

24 DESIGNATIONS

24.1 Introduction

A designation is a provision made in the District Plan under Part VIII of the Resource Management Act to give effect to a requirement made by a requiring authority. Designations allow land to be secured for public works or other projects and facilitate the establishment of what are often necessary or essential services.

A requiring authority means a:

- Minister of the Crown
- local authority
- network utility operator approved as a requiring authority under section 167 of the Act.

A network utility operator means a person who undertakes various network utility operations such as gas, petroleum, telecommunications, electricity, drainage, sewage, roads, railways, airports or air traffic control services. These are defined in section 166 of the Act.

Designated sites are identified on the District Plan maps with white cross-hatching and notations. The designation is placed over the underlying area. The schedule included in this section of the Plan provides specific details of each designation.

24.1.1 Process

The procedures and requirements for making a designation are set out in Part VIII of the Act.

A notice of requirement must include the following:

- the reasons why the designation is needed
- a description of the site in respect of which the requirement applies and the nature of the proposed public work, project or work, and any proposed restrictions
- the effects that the public work or work project will have on the environment, and the ways in which any adverse effects may be mitigated, and the extent to which alternative sites, routes and methods have been considered
- any information required to be included in the notice by a plan or regulations
- a statement of the consultation, if any, that the requiring authority has had with any persons likely to be affected by the designation, public work, or project or work
- a statement specifying all other resource consents that the requiring authority may need to obtain in respect of the activity to which the requirement relates, whether or not the requiring authority has applied for such consents.

Also, in accordance with Section 169 of the Act, Council may at any reasonable time before the hearing of a requirement request further information from the requiring authority.

24.2 Designations Objectives and Policies

OBJECTIVE

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| 24.2.1 | To provide for designations, only where they are necessary, to ensure the efficient functioning and operation of public works. |
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POLICIES

To achieve this objective, Council will:

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| 24.2.1.1 | Maintain only those designations for which Council has financial responsibility that are necessary to secure land and to provide for the safe and efficient functioning and operation of public works. |
| 24.2.1.2 | Encourage the removal of designations in favour of the management of public works through District Plan rules. |
| 24.2.1.3 | Avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects of public works by including management provisions for their operation in the District Plan. |

METHOD

- Designations

Council acknowledges that most public works undertaken by the Crown or local authorities, or other projects or works initiated by network utility operators, are essential for the efficient operation of the City.

It is also acknowledged that the designation process provides an effective means of securing land for these works and for ensuring that they are established and managed so that adverse environmental effects are mitigated.

Council is nevertheless concerned that many non-Council designations in the Plan have been "rolled-over" from previous plans with little or no environmental assessment. Most sites are already being used for the designated purpose but there is no clear indication of the nature of new works likely to be undertaken. In such cases Council encourages the removal of designations and the management of the activity through District Plan rules.

Designations for public works for which the Council has financial responsibility will be imposed or maintained only where they are required for the efficient

operation of the City and are necessary to secure land. Where appropriate, management provisions are included to ensure the proper operation of the works.

The environmental result will be the effective operation of activities on designated land while adverse environmental effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.

24.3 Council Designations

Designations are used by Council to facilitate Public Works to assist in avoiding remedying or mitigating any adverse effects. All designations contained in the Plan are necessary to facilitate the functioning of the City. Designations will be reviewed from time to time to ensure their relevance. Those larger, more complex designations are managed in accordance with the requirements or plans included in the appendices to this section of the Plan.

These are:

- Moa Point drainage and sewage treatment designation (Appendix L)
- Carey's Gully landfill designation (Appendix M)
- Mid-Grenada landfill designation (Appendix N).

Council also administers various smaller-scale designations (for example, road widening or corner splays). These are listed in the attached Schedule of Designations.

The scale, sequence, timing and relative priority of public works for which Council has financial responsibility are addressed by the illustrations and diagrams included in the District Plan relating to each designation and the details identified in the Schedule of Designations. The sequence, timing and relative priority of works will be determined more specifically through Council's Annual Plan process.

24.4 Designations of other Requiring Authorities

Designation requirements received from other requiring authorities which contain provisions in addition to the District Plan map notation and details in the Schedule of Designations are included in the appendices to this section of the Plan.