



WHENUAPAI AIRBASE



Proposed changes to Waitakere District Plan

Waitakere City Council is seeking to change its District Plan to protect Whenuapai Airbase as an airport.

The proposed change to the Waitakere District Plan (Plan Change 22) would create a Whenuapai Airport Special Area, with policies and rules that seek to protect the potential of the airport as a regionally significant infrastructure resource.

The plan change:

- defines the effects allowed for the existing military airport use;
- defines the likely effects of commercial operations at the airport should they occur;
- provides a resource consent process should a resource consent application be made for commercial airport operations;
- provides a resource consent process for other activities to

assess the impact of these on the potential of the airport to be used for commercial operations.

The council is promoting Plan Change 22 to protect infrastructure that would likely never be replicated in the Auckland region. It believes reuse of the existing airbase would stimulate development and provide more local jobs for the North West of Auckland, while

maintaining or reducing the effect 'bucket' currently provided for and allowed by the Waitakere District Plan for military airport operations.

While there are no plans to develop the airbase, the fact that there is a functional airport at Whenuapai needs to be protected into the future. This will ensure that the option for commercial operations is not foregone.





Proposed Plan Change 22

Proposed Plan change 22 will introduce the following:

- Addition of a reference to Whenuapai Airport Special Area in Objective 11;
- Seven new policies and explanations to support the new Special Area (see info pack at your local library or the council's website);
- A new Special Area Rule - Rule 29 - Whenuapai Airport Special Area;
This rule enables the development of airport facilities within the Special Area as a Discretionary Activity. It also includes the requirement for the approval by the council of a Comprehensive Development Plan for the whole Special Area;
- A new definition – "Airport Activities";
- An amendment to the District Plan maps to identify the Special Area, which at the request of the Ministry of Defence has been slightly reduced in size;
- Consequential amendments throughout the District Plan.

Safeguarding the airbase environment

The Proposed Plan change alone does not make it possible to develop a commercial airport on the Whenuapai airbase land. Any potential airport operator would still need to:

- Prepare a Comprehensive Development Plan that would be assessed against the policies and rules in the District Plan;
- Obtain the necessary resource consents for development.

These requirements provide additional layers of protection against any adverse effects a commercial airport may have. They would deal, in detail, with issues such as noise, traffic, air and water quality and landscaping. They would also specify the numbers and kinds of aircraft that could use an airport at Whenuapai.

The Plan Change process

The process for making a Plan Change is determined by the Resource Management Act (RMA). It is a formal, statutory process requiring the council to give formal notification:

Step 1: Formal notification of the Proposed Plan Change through a public notice.



Step 2: Receive submissions on the Proposed Plan Change.

Step 3: Summarise submissions and make them available for public inspection.

Step 4: Call for and receive “further submissions”, allowing people to comment on what other people have said.

Step 5: Hold hearings, at which anyone who made a submission or a further submission can speak in support of their submission.

Step 6: Makes its decision on submissions.

Step 7: Allow submitters time, before the Plan Change comes into operation, to appeal the decision to the Environment Court, if they so wish.

Making a submission

Who can make a submission?

Anyone can make a submission. They do not have to live near or own property close to the airbase. Issues that cannot be considered by the plan change process - because they're not resource management issues - include:

- The government's decision to vacate the airbase;
- Economic issues, including whether or not an airport will achieve the economic benefits forecast;
- Financial issues, including concerns about financial costs and risks to the council;
- Effects on existing lifestyles and property values
- Safety issues, which will be dealt with in detail in a Comprehensive Airport Management Plan.

How you make a submission?

First, make sure you have an understanding of the Proposed Plan change and how it might affect you. The Proposed Plan change is available for inspection at the council's office, and at all Waitakere libraries. It is also on our website: www.waitakere.govt.nz



TO RETURN YOUR SUBMISSION

EITHER: Cut along dotted line and fold so postage paid section is to the front, then sellotape or staple where shown.

OR: Fold, put in an envelope and send to:

Freepost

Waitakere City Council

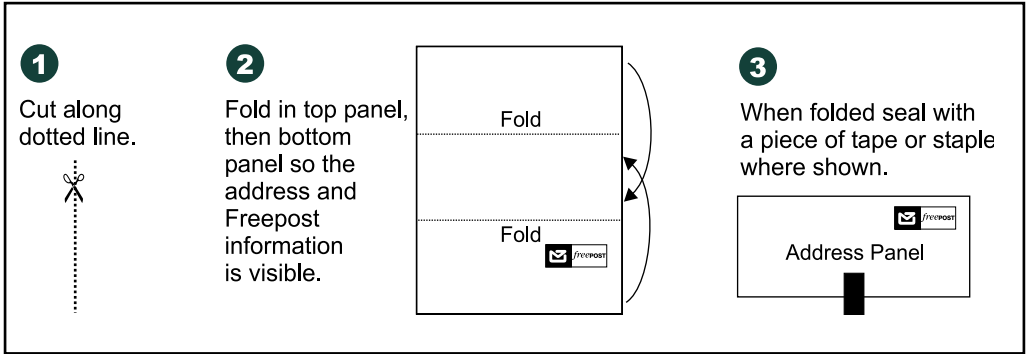
Private Bag 93109

Henderson

Waitakere City

Waitakere City

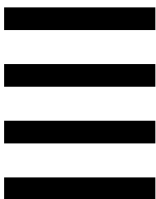
OR: Go to www.waitakere.govt.nz



FOLD _____ FOLD

Fold, put in an envelope and send to:

FOLD _____ FOLD



Waitakere City Council
 Private Bag 93109
 Henderson
 Waitakere City



Your submission should be concise but should cover all points you wish to make. If you wish to speak at the hearing on the Proposed Plan change, you may only comment on subjects covered by your written submission. We recommend you be specific and use examples where you can, especially if you are requesting that the council drafts new rules.

What's the format you should use?

While it is not essential to use the form provided we suggest that you do. The form attached has been developed to meet the requirements of the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991. The same form can be downloaded from our website (www.waitakere.govt.nz) or you can make an electronic submission through the website.

Whether you use our form or not, it will help our processing of submissions if each concern – and your reasons for it – are shown separately.

What is the deadline for submissions?

Your submission should be posted or emailed to reach Waitakere City Council by 5pm on Wednesday 7 March 2007. Earlier submissions will be much appreciated.

Please note that late submissions will not be accepted.

Where you can get more information

- The council's website: www.waitakere.govt.nz
- By phoning council's 24 hour call centre on 839 0400
or visiting: Waitakere City Council
Waitakere Central
6 Henderson Valley Road
Henderson
- Waitakere libraries (refer website for address details)



Waitakere City Council
Te Taiao o Waitakere