waterways; 2. Visual impacts and landscape values; 3. Heritage and cultural values;
	All Residential Zones and Precincts, all Development Areas, all Commercial and Mixed Use Zones and Precincts, all Industrial Zones and Precincts, Boat Harbour Zone, Maori Purpose Zone, Port Zone, and Ahuriri Estuary Special Zone	50 m ³	Per site	4. Ecological values; 5. Natural hazards, and 6. Health and safety.
	Open Space Zones	1000 m ³	Per hectare site	

Notes:

1. To calculate the volume of earthworks per hectare of site, multiply the volume threshold (listed in the above table) by the

total area of the subject site in hectares over any 12-month period.

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach to the maximum volume thresholds as opposed to a permitted activity with a percentage value.

Relief sought

None.

Point 264.3

Section: EW - Earthworks

Sub-section: EW - Earthworks - Rules Table

Provision:

EW-R6: Earthworks associated with the renourishment of the coastal environment to mitigate the effects of coastal erosion

EW-R6A

Activity Status: Permitted

Where:

The removal and/or deposition of sediment and/or shingle above the mean high water springs mark, including the transportation of it, is a permitted activity provided that:

- a. The removal or deposition of sediment and/or beach shingle must be undertaken by a local authority or a duly authorised person thereof. This condition shall not apply to the non-mechanical removal of sediment and/or beach shingle in quantities less than 1 m³ per day by any person.
- b. In any 12-month period:
 - i. The volume of sediment removed or deposited must not exceed 50,000 m³, and
 - ii. The sediment must be used for renourishment purposes to mitigate the effects of coastal erosion.

Note: Sediment and shingle removal, deposition, and the associated occupation of space within the Coastal Marine Area (below M.H.W.S mark) is subject to the provisions of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Regional Coastal Environment Plan.

EW-R6B

Activity Status where activity conditions are not met: Restricted
Discretionary

Matters of discretion are:

1. The effects on the natural environment of the foreshore;
2. The effects on natural coastal processes;
3. The effects on existing hazard control works;
4. The impacts on ecology within the vicinity, and
5. The effects on the maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the foreshore.

Sentiment: Oppose

Submission:

HBRC has concerns around the permitted activity status for earthworks associated with the renourishment of the coastal environment. These concerns arise firstly around the potential for permitted earthworks within the coastal margin, and the type of material that could be used for the renourishment. HBRC would expect that both of these at minimum would be a controlled activity.

Relief sought

Seek clarification

Point 264.4

Section: AIRPZ - Airport Zone

Sub-section: Policies

Provision:

AIRPZ-P4: Airport built environment

Manage development within the Airport Zone, particularly within the Airport Business Precinct, in a way that maintains the amenity of the surrounding area and contributes to an attractive entrance to Napier, including by:

1. managing the height, bulk, and location of buildings and structures;
2. screening outdoor storage and refuse storage areas;
3. imposing setbacks of buildings from zone boundaries and from ecologically sensitive areas, and
4. providing landscaping in strategic sites of importance to the gateway experience.

Relates to AIRPZ-O2

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach to imposing setbacks from ecologically sensitive areas. Non-airport activities that may appropriately be located outside of the terminal but within the Airport Zone should not be located within or impact on wetland areas with biodiversity values.

Relief sought

None

Point 264.5

Section: AIRPZ - Airport Zone

Sub-section: Policies

Provision:

AIRPZ-P7: Special landscape character values - sensitive landscape control areas

Ensure development within the Sensitive Landscape Control Areas respects the identified landscape values and manages the interface between the airport and Te Whanganui-ā-Orotū through:

- a. requiring the incorporation of a landscape buffer and planting throughout the Sensitive Landscape Control Areas 1 and 2, and
- b. encouraging lower level development, carparking, and stormwater management within Sensitive Landscape Control Area 1, and discouraging tall and bulky buildings.

Relates to AIRPZ-O6

Sentiment: Oppose

Submission:

HBRC has concerns around the encouragement of development within Sensitive Landscape Control Area 1 near Watchman Road Reserve

Relief sought

We request that policy AIRPZ-P7: Special landscape character values – sensitive landscape control areas be removed.

Point 264.6

Section: NH - Natural Hazards

Sub-section: NH - Natural Hazards

Provision: General

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC considers the natural hazards and risk chapter essential to the PDP. The risks created by potential natural hazards are a significant issue in Napier and should be addressed through appropriate plan provisions.

Relief sought

Inclusion of objectives, policies, and rules to manage indigenous natural hazards and risks in Napier.

Point 264.7

Section: SD - Urban Form and Development

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

SD-UFD-O2: Housing supply and choice

Housing supply and choice meets demand and reflects the needs of Napier's communities.

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC and Napier City Council are two of three partners to the Heretaunga Plans Urban Development Strategy (HPUDS) and are also currently partnering in the preparation of a 'future development strategy' for the Napier-Hastings urban area. We generally support the high-level strategic objectives in the PDP's 'Urban Form and Development' Strategic Direction chapter.

What is unclear is how those strategic objectives (and associated policies etc) relate to, or may be further amended by, the Variation intended to be notified in 2023 relating to natural hazards and biodiversity.

Relief sought

We request objective SD-UFD-O2 (Housing supply and choice) be amended to read, "Housing supply and choice meets demand and reflects the needs of Napier's communities and is located in areas away from the risk of natural hazards"

(or words to similar effect)

Point 264.8

Section: NOSZ - Natural Open Space Zone

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

NOSZ-O1: Natural Open Space Zone purpose

The natural values of the Natural Open Space Zone are retained and enhanced.

Relates to NOSZ-I1 and NOSZ-I2

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach of retaining and enhancing natural values of Natural Open Space Zones.

Relief sought

None

Point 264.9

Section: NOSZ - Natural Open Space Zone

Sub-section: Policies

Provision:

NOSZ-P2: Quality natural open space environments

Manage development to achieve quality natural open space environments including by:

- a. Limiting buildings and structures to those necessary to enhance people's ability to use and enjoy the open space;
- b. Locating and designing buildings, structures, and car parking areas to complement the natural character, function, and amenity values of the zone;
- c. Requiring landscaping to mitigate the visual effects of buildings, structures, and vehicle parking areas;
- d. Managing vehicle access, parking, and traffic generation;
- e. Enhancing access and connectivity to the surrounding neighbourhood, and
- f. Minimising shading, privacy, and noise effects on adjacent residential properties.

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC seeks that the PDP includes provisions that propose/require enhancement of the natural environment through the restoration and replanting of indigenous vegetation and indigenous habitats.

Relief sought

We seek that policy NOSZ-P2: be amended to require the inclusion of indigenous vegetation and indigenous habitats.

Point 264.10

Section: Definitions

Sub-section: Definitions

Provision:

HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE LAND	has the same meaning as in National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 (as below):
	means land that has been mapped in accordance with the NPSHPL and is included in an operative regional policy statement as required by the NPSHPL.

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

The PDP's Glossary only replicates part of the meaning of 'highly productive land' as defined in the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land. HBRC has a programme of work underway to prepare maps of highly productive land in the region and publicly notify those maps for inclusion in the Regional Policy Statement by October 2025 (as directed to do so by the NPSHPL). In the meantime, the NPSHPL features provisions for councils' making decisions on proposed plans and consent applications before those maps of highly productive land are operative in the RPS.

Relief sought

We request amendment of the PDP's meaning of 'highly productive land' to repeat in full the same definition as given in the NPSHPL (i.e., by adding the words "... (but see Clause3.5(7) for what is treated as highly productive land before the maps as included in an operative regional policy statement and clause 3.5(6) for when land is rezoned and therefore ceases to be highly productive land)."

Point 264.11

Section: Definitions

Sub-section: Definitions

Provision:

	has the same meaning as in the Regional Policy Statement 2010 (as below):
	In relation to the Heretaunga Plains sub-region, means contiguous, flat to undulating terrain within the Heretaunga Plains sub-region that acts collectively to support regionally (and nationally) significant primary production and associated secondary services on the Heretaunga

VERSATILE LAND

Plains, based around:

- a. an exceptionally high proportion of versatile Class 1-3 soils (comprising almost 90%);
- b. Class 7 soils that are internationally recognised as having very high value for viticultural production (comprising almost 7%);
- c. its proximity to a cluster of national and international processing industries and associated qualified labour force; and
- d. its proximity to the Port of Napier and other strategic transport networks providing efficient transport of produce.

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

Some terms are used interchangeably and inconsistently in the PDP. For example, Issue RLZ-I1 refers to loss of “highly productive land and versatile soil” whereas Definitions feature the term ‘versatile land.’ Another example of inconsistent terminology is Policy RLZ-P4a which refers to “productive capacity of highly productive land and soils” but not ‘versatile’ soils here. These are a few examples to illustrate our point, but these may not be the only instances throughout the PDP of such inconsistencies.

Relief sought

We request that the PDP be amended as necessary to remove ambiguity, confusion and increase consistent use of terms when referencing land/soil of high productive value.

Point 264.12

Section: SW - Stormwater

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

SW-O1: Public health and safety

Growth and development anticipated by the District Plan is enabled while managing impacts on the stormwater network to protect public health and safety, including by mitigating risk of flooding.

Relates to SW-I1

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC supports the PDP’s three stormwater-related objectives (SW-01, SW-02 and SW-03) and generally support the associated policies. As a consent authority, HBRC has granted discharge permits to the City Council for the collection, treatment and discharge of stormwater at various locations around the City. Wastewater contaminant overflows into the Ahuriri Estuary is particularly problematic. It is good to see that provisions in the PDP are aiming to support network improvements and better environmental outcomes for the highly valued Ahuriri Estuary.

Relief sought

None

Point 264.13

Section: ECO - Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity

Sub-section: ECO - Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity

Provision:

Napier City Council's District Plan is required by law and serves as the City's rulebook governing land use and development in Napier City. This review, which is required under the RMA, only comes about once every 10 years and provides an opportunity to reassess how and where development can occur.

The District Plan review looks at the major planning and environmental issues facing Napier and includes:

- Growth and infrastructure
- Protecting biodiversity
- Managing the risk of natural hazards
- Responding to climate change
- Protecting our natural and cultural values
- Protecting our historic heritage

The Proposed District Plan is now open for submissions. Due to the magnitude of Cyclone Gabrielle in February, Council needs to reassess some chapters, and therefore cannot notify the Proposed Plan in full.

The following chapters will be notified as a Plan Variation for submissions later in the review process:

- Sites of Significance to Māori
- Natural Hazards
- Indigenous Biodiversity – this is due to the timing of the release of the new National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity and the significant change from the exposure draft, which officers were working off in preparing this chapter.

You will be informed of the variation to the Proposed Plan and the opening of submissions for the remaining chapters in due course.

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC considers the ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity chapter essential to the PDP. The loss and decline of indigenous biodiversity are a significant issue in Napier and should be addressed through appropriate plan provisions.

Relief sought

Inclusion of objectives, policies, and rules to manage indigenous biodiversity in Napier.

Point 264.14

Section: RE - Renewable energy

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

RE-O1: Sustainable use and development of renewable energy resources

Sustainable use and development of renewable energy resources are encouraged by enabling renewable electricity generation activities throughout the city, while avoiding, mitigating, or offsetting adverse effects that are more than minor.

Relates to RE-I1 and RE-I2.

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC generally supports the renewable energy provisions however would like to see strengthened direction regarding the resilience of the energy supply and efficient use of energy (inclusive of transport energy) i.e. through appropriately located development and well-designed urban environments and buildings.

Relief sought

HBRC generally supports the renewable energy provisions however would like to see strengthened direction regarding the resilience of the energy supply and efficient use of energy (inclusive of transport energy) i.e. through appropriately located development and well-designed urban environments and buildings.

Point 264.15

Section: SD - Transport and Infrastructure Provision

Sub-section: Strategic Objectives

Provision:

SD-TI-O1: Enabling infrastructure

Infrastructure that supports economic growth, including the port, airport, transportation, and electricity transmission networks, is enabled and protected.

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC generally supports the transport provisions however would like to see strengthened direction regarding active, micro-mobility and public modes and greater recognition of carbon emissions from transport.

We support Strategic Objectives SD-TI-01 (enabling infrastructure) and SD-TI-02 (Transport).

We support provisions in the PDP that enable and support the provision of multiple modes of transportation in, around and through Napier City. Multi-modal transportation systems contribute to well-connected communities and will also assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle use.

In particular, we support policies and rules that:

- allow use of land for passenger transport infrastructure such as signs, digital signs, seats and shelters etc
- allow and support provision of cycleways, pathways and infrastructure for the use of active transport modes
- allow well-located and increasing installation of charging facilities for the rising numbers of electric vehicles in New Zealand.

Relief sought

We request:

A. Strategic Objective SD-TI-01

(enabling infrastructure) be retained or similar.

B. Strategic Objective SD-TI-02

(transport) be retained or similar

C. that policies and rules in the PDP allow the use and development of land for infrastructure supporting multi-modal transportation in Napier City.

Point 264.16

Section: AESZ - Te Whanganui-a-Orotu (Ahuriri Estuary) Ecology and Stormwater Zone

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

AESZ-O2: Protection and enhancement of ecological values

The life-supporting capacity of habitats are protected and enhanced and ecological values of Te Whanga (the Ahuriri estuary), Tāipo Stream, Napier waterways and their margins are protected.

Relates to AESZ-I2 and AESZ-I3

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach of stormwater retention and treatment while enabling habitat restoration, cultural enhancement, and passive recreation activities.

Relief sought

None

Point 264.17

Section: AESZ - Te Whanganui-a-Orotu (Ahuriri Estuary) Ecology and Stormwater Zone

Sub-section: Policies

Provision:

AESZ-P2: Habitat restoration

Enable the restoration and creation of indigenous habitats where this does not compromise the stormwater management function of this zone.

Relates to AESZ-O2, AESZ-O3, and AESZ-O4

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

HBRC seeks that the PDP requires/promotes the creation of indigenous habitat (the use of nature-based solutions) which not only contribute to stormwater management but have multiple benefits (such as biodiversity).

Relief sought

We seek that policy AESZ-P2: Habitat restoration is amended to require/promote nature based solutions

Point 264.18

Section: NU - Network utilities

Sub-section: NU - Network Utilities - Rules Table

Provision: General

Sentiment: Amend

Submission:

The PDP features a suite of provisions relating to network utility operations, but by definition, those provisions do not apply to structures for environmental monitoring purposes. Small-scale monitoring devices are important pieces of data infrastructure that inform decisions affecting the wellbeing of our environment and communities. Given that the PDP's definition of network utility operations' is the same as the RMA's definition, we consider that the PDP should be amended elsewhere to ensure small-scale environmental monitoring structures and devices are permitted activities in all zones.

Relief sought

We seek that the PDP is amended to allow (permit) the use and development of land for small-scale environmental monitoring devices and associated earthworks and structures.

Point 264.19

Section: SW - Stormwater

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

SW-O2: Network efficiency

Stormwater is efficiently managed to:

- a. reduce demand on the city's reticulated stormwater network particularly during peak periods, and
- b. enable reuse of stormwater to reduce demand on the city's reticulated drinking water supply network, where public health and safety will be protected.

Relates to SW-11

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC supports the PDP's three stormwater-related objectives (SW-01, SW-02 and SW-03) and generally support the associated policies. As a consent authority, HBRC has granted discharge permits to the City Council for the collection, treatment and discharge of stormwater at various locations around the City. Wastewater contaminant overflows into the Ahuriri Estuary is particularly problematic. It is good to see that provisions in the PDP are aiming to support network improvements and better environmental outcomes for the highly valued Ahuriri Estuary.

Relief sought

None

Point 264.20

Section: SW - Stormwater

Sub-section: Objectives

Provision:

SW-O3: Receiving environment

Stormwater discharges into Napier's stormwater network are managed to:

- a. avoid further degradation of the ecological health of the network's receiving environments;
- b. progressively improve the mauri of freshwater and coastal water in the network's receiving environments over time to enable traditional and cultural use of this resource by mana whenua, and
- c. assist Napier City Council in meeting the requirements of its comprehensive network discharge consent for the stormwater network.

Relates to SW-12

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC supports the PDP's three stormwater-related objectives (SW-01, SW-02 and SW-03) and generally support the associated policies. As a consent authority, HBRC has granted discharge permits to the City Council for the collection, treatment and discharge of stormwater at various locations around the City. Wastewater contaminant overflows into the Ahuriri Estuary is particularly problematic. It is good to see that provisions in the PDP are aiming to support network improvements and better environmental outcomes for the highly valued Ahuriri Estuary.

Relief sought

None

Point 264.21

Section: SD - Transport and Infrastructure Provision

Sub-section: Strategic Objectives

Provision:

SD-TI-O2: Transport

Napier's transport network optimises connectivity, public health and safety, and encourages active and public transport modes.

Sentiment: Support

Submission:

HBRC generally supports the transport provisions however would like to see strengthened direction regarding active, micro-mobility and public modes and greater recognition of carbon emissions from transport.

We support Strategic Objectives SD-TI-01 (enabling infrastructure) and SD-TI-02 (Transport).

We support provisions in the PDP that enable and support the provision of multiple modes of transportation in, around and through Napier City. Multi-modal transportation systems contribute to well-connected communities and will also assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle use.

In particular, we support policies and rules that:

- allow use of land for passenger transport infrastructure such as signs, digital signs, seats and shelters etc
- allow and support provision of cycleways, pathways and infrastructure for the use of active transport modes
- allow well-located and increasing installation of charging facilities for the rising numbers of electric vehicles in New Zealand.

Relief sought

We request:

A. Strategic Objective SD-TI-01

(enabling infrastructure) be retained or similar.

B. Strategic Objective SD-TI-02

(transport) be retained or similar

C. that policies and rules in the PDP allow the use and development of land for infrastructure supporting multi-modal transportation in Napier City.

	Topic	Support/Oppose/Amend	Relief Sought	Comment
1	Commercial & Mixed Use	Support in general	None	HBRC supports in principle the efficient provision of infrastructure in order to promote public, active, and multimodal forms of transport as a method to support wellbeing and improved environmental outcomes.
2	Earthworks	Support	None	HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach to the maximum volume thresholds as opposed to a permitted activity with a percentage value.
		Oppose	Seek clarification	HBRC has concerns around the permitted activity status for earthworks associated with the renourishment of the coastal environment. These concerns arise firstly around the potential for permitted earthworks within the coastal margin, and the type of material that could be used for the renourishment. HBRC would expect that both of these at minimum would be a controlled activity.
3	Hawke's Bay Airport	Support in general	None	HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach to imposing setbacks from ecologically sensitive areas. Non-airport activities that may appropriately be located outside of the terminal but within the Airport Zone should not be located within or impact on wetland areas with biodiversity values.
		Oppose	We request that policy AIRPZ-P7: Special landscape character values – sensitive landscape control areas be removed.	HBRC has concerns around the encouragement of development within Sensitive Landscape Control Area 1 near Watchman Road Reserve
4	Hazards and Risk	Amend	Inclusion of objectives, policies, and rules to manage indigenous natural hazards and risks in Napier.	HBRC considers the natural hazards and risk chapter essential to the PDP. The risks created by potential natural hazards are a significant issue in Napier and should be addressed through appropriate plan provisions.
5	Urban Development	Amend	We request objective SD-UFD-O2 (Housing supply and choice) be amended to read, “Housing supply and choice meets demand and reflects the needs of Napier’s	HBRC and Napier City Council are two of three partners to the Heretaunga Plains Urban Development Strategy (HPUDS) and are also currently partnering in the preparation of a ‘future development strategy’ for the Napier-Hastings urban area. We generally support the high-level strategic objectives in the PDP’s ‘Urban Form and Development’ Strategic Direction chapter. What is unclear is how those

	Topic	Support/Oppose/ Amend	Relief Sought	Comment
			communities <u>and is located in areas away from the risk of natural hazards”</u> (or words to similar effect)	strategic objectives (and associated policies etc) relate to, or may be further amended by, the Variations intended to be notified in 2024 relating to natural hazards and biodiversity.
6	Open Space and Stadium Zones	Support in general	None	HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach of retaining and enhancing natural values of Natural Open Space Zones.
		Amend	We seek that policy NOSZ-P2: be amended to require the inclusion of indigenous vegetation and indigenous habitats.	HBRC seeks that the PDP includes provisions that propose/require enhancement of the natural environment through the restoration and replanting of indigenous vegetation and indigenous habitats.
7	Rural/Highly productive land	Amend	We request amendment of the PDP’s meaning of ‘highly productive land’ to repeat in full the same definition as given in the NPSHPL (i.e., by adding the words “... (but see Clause3.5(7) for what is treated as highly productive land before the maps as included in an operative regional policy statement and clause 3.5(6) for when land is rezoned and therefore ceases to be highly productive land).”	The PDP’s Glossary only replicates part of the meaning of ‘highly productive land’ as defined in the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land. HBRC has a programme of work underway to prepare maps of highly productive land in the region and publicly notify those maps for inclusion in the Regional Policy Statement by October 2025 (as directed to do so by the NPSHPL). In the meantime, the NPSHPL features provisions for councils’ making decisions on proposed plans and consent applications before those maps of highly productive land are operative in the RPS.
		Amend	We request that the PDP be amended as necessary to remove ambiguity, confusion and increase consistent use of terms when referencing land/soil of high productive value.	Some terms are used interchangeably and inconsistently in the PDP. For example, Issue RLZ-I1 refers to loss of “highly productive land and versatile soil” whereas Definitions feature the term ‘versatile land.’ Another example of inconsistent terminology is Policy RLZ-P4a which refers to “productive capacity of highly productive land and soils” but not ‘versatile’ soils here. These are a few examples to illustrate our point, but these may not be the only instances throughout the PDP of such inconsistencies.

	Topic	Support/Oppose/ Amend	Relief Sought	Comment
8	Stormwater	Support	None	HBRC supports the PDP's three stormwater-related objectives (SW-01, SW-02 and SW-03) and generally support the associated policies. As a consent authority, HBRC has granted discharge permits to the City Council for the collection, treatment and discharge of stormwater at various locations around the City. Wastewater contaminant overflows into the Ahuriri Estuary is particularly problematic. It is good to see that provisions in the PDP are aiming to support network improvements and better environmental outcomes for the highly valued Ahuriri Estuary.
9	Biodiversity	Amend	Inclusion of objectives, policies, and rules to manage indigenous biodiversity in Napier.	HBRC considers the ecosystems and indigenous biodiversity chapter essential to the PDP. The loss and decline of indigenous biodiversity are a significant issue in Napier and should be addressed through appropriate plan provisions.
10	Energy, Infrastructure and Transport	Amend		HBRC generally supports the renewable energy provisions however would like to see strengthened direction regarding the resilience of the energy supply and efficient use of energy (inclusive of transport energy) i.e. through appropriately located development and well-designed urban environments and buildings.
			<p>We request:</p> <p>A. Strategic Objective SD-TI-01 (enabling infrastructure) be retained or similar.</p> <p>B. Strategic Objective SD-TI-02 (transport) be retained or similar</p> <p>C. that policies and rules in the PDP allow the use and development of land for infrastructure supporting multi-modal transportation in Napier City.</p>	<p>HBRC generally supports the transport provisions however would like to see strengthened direction regarding active, micro-mobility and public modes and greater recognition of carbon emissions from transport.</p> <p>We support Strategic Objectives SD-TI-01 (enabling infrastructure) and SD-TI-02 (Transport).</p> <p>We support provisions in the PDP that enable and support the provision of multiple modes of transportation in, around and through Napier City. Multi-modal transportation systems contribute to well-connected communities and will also assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle use.</p> <p>In particular, we support policies and rules that:</p>

	Topic	Support/Oppose/ Amend	Relief Sought	Comment
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> allow use of land for passenger transport infrastructure such as signs, digital signs, seats and shelters etc allow and support provision of cycleways, pathways and infrastructure for the use of active transport modes allow well-located and increasing installation of charging facilities for the rising numbers of electric vehicles in New Zealand.
11	Te Whanganui-a-Orotu (Ahuriri Estuary) Ecology and Stormwater	Support in general	None	HBRC supports in principle the proposed approach of stormwater retention and treatment while enabling habitat restoration, cultural enhancement, and passive recreation activities.
		Amend	We seek that policy AESZ-P2: Habitat restoration is amended to require/promote nature based solutions	HBRC seeks that the PDP requires/promotes the creation of indigenous habitat (the use of nature-based solutions) which not only contribute to stormwater management but have multiple benefits (such as biodiversity).
12	Other <i>Environmental monitoring infrastructure as permitted activities</i>		We seek that the PDP is amended to allow (permit) the use and development of land for small-scale environmental monitoring devices and associated earthworks and structures.	The PDP features a suite of provisions relating to network utility operations, but by definition, those provisions do not apply to structures for environmental monitoring purposes. Small-scale monitoring devices are important pieces of data infrastructure that inform decisions affecting the wellbeing of our environment and communities. Given that the PDP's definition of network utility operations' is the same as the RMA's definition, we consider that the PDP should be amended elsewhere to ensure small-scale environmental monitoring structures and devices are permitted activities in all zones.

15/12/2023

Napier City Council
215 Hastings Street
Napier, 4110

Dear Napier City Council

SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED DISTRICT PLAN FOR NAPIER CITY

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the proposed district plan review ('the PDP'). This submission builds upon our earlier 2021 comments we had provided on the then draft district plan and also the 'Spatial Picture.'

While we support the plan in general, there are a few areas where we seek amendments, see attached. HBRC also maintains an interest on the topics which overlap with the Regional Council's roles and functions.

We understand that the PDP does not yet feature provisions relating to natural hazards and indigenous biodiversity as the City Council intends to notify those provisions by way of Variations in 2024. You will be aware that in our earlier 2021 comments on the then draft district plan and Napier 'Spatial Picture,' both of those topics are of particular interest to us given the Regional Council's roles, responsibilities and activities. We anticipate making substantive comments on those Variations in due course.

We welcome the opportunity for discussion on matters raised in our submission over the coming months as officers prepare S42A hearing reports.

HBRC could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

HBRC wishes to be heard in support of our submission.

Yours sincerely



Katrina Brunton

POLICY AND REGULATION GROUP MANAGER

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