

2 December 2017

The CEO
Far North District Council
Private Bag
KAIKOHE (by email)

Dear Sir

Kerikeri Strategic planning: a CBD grid road system

Purpose & recommendation

This letter requests the inclusion of a CBD ring road (second main street) for central Kerikeri in the Long-Term Plan as a *high priority*.

Discussion

The KK-Waipapa Structure Plan was accepted by the Council in September 2007. Such plans tend to drift into oblivion. This expensive plan with considerable community input has been largely ignored. That has been the history of all attempts to plan in Kerikeri. Despite the passage of time much of The Structure Plan remains relevant.

The CBD ring road (second Main Street) is part of the “inner town centre’ discussed in the Structure Plan and we consider it the most critical infrastructure element (now that the wastewater system has advanced) for development of the CBD, including a more pedestrian friendly environment.

A CBD alternative traffic route – a second main street

- For historical reasons Kerikeri does not have a grid road system. Development has been linear spreading along Kerikeri Road. Much of Kerikeri has evolved in an ad hoc, unplanned way and we were unready for a surge in population from say 1996 to 2006 and much subdivision under our permissive District Plan has taken place without necessary infrastructure.
- While traffic growth had not increased at the expected rate in the structure plan and from 2008 to 2013 was rather static, traffic volumes from simple daily experience, have now increased with population expansion. The rolls of the medical practices in KK-Waipapa are apparently 16,500 patients which is illustrative of demand for services in Kerikeri.
- There is now considerable building and population increase and our infrastructure is again not ready for it. Now is the time to invest in improving Kerikeri’s traffic circulation as well as a necessary precondition to planning our town centre.

- Council engaged Consultants in 2013 (see report in Council meeting of 19 Dec 2013) to study the proposed road. The consultants also reported that the KK/Butler Road roundabout does not work well. It is confusing and potentially dangerous. Vision Kerikeri agrees.
- Council has purchased 5 properties for the route. Only one property (the Tile Centre) has not yet been purchased.

Action Requested

The inclusion of a CBD grid road system in central Kerikeri as a high priority in the Long Term Plan.

Rod Brown
Chairperson, Vision Kerikeri

Cc Councillors Court, Vujcich, Hookwell, McInnes,
Community Board members Greening, Robinson, Ayr & Smith