

PART 1 INTRODUCTION

THE BASIS OF THE DISTRICT PLAN

1.1 STATUTORY AND COMMUNITY BASIS

This document sets out the resource management strategy, objectives, policies and rules for the management of the natural and physical resources of Papakura District. It has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act) and recognises the purpose and principles of the Act. The provisions set out in the parts that follow address the imperatives embodied in the Act and articulate the management response of the Council.

This District Plan is based on community input. Through a process of public consultation, the resources of the District have been identified and the way in which these should be managed in order to secure agreed community outcomes has been settled. As a guiding principle, the community has determined that the quality of the environment of the District should be retained and, where possible, enhanced. The provisions of this District Plan are directed at the achievement of this objective.

Further, the community has determined that the sustainable management of the resources of the District be effected by way of a conventional zoning technique. Coupled with the use of performance standards and a flexible system of classification, activities have been grouped so that the traditional and valued characteristics of various areas of the District can be managed, retained and enhanced.

1.2 BACKGROUND TO THE DISTRICT PLAN

The Papakura District Plan was notified in 1993 and became operative in 1999. The operative plan incorporated the Papakura District Scheme as well as parts of the former Manukau City and Franklin County District Schemes as they applied to the rural areas which were included in the Papakura District as a result of local government re-organisation.

A review of the rural section of the Papakura District Plan commenced in 2006, which resulted in the replacement of Section Two – Rural, with a new rural section, with consequential amendments across Section One (General), Three (Urban) and a new Section Four (Designations and Significant Natural Areas). The Planning Maps have been amended to reflect changes.

The Papakura District occupies a position as a buffer or area of transition between the urban metropolis to the north and the rural areas to the south and east. The District contains a sizeable rural area which is the subject of Section Two of the Plan but it is also a District which is clearly centred on an urban area and this is addressed in Section Three of the planning document. There is some pressure for the expansion of the urban area but the Council has determined that, in order to protect the integrity of the rural area, there should continue to be a clear demarcation between town and country. Further, the Council has determined that a

conservative view should be taken of the amount of rural land which should be made available for urban development during the life of this Plan. Parts of Takanini and the Hingaia peninsula have been identified as future growth areas by the Auckland Regional Growth Strategy. These areas are identified with an appropriate zoning to recognise the future growth intended for these areas.

1.3 INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this District Plan is the integrated management of the use, development and protection of the natural and physical resources of the District in such a way that the present and future well-being of the community may be achieved. To this end, the Plan is designed to be an “enabling” document, providing opportunities for the community, while at the same time recognising the responsibilities inherent in the process of sustainable resource management.

The District Plan addresses integrated resource management by:

- identifying the resources of the District;
- setting out the resource management issues;
- presenting the strategy for resource management;
- outlining the environmental outcomes which are expected; and
- developing a management framework of objectives, policies and rules.