



Date: Wednesday, 15 June 2022
Time: 9.00am
Location: Council Chamber, Wairoa District Council,
Coronation Square, Wairoa

AGENDA

Late Reports

Extraordinary Council Meeting

15 June 2022

MEMBERSHIP: His Worship the Mayor Craig Little, Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, Cr Hine Flood (Deputy Mayor), Cr Danika Goldsack, Cr Jeremy Harker, Cr Melissa Kaimoana, Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

The agenda and associated papers are also available on our website: www.wairoadc.govt.nz

For further information please contact us 06 838 7309 or by email info@wairoadc.govt.nz

Order Of Business

5 General Items.....3

5.1 Non speaking late submissions 3

5 GENERAL ITEMS

5.1 NON SPEAKING LATE SUBMISSIONS

Author: Alannah Marshall, Kaiurungi Mana Arahi/Whakawhanake Ohanga Governance and Economic Development Officer

Authoriser: Kitea Tipuna, Tumu Whakarae Chief Executive

Appendices: 1. Late Submissions [↓](#)

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report provides Council with late submissions to the Annual Report 2022 -2023 consultation. The attached submissions will be considered with all other submissions when deliberating.

RECOMMENDATION

The Kaiurungi Mana Arahi/Whakawhanake Ohanga Governance and Economic Development Officer RECOMMENDS that Council accepts the late submissions.

Wairoa District Council Submission Draft Annual Plan 22/23

To: Wairoa District Council
PO Box 54
WAIROA 4108
Submission on: **Wairoa District Council Annual Plan 2022-23**

Name of submitter: Diane Smith
Address: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]
Date: 5-6-22

INTRODUCTION

As farmers of the Ruakituri Valley, our business is negatively impacted by the proposed increase in rates, as a combined result of the increased value given our property by Quotable Valuations and the Wairoa District Council rate take.

We thank the Wairoa District Council for considering our submission to the Draft Annual Plan 2022-23.

SUBMISSION

- *We submit that the Council adjust the Forestry Differential upwards so that they will continue to pay the 27% (in dollar terms) of the rate-take, as they would have done before the effect of the new valuations. We ask that the forestry differential be doubled.*
 - *We urge WDC to alleviate the rates burden on rural properties by introducing graduated differentials beginning at 0.7 for low value rural properties and reducing to 0.5 for higher value rural properties.*
-

EXPLANATION:

1. The combined impact of proposals to increase funding for the Wairoa Community Centre and the Wairoa Museum is a higher than forecast increase in year 2 of the LTP i.e., 9.5% rather than 8.2%. The increase might be more palatable to farmers if the rateable value of their properties hadn't doubled in the 2021 valuation round.

This doubling is a flow on effect from the recent Quotable Valuation NZ adjustments. Unfortunately, these increased 'values' **do not increase farmers' income** making the astronomical rates increase last year (and this year) unaffordable.

Rates obligations rank in the top 10 costs of operating a farming business- this increase will come on-top of the significant challenges farmers are facing with spirally operating costs and ongoing issues around getting stock processed due to supply chain breakdown and Covid19.

This has also been **dramatically compounded for Ruakituri Farmers** with the ongoing negative impacts of the devastating March storms and the resulting necessity of using the lengthy detour access for service vehicles and trucks into the valley. Whilst we acknowledge the necessity of the time required to repair the Te Reinga Bridge, the continued over-use of the Ohuka road is leaving this essential route beyond its capacity for resilience against weather and number of vehicles using it.

WDC's new simplified rating system is explicitly designed to lower rates for residential properties, by shifting costs on to higher valued rural properties. This was easy to do because farmers are a minority voice. It doesn't make the decision equitable or sustainable in the long term i.e., it masks the true cost of our towns, whilst eroding our farming businesses.

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the Mayor and Councilors for your successful stance on the higher forestry differentials.

2. Rural mental health is in crisis, in large part because pressure is being applied on farmers from all directions – central government via an avalanche of environmental reform, local government via ever-increasing rates that treat farmers like a cash-cow, and land use change to accommodate urban expansion and foreign owned pine trees. Wairoa District is heavily reliant on a thriving sustainable rural community. This constant battering both via financial and emotional attack, is having a detrimental impact on farming communities. The invitation for a forestry monopoly is looming and whilst it appears this is in-line with current government aspirations, the impact on Wairoa's rural and urban community will be catastrophic.

We urge Councilors to continue to actively address this take over by using the ability within the Differentials to at least level the opportunities. We ask that the forestry differential be doubled.

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the Mayor and Councilors for your stance on the higher forestry differentials. We encourage you to continue this path and ***ensure that the maximum differential be applied to forestry to create a true financial input into the costs of running the district and to alleviate the negative impacts of their forestry businesses to our Wairoa Community.***

These impacts include (but are not limited to):

- Removal and non-use of rural residential properties; this reduces our rural population, erodes our rural schools & communities
- the flow-on impact of reduced spending in the Wairoa township
- the reduction of people to support urban & rural community events & programmes
- Limited (if any) community spirit, including sponsorship of Wairoa activities
- Loss of biodiversity as a result of large areas of mono planted species- only pests live in pine forests
- Inflated land prices making it extremely difficult for new farmers to enter the district & Carbon Sequestration, foresters taking the best land away from pastoral farming.
- Environmental issues in the forest industry including at the point of extraction such as forestry slash, unnatural run-off, erosion, and sediment build up in waterways.
- Destruction to the roading surfaces
- Damage to the bridging networks
- Road noise throughout the nights
- Danger to other road uses from having large numbers of huge trucks on narrow country roads
- Danger to other road uses from the many worker vehicles traveling at high speeds on narrow country roads

What is the council's short to long term plans, for our town and our people if they continue to let Government dictate the terms of reference around carbon farming investments into the future? There are other ways and means to addressing climate change that is less evasive than just blanket planting good pastoral farm land in pine trees.

Signed: Diane Smith

Date: 5-6-22

Com Centre

I would much rather my rate contribution contributed towards The Community Centre as it's a Multi Functional Complex. consisting of

A Pool that is used by a very wide & diverse cultural community. for many different reasons.

A Gym Fully Equipped to cater for set & stay fit lose weight Green Prescription. professional staff there to create plans to suit your ability. and build you up without injury.

A Stadium for many indoor sport. BASKETBALL SQUASH indoor Cricket. there are many more.

A Function / Conference Room.

So much in one place can happen and be done all at one time WOW WAIRO WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE THIS

TO keep it — what about increasing fees instead of absorbing costs, Everybody else does and has — since COVID hit

The Centre NEED TO PAY IT'S WAY OR CLOSE

There are Only Positives for this multi functional centre, The Community Centre has Benefited so many yet will carry on Benefiting people in years to come

ALL the Out Lying Community members also benefit the Community Centre.

The Com Centre and Museum are NOT Council Activities or Assets they are both ATTRACTIONS Council agree to financially support to have them be

ough it's nice to have a museum in a small community like Wairua. as there are NOT many in Small Town NZ anymore
= it was always open & operated better. so it could be functional every body would, could benefit from it however they all walk past. unused building

W. Can we maintain the 2

MUSEUM

I have been into the museum once or twice since we lived in Wairoa and we not impressed. though have brought several books there.

one time I went in there was a Bob MARLY presentation though NO one there is new a clam thing about it, there was minimal lightings. it was dark. I was told the building was too small to hold all the ARTIFACTS

I offered the Curator old once in a Lifetime book it was Refused - NO room. at all when I pointed out space - NO NO. NOT INTERESTED. only interest in stuff directly from Wairoa Area.

IF there's NO Advertising New Displays. ARTIFACTS Printing cultural HANDCRAFTS etc. How DO you expect to Attract regular through put of New Patronage entering the door.

IF there's NO Advertising HOW can there be any money? and being open 2 days a week loses Patronage

Why does the Curator fly round the Country viewing staying in motels eating in fancy restaurants at the Museum cost? when he can ZOOM all this. unless he self pays for it as it's not Budgetted for or start charging Door fee.

Does he think Wairoa museum has an open cheque book (sorry out of DATE)

They have no money - where has it gone?

The public need to see the Budget or go to Budget advice

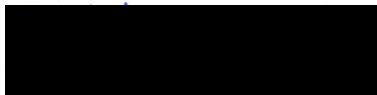
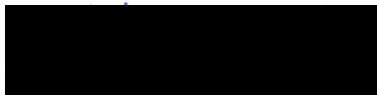
you Don't have to buy

you can borrow

Did u not know that

Wairoa District Council Submission Draft Annual Plan 22/23

To: Wairoa District Council
PO Box 54
WAIROA 4108
Submission on: **Wairoa District Council Annual Plan 2022-23**

Name of submitter: *Kevin Edmund South*
Address: 
Phone: 
Date: *10/6/2022*

INTRODUCTION

As farmers of the Ruakituri Valley, our business is negatively impacted by the proposed increase in rates, as a combined result of the increased value given our property by Quotable Valuations and the Wairoa District Council rate take.

We thank the Wairoa District Council for considering our submission to the Draft Annual Plan 2022-23.

SUBMISSION

- We submit that the Council adjust the Forestry Differential upwards so that they will continue to pay the 27% (in dollar terms) of the rate-take, as they would have done before the effect of the new valuations. We ask that the forestry differential be doubled.*
- We urge WDC to alleviate the rates burden on rural properties by introducing graduated differentials beginning at 0.7 for low value rural properties and reducing to 0.5 for higher value rural properties.*

EXPLANATION:

1. The combined impact of proposals to increase funding for the Wairoa Community Centre and the Wairoa Museum is a higher than forecast increase in year 2 of the LTP i.e., 9.5% rather than 8.2%. The increase might be more palatable to farmers if the rateable value of their properties hadn't doubled in the 2021 valuation round.

This doubling is a flow on effect from the recent Quotable Valuation NZ adjustments. Unfortunately, these increased 'values' **do not increase farmers' income** making the astronomical rates increase last year (and this year) unaffordable.

Rates obligations rank in the top 10 costs of operating a farming business- this increase will come on-top of the significant challenges farmers are facing with spirally operating costs and ongoing issues around getting stock processed due to supply chain breakdown and Covid19.

This has also been **dramatically compounded for Ruakituri Farmers** with the ongoing negative impacts of the devastating March storms and the resulting necessity of using the lengthy detour access for service vehicles and trucks into the valley. Whilst we acknowledge the necessity of the time required to repair the Te Reinga Bridge, the continued over-use of the Ohuka road is leaving this essential route beyond its capacity for resilience against weather and number of vehicles using it.

WDC's new simplified rating system is explicitly designed to lower rates for residential properties, by shifting costs on to higher valued rural properties. This was easy to do because farmers are a minority voice. It doesn't make the decision equitable or sustainable in the long term i.e., it masks the true cost of our towns, whilst eroding our farming businesses.

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the Mayor and Councilors for your successful stance on the higher forestry differentials.

2. Rural mental health is in crisis, in large part because pressure is being applied on farmers from all directions – central government via an avalanche of environmental reform, local government via ever-increasing rates that treat farmers like a cash-cow, and land use change to accommodate urban expansion and foreign owned pine trees. Wairoa District is heavily reliant on a thriving sustainable rural community. This constant battering both via financial and emotional attack, is having a detrimental impact on farming communities. The invitation for a forestry monopoly is looming and whilst it appears this is in-line with current government aspirations, the impact on Wairoa's rural and urban community will be catastrophic.

We urge Councilors to continue to actively address this take over by using the ability within the Differentials to at least level the opportunities. We ask that the forestry differential be doubled.

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the Mayor and Councilors for your stance on the higher forestry differentials. We encourage you to continue this path and ***ensure that the maximum differential be applied to forestry to create a true financial input into the costs of running the district and to alleviate the negative impacts of their forestry businesses to our Wairoa Community.***

These impacts include (but are not limited to):

- Removal and non-use of rural residential properties; this reduces our rural population, erodes our rural schools & communities.
- the flow-on impact of reduced spending in the Wairoa township.
- the reduction of people to support urban & rural community events & programmes.
- Limited (if any) community spirit, including sponsorship of Wairoa activities.
- Loss of biodiversity as a result of large areas of mono planted species- only pests live in pine forests.
- Inflated land prices making it extremely difficult for new farmers to enter the district & Carbon Sequestration, foresters taking the best land away from pastoral farming.
- Environmental issues in the forest industry including at the point of extraction such as forestry slash, unnatural run-off, erosion, and sediment build up in waterways.
- Destruction to the roading surfaces.
- Damage to the bridging networks.
- Road noise throughout the nights.
- Danger to other road uses from having large numbers of huge trucks on narrow country roads
- Danger to other road uses from the many worker vehicles traveling at high speeds on narrow country roads

What is the councils short to long term plans, for our town and our people if they continue to let Government dictate the terms of reference around carbon farming investments into the future? There are other ways and means to addressing climate change that is less evasive than just blanket planting good pastoral farm land in pine trees.

Signed: *Th E Smith*
 Date: *10/6/2022*

To: Wairoa District Council
PO Box 54
WAIROA 4108

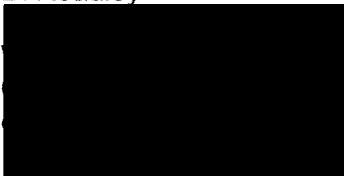
Submission on: **Wairoa District Council Annual Plan 2022-23**

Name of submitter: **Guardians of the Ruakituri**

Nukuhia Hadfield
Chair

The Executive Committee
Ruakituri Catchment group

Contact person: Di Roadley



INTRODUCTION

The Guardians of the Ruakituri-Catchment group is a collective of 21 farming businesses based in the Ruakituri Valley, Wairoa. Together we farm 26,000 hectares of pastoral land. We thank the Wairoa District Council for considering our submission to the Draft Annual Plan 2022-23.

Rates increase

1. The combined impact of proposals to increase funding for the Wairoa Community Centre and the Wairoa Museum is a higher than forecast increase in year 2 of the LTP i.e., 9.5% rather than 8.2%. The increase might be more palatable to farmers if the rateable value of their properties hadn't doubled in the 2021 valuation round.

This doubling as a flow on effect from the recent Quotable Valuation NZ adjustments. Unfortunately, these increased 'values' do not increase farmers' income making the astronomical rates increase last year (and this year) unaffordable.

Rates obligations rank in the top 10 costs of operating a farming business- this increase will come on the significant challenges farmers are facing with spirally operating costs and ongoing issues around getting stock processed due to supply chain breakdown and Covid19.

This has also been dramatically compounded for Ruakituri Farmers with the ongoing impacts of the March devastating storms and the necessity of using the lengthy detour access for service vehicles and trucks into the valley. Whilst we acknowledge the necessity of the time to repair the TeReinga Bridge, the continued over-use of the Ohuka road is leaving this essential route beyond its capacity for resilience against weather and number of vehicles using it.

WDC's new simplified rating system is explicitly designed to lower rates for residential properties, by shifting costs on to higher valued rural properties. This was easy to do because farmers are a minority voice. It doesn't make the decision equitable or sustainable in the long term i.e., it masks the true cost of our towns and cities, whilst degrading our farming businesses.

2. Rural mental health is in crisis, in large part because pressure is being applied on farmers from all directions – central government via an avalanche of environmental reform, local government via ever-increasing rates that treat farmers like a cash-cow, and land use change to accommodate urban expansion and foreign owned pine trees. Wairoa District is heavily reliant on a thriving sustainable rural community. This constant battering both via financial and emotional attack is having a detrimental impact on farming communities. The invitation for forestry monopoly is looming and whilst it appears this is inline with current Government aspirations the impact on Wairoa rural and urban community will be catastrophic.
- We urge Councilors to continue to actively address this take over by using the ability within the Differentials to at least level the opportunities.

As a group we would like to acknowledge and congratulate the Mayor and Councilors for your stance on the higher forestry differentials. We encourage you to continue on this path and ensure that the **maximum differential be applied to forestry to create a true financial input into the costs of running the district and to alleviate the negative impacts of their forestry businesses to our Wairoa Community.**

These impacts include (but not limited to):

- Destruction to the roading surfaces
- Damage to the bridging networks
- Road noise throughout the nights
- Danger to other uses from having large numbers of huge trucks on narrow country roads
- Danger to other uses from the many worker vehicles traveling at high speeds on narrow country roads
- Removal and non-use of rural residential properties; this reduces our rural population, erodes our rural schools & communities
- Limited (if any) community spirit, including sponsorship of Wairoa activities
- Loss of biodiversity as a result of large areas of mono planted species- only pests live in pine forests
- Inflated land price making it extremely difficult for new farmers to enter the district

Thank you for accepting The Guardians of the Ruakituri submission to the draft annual plan 22/23
04/06/2022



Guardians of the Ruakituri