

999

14 July 2009

David McCorkindale
Project Manager (District Plan Review)
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Dear David

PLAN CHANGE 20, CONSULTATION PROCESS

During 2008, Landlink has been involved in a consultation process in regard a Council initiated plan change for rural subdivision in the Horowhenua region.

Rural subdivision has caused varied results over the years and often ended in less than satisfactory results for the broader community. Getting a balanced outcome which benefits a wide cross section of the community was the goal for this plan change consultation process.

Stakeholders from many fields were invited to take part in the process, and all contributed wholeheartedly to the discussions – this was in fact one of the main benefits of the process, varied points of view were put forward in order to make the outcomes robust enough to withstand scrutiny. The Council team managed the process very well by absorbing and compiling the results of discussions into documents which we could examine at the next meeting, along with an agenda for the next phase.

I have not been involved in a process such as this before in my 15 years of land development experience in the region, and I found it refreshing to be included the unique opportunity to help shape the Districts' growth. I am sure that the involvement we have had has also improved our relationships with Council staff and the mutual understanding of each party's positions, thereby enhancing relationships in many sectors of the community.

The participants represented a wide range of local interests, and included:

- Developers
- Consultants (Surveyors, Planners, Engineers)
- Iwi representatives
- Federated Farmers
- Market Gardeners
- Council staff including Policy, Consents and the Mayor,
- Real Estate Agents

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Clearly this group were selected on their broad cross section of relevant stakeholders, but also because of their 'local-ness' – provincial towns tend to be highly parochial, and so getting wise, respected and experienced heads added to the credibility of the process.

This was an excellent example of a Community Consultation process, and it was a pleasure to be involved. I am sure that it has allowed all involved to gain a better understanding of the issues involved and the process of consultation and District Plan development.

Yours sincerely
LANDLINK LTD



Paul Turner
Principal