

19th April 21

South Wairarapa District Council

19 Kitchener Street

Martinborough 5711

To Mayor Alex Beijen and Councillors

Tēnā koutou katoa

Our aspiration **“to see our marae flourishing, to see our people reaffirming themselves on the whenua of their tipuna. To embrace māori economic development in our communities through kaitiakitanga of our resources, through manaakitanga of our māori and non-māori communities, and through our whakapapa and the teachings of our tipuna. To elevate the mana of our people and the mauri of our places through our matauranga māori – and the autonomy to be māori in a modern Aotearoa ”**

Ko wai tātou? The Māori Standing Committee was established by Council on the 27 March 1996, representation includes our two iwi **Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, Rangitāne o Wairarapa** and respective hapū, the three marae in our rohe: **Pāpāwai** in Greytown, **Kohunui** in Pirinoa, **Hau Ariki** in Martinborough and from 2018 Featherston’s hapori māori group **Pae tū Mōkai o Tauira** . The committee is an important and pragmatic way to express the constitutional “Treaty of Waitangi/Tiriti o Waitangi” relationship in a local context.

With regard to the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 for the South Wairarapa District Council, the South Wairarapa Māori Standing Committee would like to make the following submission. Our recommendations have been well considered and discussed by our committee.

Firstly, in response to the 6 significant issues raised in the Council’s consultation document: as a committee our response is NEUTRAL to all. Due to time constraints, we have not been able to consult with hapū and marae and consider these issues in depth.

Additionally, the Maori Standing Committee requests that:

- 1) the council include our south Wairarapa urupa at Kohunui Marae, Whakatomotomo and Pāpāwai Marae be included in the maintenance schedule that is currently in place for Featherston, Greytown and Martinborough Cemeteries. Maori with whakapapa to these

maraes are frequently buried in local urupa instead of council-run cemeteries, and we consider that the public benefit provided from cemetery maintenance should be extended to the urupa in partnership with the relevant marae.

- 2) the council work with the Significant Sites group to establish walking, cycling and vehicle access via the paper road that leads to Owhanga Landing Reserve, on the Western side of Wairarapa Moana. This is an important accessway to the lake which is not currently available, and the site itself has significance to Maori as a location for trade. We consider this is part of our collective journey to raise the mauri of Wairarapa Moana, by making them living spaces once again.
- 3) the council secures funding to commission a carver to do a series of pou in each town including Pirinoa. An initial budget of \$10k in year 1 to scope, consult and design the work, and \$20k each year in years 2-5 to deliver the works. We encourage council to seek funding from third-party agencies such as Lotteries and Ministry of Culture and Heritage to support this work and therefore reduces costing on rates.
- 4) the council sets aside funding to commission memorial works to acknowledge the fallen māori soldiers of South Wairarapa in each town including Pirinoa. An initial budget of \$10k in year 1 to scope, consult and design the work, and \$20k each year in years 2-5 to deliver the works. We encourage council to seek funding from third-party agencies such as Lotteries and Ministry of Culture and Heritage to support this work and therefore reduces costing on rates.
- 5) the council allocates a budget of \$150k in the first year in preparation of the permanent role of a “Māori Liaison”. We envisage this project would include as phase one; an engagement framework, māori policies development ie street naming, planning and delivery of cultural competency training, and working with staff to build a dynamic bi-cultural organisation including a transition plan. Phase two; an annual budget of \$150k for the employment of an individual to undertake Maori liaison within the council and provide leadership in the ongoing delivery and support of the work set out in phase one.
- 6) the council involves the Māori Standing Committee within the design process of major or minor infrastructure projects ie. refurbishment of reception area at council chambers, upgrade of civic buildings and public spaces. These would be opportunities to tell the story of māori in the region.

Our aspiration would be to have the most dynamic and culturally inclusive council and committee that South Wairarapa has ever had in its history. We have been impressed by the improved

engagement by this council on the Long Term and Spatial Plans and this is the first time the Māori Standing Committee has put forward our priorities for the district in a clear direction, we look forward to building the future we all deserve. We thank you for accepting our submission and look forward to further discussion.

I would like to speak to this submission on Tuesday 25th May.

Naku iti nei,

Narida Hooper

Ngāruahine | Ngāti Porou

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Items for further discussion in year 1 to inform future annual and long-term plans:

- Paper road from Palliser lighthouse to stonewall, limiting vehicle access and improved walking access.
- Active protection for our taonga kōkoputuna or kuwharuwharu (eels), plus education.
- Protection and monitoring numbers at the hinurangi season and returning of the glass eels.
- Restoration of our wetlands be extended to encourage native freshwater species to survive.

Glossary

Whenua – land

Whakapapa – history, genealogy

Tipuna – ancestors

Kaitiakitanga – guardianship, stewardship

Manaakitanga – hospitality, kindness, generosity

Mana – status, spiritual power, charisma

Urupa – cemetery

Rohe – district

Hapori – community

Matauranga – knowledge