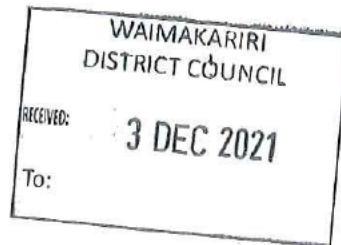


change submission online form | Waimakariri District Council

date: We me traffic light settings at 11:59pm on Thursday 2 December



Plan change submission online form

Required fields are marked asterisk (*).

Your details

Proposed plan change No. *

First name *

Surname *

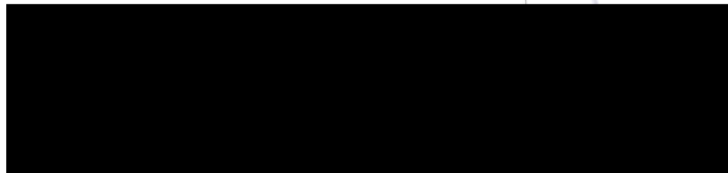
Davison

Organisation name

Postal address (if different from ad

12/2/21, 8:23 PM

Phone No.



Fax No.

Email

Mo

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If others are making a similar submission, would you be prepared to consenting a joint case at the hearing?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Your submission

My submission is that ... *

see attached submission.

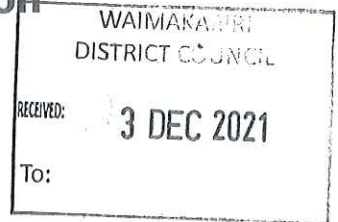
I/we seek the following decision from Council for the following reason

Attach any additional information Supported file formats: pdf, doc, docx

No file chosen

Privacy Act 1993

District Plan Submission from Phil Davison



Kia Ora

I would like to speak at the hearings once submissions are collated.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT....

Alterations to be considered in the District Plan must clearly be considered in conjunction with:

- (a) Proposed changes in the Resource Management Act.
- (b) The effects of climate change now happening.

To ignore either in working on the District Plan would be yet another "head in the sand moment". Clearly each impacts on the others, both in the short and long terms.

Taggarts proposed quarry in the middle of Rangiora Racecourse exposed many shortcomings in the District Plan and Resource Consent Process both in Waimakariri Council and Environment Canterbury. The extreme secrecy of Taggarts' proposal, hand in glove with Rangiora Racecourse hierarchy was aided and abetted by Waimakariri Council itself by their keeping such a proposal secret, from the very people who pay their wages – the Rangiora Community for a number of years, until it was discovered by local newspaper reporters. The Council only then forced Taggarts to front up to public hearings that involved the Council and Environment Canterbury. The public outcry once our community heard what was proposed, was instant and overwhelmingly against this proposal, with over 5,000 citizens expressing their concerns. Independent Commissioners appointed to adjudicate agreed with submitters that operating quarries so close to established residential communities causes dangerous health and well-being problems for those living nearby. Small dust particles fine enough to get into lungs are internationally recognised by health authorities as dangerous and unacceptable. Quarries elsewhere in the world must be kept away from residential areas. Excavation down close to subterranean drinking water aquifers causes pollution of our previous fresh water supplies. These factors and the presence of large numbers of undesirable heavy truck movements were supported by internationally acclaimed scientists using internationally agreed scientific data.

The Commissioners agreed with the many concerns of our citizens and denied Taggarts proposal to proceed. Our thanks to them and those staff in Council and those Councillors along with Mayor Dan Gordon who aided the Community in this matter.

The lessons in this are clear.

1. Waimakariri Council must include legislation into the District Plan to prevent quarries from operating close to residential areas. In my view they should be kept 10 kms away from residential areas in future.
2. Areas should be designated to allow quarries to operate under strict conditions to meet local shingle requirements.

The recent flooding in the Ashley river emphasised the need for this river to be excavated to mitigate flooding risk. Here Environment Canterbury also stands condemned for its inattentive approach to river water controls throughout Canterbury.

Unfortunately Environment Canterbury has been an ineffectual organisation as too has been the Christchurch City Council itself. Both these organisations appear to be over-staffed, overpaid and displaying considerable self-entitlement to the detriment of those who pay their wages, our community and citizens. The rubber stamping of quarries around the Airport area against substantial opposition has badly affected locals' health and welfare. Indeed a prospective Christchurch City Council mayoral candidate, himself a quarry operator, still maintains that quarries pose no risk to local communities. This "head in the sand" attitude is a threat to us all. The health and welfare of our children and grandchildren is at stake. Time to wake up!!

Quarries presently operating out of the Waimakariri river itself clearly show the beneficial effects of regular shingle removal in flood mitigation. Why not excavate to a lesser degree in the Ashley river? The upper reaches of the Waimakariri river with huge volumes of shingle washed down from the Alps are an, as yet, untapped resource, close to an operational railway line.

3. The Rangiora Racecourse should be immediately rezoned as a recreational area to preserve any further chance of exploitation. In fact why not plant a native forest on the bare land in conjunction with a building centre designed to educate and involve all citizens in the area from the very youngest children to our elderly people on environmental matters. Schools and many others, including our Maori people, would welcome this.

Indeed the Racecourse could still operate with such a development.

4. **CLIMATE CHANGE IS HERE NOW.** It will affect our citizens and environments on a local and national level. To protect our people we must FOLLOW THE SCIENCE as we are doing for Covid-19.

Extreme weather events now worldwide require the attention of our citizens throughout New Zealand and need the support of strong local and national Government leadership. Water supplies particularly, are under threat and science based solutions need huge financial support to ease the impacts on our people and our environments.

To that end I fully endorse our current Government's 3 Waters Reforms. They are a strong affirmation that ALL our people must have their individual rights to safe water and a safe environment no matter where they live. The days of parochial COUNCIL BASED DECISIONS many exhibiting self-entitlement made locally, are now long gone.

Unfortunately we have too many Councils in New Zealand – 67 in fact. This has resulted in varying standards in environmental measurements across the country, Science clearly shows that these varying decisions have led to excessive applications of artificial fertilisers and pollution. Nitrates have now invaded our subterranean aquifers supplying precious drinking water, polluted our rivers and lakes, aided and abetted by non-adherants to appropriate levels long signalled by our scientists.

This must stop. Councils should be amalgamated to cut the present number of 67 substantially and the 4 3-water entities being proposed should definitely be instituted. For too long self-interest and political high-jackings at a local level has driven local

Council decisions – a pattern throughout the country. Not only that, but our Councils have been reluctant to include our Maori people in the Council affairs. Our Maori people have much to contribute in environmental matters. This is grossly unjust.

Like the Covid virus, the fight to ease the inevitable effects of climate change requires our “team of 5 million” to work together. Local Councils with lower voter turnouts (under 40%) simply do not have the sufficient numbers to be able to finance the massive costs required to meet the environmental needs of all. Already rates are hard to afford in our communities. Local Councils will be quite unable to meet projected climate change costs.

Our Governments 3-waters reforms will release our citizens from further unaffordable rates increases.

By combining Councils resource consent processes will be more easily standardised throughout the country. In so doing not only will environmental concerns be more equitably addressed, but it will also help with the current and employment issues being faced by many. This would come with legislative changes that would allow quicker implementation at both national and local governmental levels.

At the moment INEQUALITY is the biggest problem facing not only our country but also the rest of the world. The gap between the rich and poorer people and communities is getting greater day by day. Covid has accelerated this situation. We must all do our bit to ensure that ALL people’s children and grandchildren in generations to come have more equitable opportunities and aspirations.

Don’t let history say, we failed to address all these challenges.

As has happened with the Covid crisis SOLUTIONS come by FOLLOWING THE SCIENCE.

Environmental challenges are no different – FOLLOW THE SCIENCE and work together.

Kia Kaha

Nga Mihi

Phil Davison

