

## FORM 5

### **Submission on Variation 1 to Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region under Clause 6 of Schedule 1 Resource Management Act 1991**

13 November 2023

Greater Wellington Regional Council  
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#### **Name of submitter: The New Zealand Transport Agency**

This is a submission on Variation 1 to Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement (**Variation**) for the Wellington Region.

The New Zealand Transport Agency (**Waka Kotahi**) could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

#### **Waka Kotahi role and responsibilities**

Waka Kotahi is a Crown Entity established by Section 93 of the Land Transport Management Act 2003 (LTMA). Waka Kotahi's objective is to undertake its functions in a way that contributes to an effective, efficient, and safe land transport system in the public interest. Waka Kotahi's roles and responsibilities include:

- Managing the State Highway system, including planning, funding, designing, supervising, constructing, maintaining and operating the system;
- Managing funding of the land transport system, including auditing the performance of organisations receiving land transport funding;
- Managing regulatory requirements for transport on land and incidents involving transport on land; and
- Issuing guidelines for and monitoring the development of regional land transport plans.

The Variation relates to freshwater management and potentially affects the state highway network across the region. Waka Kotahi interest in the Variation stems from its role as:

- A transport investor to maximise effective, efficient and strategic returns for New Zealand;
- A planner of the land transport network to integrate one effective and resilient network for customers;

- Provider of access to and use of the land transport system to shape smart efficient, safe and responsible transport choices; and
- The manager of the State Highway system and its responsibility to deliver efficient, safe and responsible highway solutions for customers.

### **Decision sought**

Waka Kotahi is supportive of the intent of the Variation, including the visions proposed for Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua and Te Whaitua Whanganui-a-Tara.

Waka Kotahi will continue to engage with Greater Wellington Regional Council and mana whenua / tangata whenua to understand the potential implications of the Variation and how it is intended to be implemented.

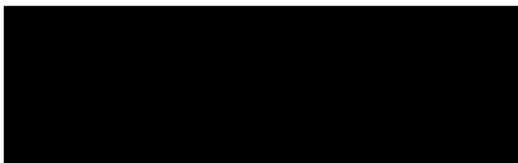
Waka Kotahi submits in support of the objectives as notified but may seek amendments for clarity as result of its ongoing engagement with GWRC and mana whenua / tangata whenua. An example of this clarity is point four in both proposed objectives which relate to access to water bodies and whether this raises health and safety or other effects when such locations include infrastructure.

Waka Kotahi staff are available to discuss the content of this submission and look forward to working with Greater Wellington Regional Council and mana whenua / tangata whenua to clarify and if necessary, amend the proposed wording.

### **Hearings**

Waka Kotahi wishes to be heard in support of its submission. If others make a similar submission, Waka Kotahi will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Signature of person authorised to sign on behalf of Submitter:

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of the person authorized to sign on behalf of the submitter.

**Evan Keating**

Principal Planner, Waka Kotahi

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