

Update on the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan

November 2015

Today's Update

- Where we are in the PAUP process
- Update on key areas of interest to Watercare
 - Network operations (operation, maintenance, repair, and minor upgrading)
 - Upgrades and new infrastructure
 - Designations
 - Growth (RUB and rezoning)

The Unitary Plan Process So Far

- March 2013 – “draft” Plan released for comment
- September 2013 – Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan notified
- February 2014 – Submissions due
- September 2014 - Hearing process started
- **Now – hearings 80% complete**
- *April 2016 – Hearings to be completed*
- *July 2016 – Panel to make its recommendation to Council*
- *August/September 2016 – Council accepts or rejects recommendation (can be done in parts)*

Operation, Maintenance, and Minor Upgrading of the Network

- Permitted across all zones (residential, business)
- Some constraints in some overlays

Achievements

- *Significant reduction in overlay constraints on day-to-day network operations*
- *Inclusion of water/wastewater in “Minor Infrastructure Upgrading” which provides for smaller pipe replacement*

Major Upgrades and New Infrastructure

- Generally permitted across all zones with some exceptions (reservoirs in some zones, wastewater treatment plants, above ground pipes)
- Subject to significant Auckland-wide rules (e.g., earthworks, groundwater)
- Subject to overlay provisions (e.g., outstanding natural landscapes, sites of significance to mana whenua)

Achievements

- Changes in some Auckland Wide rules and overlay rules to make them more enabling
- Better clarity between district and regional rules

Selected Provisions – Council’s Revisions

	Operation & Maintenance	Upgrades/New
Earthworks	Permitted	Higher threshold than previously and now calculated on the basis of open trench area.
Trees	Permitted up to certain thresholds in roads and parks	Permitted up to certain thresholds in roads and parks (more likely to require consent due to extent of works)
Significant Ecological Areas	Permitted	Consent required
Outstanding Natural Landscapes	Permitted	Consent required
Mana Whenua - Cultural Impact Assessments	Not required unless consent is required	Generally required
Manu Whenua – Sites of Significance/Places of Value	Permitted	Consent required

Designation Roll-overs

- Rolled-over approximately 250 designations into the Unitary Plan
- Received a number of submissions on our designations, including a few challenging ones
 - Heritage New Zealand
 - Cornwall Park Trust Board
 - Ngati Tamatera
- Almost all submissions have been resolved
- Watercare's hearing on 30 November

Urban Growth – Rural Urban Boundary

- Proposal to set an Rural Urban Boundary
 - Provide for 30 years of growth
 - Area between the existing urban area and the RUB line is zoned Future Urban
- Must go through structuring planning process and plan change process to change from future urban to live zoning

Implications for Watercare

- Sequencing and timing of development in North, East, and South
- Future Urban Land Supply Strategy

Urban Growth – Zone Rules and Rezoning

- The ‘quality compact city’ model (70:40)
- Significant ‘upzoning’ of the metropolitan area
- Change in the developments controls in the zones to enable more ‘developable capacity’ within the zone (in particular removal of the density control)

Implications for Watercare

- Existing networks not designed for intensification
- Requirement to upgrade but question of priority