

Submission on KDC Proposed Plan Notified April 2025 by Peter Rothwell

To council@kaipara.govt.nz <council@kaipara.govt.nz>

KAIPARA DISTRICT COUNCIL

Submission on KDC Proposed Plan Notified April 2025 by Peter Rothwell

By hand to 6 Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai 0505

By email to: Council@kaipara.govt.nz

Submission on Proposed Kaipara District Plan

Form 5 submission on publicly notified proposal for new District Plan.

Clause 6 of schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991

To: Kaipara District Council - district planning 30/05/2025

Submitter: Peter Rothwell, Ph 0274 065 314

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The submitter does not stand to gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission.

The submitter is not directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that

(a) Adversely affects the environment; and

(b) Does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

The submitter would like to be heard in support of their submission.

Please use email for contact.

SUBMISSIONS

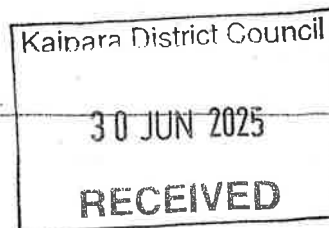
I would like to make the following submissions to the Proposed Kaipara District Plan 2025.

This is a submission about the health and well-being of the Mangawhai Harbour and all other waterways in the District, and the long-term toxic effects of untreated stormwater on waterways and harbours.

Mangawhai is growing at a rate far surpassing all previous predictions that this Council has used. This has resulted in infrastructure at capacity, including wastewater, stormwater, roads and power.

Stormwater is our hidden problem – the harbour attracts us, but we are slowly poisoning the waters. It is not a big deal to deal with stormwater at the development stage. It's much harder once it's piped underground.. Mangawhai has over 24.8km of stormwater pipeline, and 7.3km of open drains (KAIPARA DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN 2023). Unfortunately, this stormwater has not been treated in Mangawhai – it's collected in roadside drains and discharged straight to the harbour – quite primitive.

The existing and planned stormwater infrastructure does not adequately address the adverse impacts of the growth that will be stimulated by the PDP. Intensification leads to more runoff. The existing runoff is often poorly managed and understood and intensification will intensify this problem.



1. I submit that no further intensification can be allowed for the Mangawhai Harbour catchment until a comprehensive stormwater management plan (SMP) is formulated.
2. I submit that any reference to stormwater in the Kaipara District Council Proposed Plan should directly reference the Auckland Council Unitary Plan stormwater standards and water-sensitive design until more suitable rules can be derived from the SMP above. The stormwater section of the KDC Engineering Standards 2011 should be abandoned.

The SMP would include a study of the Mangawhai Harbour catchment hydrology, a study of harbour macroinvertebrates, an evaluation of the current stormwater infrastructure, recommendations for future infrastructure costed into the Long Term Plan, and implementation of up-to-date engineering standards for stormwater and roading.

The Mangawhai Harbour is recognized under the NZ Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS) for its rare avian fauna – such as the Fairy Tern, Australasian Bittern and Banded Rail and there are many shorebirds that frequent the harbour.

There is a clear duty under the NZCPS to avoid any adverse effect on this habitat. The ecological importance of Mangawhai Harbour has been recently affirmed in the 'Mangawhai Central' and 'Wharf' Environment Court hearings.

Stormwater is by far the largest contributor to harbour and waterway pollution. There is a direct connection between polluted harbours and adverse effects on harbour taxa. Water washing off the land is the only real source of harbour pollution, and it is entirely controllable.

Unfortunately, the KDC Engineering Standards 2011, which are the referenced document for most stormwater infrastructure in the PDP, do not deal adequately with stormwater treatment. Since 2011 the population has grown from 2500 to 8000. There was no kerb and channel or piped network, there were a fraction of domestic and heavy vehicles, and most houses were not occupied.

The network discharge consent from Northland Regional Council is equally out of date. There is no provision for stormwater treatment for urban discharges to the Mangawhai Harbour. The Kaipara Council are installing road discharges without stormwater treatment under the NRC discharge consent.

The Mangawhai Hills Plan Change recently granted, and Estuary Estates (Mangawhai Central) Plan Change 78 already reference the Auckland Council water-sensitive design standards. It would be rational to adopt the same water sensitive design standards for the District.

Please email the writer for any amendment or clarification.

Kind regards,



Peter Rothwell

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