

TAUPŌ DISTRICT PLAN CHANGE 42 – GENERAL RURAL AND RURAL LIFESTYLE ENVIRONMENTS – INTERNAL STATEMENT FOR HEARING

- 1.1 Good afternoon, Commissioners, my full name is Luke Thomas Braithwaite and I am a Senior Planner with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.
- 1.2 I will take my primary statement of evidence dated 9 August as read; and I would like to briefly summarise the key points from that statement before responding to any questions you may have.

Managing road noise on sensitive land uses from the state highway network

- 1.3 I consider that the General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments chapter should be amended to include a new rule, assessment criteria and reference the associated noise boundary overlay map proposed.
- 1.4 The purpose of these amendments are to protect sensitive receivers from road traffic noise alongside state highways. Noise generated by state highway traffic can adversely affect the health, safety and wellbeing of people and communities if not appropriately addressed.
- 1.5 I note that Waka Kotahi has not been provided with the Section 42A amendment from the reporting officer in regard to this point and proposes to respond in writing following this hearing should this amendment be produced.

Equivalent Vehicle Movements and Vehicle Access onto State Highways

- 1.6 I support the reporting officer's recommendations in regard to vehicle access onto state highways in the S42A report in response to the Waka Kotahi submission in Section 4b.2.1.
- 1.7 However, consideration should be given to Mr Swears recommendations regarding the amendment of the 100 equivalent vehicle movements permitted to state highways to a value of 67. Mr Swears identifies as more appropriate figure given the differences in the values Taupo District Council gives to trucks, and truck and trailers, from what is considered standard practice.
- 1.8 As noted in my submission the wording of 4b.2.1(ii) should be amended, or clarification be provided, in regard to the assessment of the permitted number of vehicle movements associated with Papakāinga developments, to ensure that where traffic generation occurs there is the ability to appropriately assess the traffic and safety effects.

New Performance Standard for Maximum Artificial Light Level

- 1.9 I seek the inclusion of an artificial lighting performance standards in the General Rural Environment to manage effects on road users. This approach aligns with the Australian and New Zealand Standard 4282 approved in 2019, the standard issued with the specific purpose to control the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting which is considered to be best practice guidance.

- 1.10 I have recommended limiting of the scope of this rule to apply to lighting at the boundary with a state highway only, and for this to apply to new activities only, rather than existing activities thereby mitigating the concerns of the reporting officer.

Signage

- 1.11 I consider that the recommendations in the S42A report in response to changes sought by Waka Kotahi to the performance standards relating to signage, where signage faces a state highway, are appropriate to manage the effect on the state highway and road users adequately.

Proposed Noise Rule

1. Permitted Activity Rule Indoor Noise

Either:

a. Within the Noise Corridor Boundary Overlay, where:

- a new building that contains a noise sensitive activity (as identified in Table 1); or
- an alteration to an existing building resulting in an increase in floor area of a noise sensitive activity; or
- a new noise sensitive activity is located in an existing building;

is proposed, it is to be:

- (i) Designed, constructed and maintained to achieve indoor design noise levels not exceeding the maximum values in Table 1; and
- (ii) If windows must be closed to achieve the design noise levels in (1)(a)(i), the building is designed, constructed and maintained with a mechanical ventilation system that:

a. For habitable rooms for a residential activity, achieves the following requirements:

- i Provides mechanical ventilation to satisfy clause G4 of the New Zealand Building Code; and
- ii is adjustable by the occupant to control the ventilation rate in increments up to a high air flow setting that provides at least 6 air changes per hour; and
- iii provides relief for equivalent volumes of spill air; and
- iv provides cooling and heating that is controllable by the occupant and can maintain the inside temperature between 18C and 25C; and
- v does not generate more than 35 dB LAeq(30s) when measured 1 metre away from any grille or diffuser.

b. For other spaces, is as determined by a suitably qualified and experienced person.

- (iii) A report is submitted by a suitably qualified and experienced person to the council demonstrating compliance with clauses (1)(a)(i) and (ii) above (as relevant) prior to the construction or alteration of any building containing an activity sensitive to noise.

Or

b. Within the Noise Corridor Boundary Overlay where:

- a new building that contains a noise sensitive activity; or
- an alteration to an existing building resulting in an increase in floor area of a noise sensitive activity; or
- a new noise sensitive activity is located in an existing building;

Is at least 50 metres from the carriageway of any state highway and is designed so that a noise barrier entirely blocks line-of-sight from all parts of doors and windows to the road surface.

Table 1: Noise Sensitive Activities and Their Maximum Permissible Road Noise Level

<u>Occupancy/activity</u>	<u>Maximum road noise level</u> <u>LAeq(24h) *Note 1</u>
<u>Building type: Residential</u>	
<u>Sleeping spaces</u>	<u>40 dB</u>

<u>All other habitable rooms</u>	<u>40 dB</u>
<u>Building type: Education</u>	
<u>Lecture rooms/theatres, music studios, assembly halls</u>	<u>35 dB</u>
<u>Teaching areas, conference rooms, drama studios, sleeping areas</u>	<u>40 dB</u>
<u>Libraries</u>	<u>45 dB</u>
<u>Building type: Health</u>	
<u>Overnight medical care, wards</u>	<u>40 dB</u>
<u>Clinics, consulting rooms, theatres, nurses' stations</u>	<u>45 dB</u>
<u>Building type: Cultural</u>	
<u>Places of worship, marae</u>	<u>35 B</u>

Note 1: The design road noise is to be based on measured or predicted external noise levels plus 3 dB.

2. Permitted Activity Rule Outdoor Living Area

Either:

- a. Where an outdoor living or outdoor activity space required by another rule in the Plan is within the Noise Corridor Boundary Overlay and the outdoor space is required for a noise sensitive activity, the required outdoor living space is to be designed and maintained to achieve noise levels not exceeding the maximum values in Table 2; and
- b. A report is submitted by a suitably qualified and experienced person to the council demonstrating compliance with clauses (2)(a) above prior to the construction or alteration of the any building to which the outdoor living space relates.

Or

- c. Is at least 50 metres from the carriageway of any state highway and is designed so that a noise barrier entirely blocks line-of-sight from all parts of the outdoor living space to the road surface.

Table 2

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Maximum road noise level Note 1 LAeq(24h)</u>
<u>Required Outdoor Living Space</u>	<u>57 dB</u>

3. Restricted Discretionary Activity Rule

Any new or altered noise sensitive activity which does not comply with Permitted Activity (1) or (2).

Restricted Discretionary Activity – Matters of Discretion

Discretion is restricted to:

- (a) Location of the building and outdoor living space;
- (b) The effects of the non-compliance on the health and amenity of occupants; and
- (c) The outcome of any consultation with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.

Restricted Discretionary Activity – Assessment Criteria

Discretion is restricted to:

(a) Whether the location of the building minimises effects;

(b) Alternative mitigation which manages the effects of the non-compliance on the health and amenity of occupants; and

(c) The outcome of any consultation with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency.

Proposed Artificial Light Rule – Rural Environment

4b.2.16 Maximum Artificial Light Levels

Maximum artificial light level at the boundary with a state highway
5 LUX (lumens per square meter) at the boundary with a state highway.

Activity Status: Permitted where compliance is achieved with 4b.2.16

Activity Status: Restricted Discretionary where compliance is not achieved with 4b.2.16

Matters of discretion are restricted to:

1. The safety of the state highway transport network;
2. The number, placement, design, height, colour, orientation and screening of light fittings and light support structures;
3. Any positive effects generated from the use of artificial lighting; and
4. Effects on established uses and their operation.

Exception: This rule does not apply to those activities that are existing at the time that this performance standard became operative.