

# **HORONGARARA COMMUNITY GROUP ( Te Akau South )**

## **Submission to WDC Hearing 27D: Coastal Hazards**

This submission is prepared in response to the Waikato District Coastal Hazards Report: Response to Submissions on Waikato District Plan Stage 2: Coastal Hazard Area Maps. March 2021. ( WDC Report )  
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The original Horongarara Community Group submission requested Map 23.3 - Coastal Sensitivity Areas relating to the Ryan Rd subdivision be amended by individually mapping parcels after a detailed investigation.  
As a result of the Map being amended a number of our members have consequently been affected by a High Risk Coastal Hazard Erosion Zone being designated on their properties. We seek to represent 2B & 2D Ryan Rd with this submission.

### **THE OUTCOME WE SEEK.**

**We seek to provide site specific data relative to the individual properties we represent. We seek for this data (provided in a report by a registered and qualified expert) to be used to redefine the High Risk Coastal Hazard overlays on Map 23.3 - Coastal Sensitivity Area's. We seek assurances that no High Risk Coastal Hazard is referenced in our LIM reports as a 'known' issue unless the site specific data provided determines so . The same applies to the map overlays and our property files once the District Plan comes into effect.**

**We ask the Commissioner to grant us the time to produce this report and confirm that its site specific findings will be applied to these properties in redefining the High Risk Coastal Zone ( Erosion ).**

### **Evidence in support of our position.**

The WDC Report consistently refers to a lack of site specific data & the need for accuracy to be defined by a suitably qualified engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer.

Example quote from WDC Report. Appendix 4: Coastal Hazards. Summary: Page 90 referring to the Ryan Road foreshore.  
"The identified High Risk Coastal Hazard Area (Erosion) and Coastal Sensitivity Area (Erosion) extend landward over several residential properties. We suspect (based on existing cliff slopes and the nature of materials exposed on the shoreline) that steeper stable slopes may be appropriate to define coastal erosion hazard. However, this would need to be determined by a site-specific study by a suitably qualified engineering geologist or geotechnical engineer.."

Without a site specific geotechnical & geological investigation the overlays cannot be deemed as accurate information. Due to the nature of the local terrain we have also identified fault in the contour mapping used in the WDC Report. This has been confirmed by existing height data that we already hold. Heights defined by a registered surveyor will be utilised in the report that we present.

### **Perspective on the issue.**

We appreciate the position the WDC faces as climate change threatens to raise a broad range of issues. We interpret the lack of funding for site specific specialist investigations as a call to action in a user pays approach to providing the key data. In recognition of this we hope to find a partner in the WDC in mitigating future risks which may arise to our properties from the council owned foreshore reserves identified in the WDC Report.

In commissioning our own investigations we also wish to draw attention to the implications should unqualified estimated designations be placed upon our property files or LIM reports.

The potential for material damage is very real regarding the insurance and banking sectors and their relationship with coastal hazard. While policy and approach is yet to be finalised early indicators point to significant financial loss should a property be deemed a hazard at high risk of coastal erosion.

The site specific investigation we have commissioned is already underway ( see attached letter from Michael Carter )  
Due to current demand in the building sector we are still 3-4 weeks out from having our Surveyor onsite.  
We intend to provide our data as soon as possible and are happy to remain in close contact with the WDC regarding this.

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