Planning for successful cities - a proposed National Policy Statement on Urban Development

Submission Reference no: 59

Te Arawa Iwi Trust (TARIT)

New Zealand

Submitter Type: Māori

Source: Email

Overall Position:

Clause
Question 1. Do you support a national policy statement on urban development that aims to deliver quality urban environments and make room for growth? Why/Why not?

Position
Yes

Notes
TARIT supports the direction the Government, the Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry of housing and urban development are making towards improving the urban environments.

Clause
Question 2. Do you support the approach of targeting the most directive policies to our largest and fastest growing urban environments? Why/why not?

Position
Yes

Notes
Targeting directive policies to our economic hubs ensures that our natural environments are not over taken by the built environments, losing our green image.

Clause
Question 3. Do you support the proposed changes to FDSs overall? If not, what would you suggest doing differently?

Position
Somewhat

Notes

Clause
Question 4. Do you support the proposed approach of the NPS-UD providing national level direction about the features of a quality urban environment? Why/why not?

Position
Somewhat

Notes
TARIT concures with this question, however, Māori whakaaro should be involved in this direction.

Clause
Question 8. Do you support policies to enable intensification in the locations where its benefits can best be achieved? Why/why not? (for more detail on the timing for these policies see discussion document, page 53)

Position
Somewhat

Notes

Clause

Intensification in locations where its benefits can best be achieved should be heavily regulated as the more population grow, the more natural resources are needed to service them, e.g. water.
Introduction: Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT) has its genesis in the Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Raukawa and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010. The Trust represents the three Te Arawa Iwi; Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa, Ngāti Kearoa-Ngāti Tuarā, Tuhourangi-Ngāti Wāhiao, who assert manawhenua, mana o te wai, kaitiakitanga, ahi kā and mana whakahaere over the Waikato River beginning from the Huka falls through to Pohaturoa. TARIT is committed to environmental sustainability and strategic goals:

1. Mana Tangata: Enabling our people to participate in the restoration and protection of the Waikato River, tributaries and environs.
2. Mana Taiao: Implementing measures to restore and protect the Waikato tributaries and environs.
3. Mana Mātauranga: Upholding tikanga, preserving wāhi tupuna and enhancing mātauranga of Te Arawa River Iwi.

Statement of Intent: It has been useful to assess the proposed National Policy Statement on Urban Development: "Planning for successful cities" against our Environmental Plan (Whakamarohitia ngā wai o Waikato), and TARIT supports the direction the Government, the Ministry for the Environment, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development are undertaking to move towards better performing cities that are more sustainable and productive. TARIT understands that as the population continues to rise, the need to accommodate growth is to sprawl 'up' or 'out', however, the main concern for TARIT is the impact this growth will have on the usage, distribution and quality of the water flowing from Tongariro through to Pohaturoa and the waters within the TARIT rohe. Land use activities in Taupō, such as urban development, wastewater, and stormwater increases the likeliness of wastewater and sediments finding its way into waterways and flowing down the Waikato River affecting waters that TARIT preside over. Urban growth in Rotorua will increase water usage and capacity, which in return places more strain on Karamu - Takina Springs, a spring that presides within the TARIT rohe and a spring that provides clean drinking water to 80% of Rotorua. TARIT agree with the proposals highlighted in the "planning for successful cities, summary for iwi/Māori".

As per our Accords with the Crown, MfE and other ministries, TARIT, as a co-governing/co-managing partner believe that we should be involved in the process and co-design of future long-term planning of our cities. Looking towards the future, TARIT supports this proposal as it takes into consideration of Mana Whakahono a Rohe, and it aligns with the the environmental sustainability and strategic goals highlighted in the aforementioned, mana tangata, mana tiao, mana mātauranga and we look forward to being actively involved in the consultation process and co-design of the proposed National Policy Statement on Urban Development: Planning for successful cities.
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If you have any queries please direct these through to [contact information], www.tarit.co.nz.