

**NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT TO THE NEW PLYMOUTH
DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR A DESIGNATION UNDER SECTION
168 OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**

The site to which the requirement applies is as follows:

The parcels of land described in Title Referenced 169/79 in the Taranaki Registry being part of the land at 21, Nelson Street, Waitara, Taranaki 4320, as shown on the designation plan attached.

The land is occupied by St Joseph's School which is a state integrated full Catholic, co-educational primary school.

The current roll is approximately 130. Current projections indicate that the roll will remain relatively stable at this level.

The school has 8 teaching spaces, paved tennis and netball courts and grassed playing areas as well as a swimming pool. The site has frontage to Nelson Road. The school is located at the southwestern edge of Watara with residential housing to the east, north and south but more rural open space to the east abutting the school playing fields.

The nature of the proposed public work is:

Designation for education purposes under the Resource Management Act 1991 to enable the ongoing operation, maintenance and development of public education on the site.

The nature of the work conducted and operated on the site and to which the designation notice is given is:

- the construction, undertaking, establishment, management, operation and maintenance of an integrated school; and
- use of the land for educational public purposes where the relevant education authority constructs, undertakes, establishes, manages, operates or maintains land for such work or use.

The nature of the proposed restrictions that would apply are:

There are no proposed restrictions given the long established educational purposes and operation presently conducted upon the land.

The effects that the public work will have on the environment, and the ways in which any adverse effects will be mitigated, are:

The educational activities on the land have no deleterious or adverse environmental effect. The school is located in the south west part of Waitara. The people in this community benefit from having access to a state education with a special Catholic character.

General

Four principal environmental effects of the continued operation of the school can be identified as:

- The positive contribution made to the local communities
- The modification made to the visual amenity
- The effects on local traffic flows; and
- The effect on the local noise environment.

Contribution to Communities

Schools are a long established and integral component of the local environment, and the availability of adequate educational facilities of this nature is a reasonable expectation of both urban and rural dwellers.

This effect is considered to be entirely consistent with the Resource Management Act's purpose of allowing people and communities to provide for their "*social economic and cultural wellbeing.*"

Visual Effects

Schools are typical of structures in the urban environment and school facilities are well accepted as an integral component and no special mitigation measures are considered necessary. St Joseph's School buildings and associated structures have existed on site for many years while additions and/or modernisation have taken place during the life of the school and will continue to do so.

The school buildings are single level, and are set well back from Nelson Street. The school has a one way access road providing safe dedicated access to the school from the north separated from Nelson Street. On the access road are 14 angled kerb parking spaces along the immediate school frontage and a further 5 parking spaces on the far side of the access road. The school frontage is planted with trees and presents a high level of amenity to the street and general area.

Traffic Flows

Schools interact with local traffic in two main ways:

- By general additional traffic (largely vehicular) and;

- By having the potential to disrupt traffic flows (through both vehicular and pedestrian actions).

The first factor does not warrant consideration in this evaluation since the school has been in place for many years.

Adverse effects may be created by traffic either crossing some major roads or merging with other traffic using those roads. Nelson Street is an arterial road linking State Highway 3 with the central part of Waitara. It includes a cycle lane.

However, the access arrangement for the school requires all traffic to access the school from the north via the slip road. This arrangement avoids potential effects associated with direct access on to the arterial road. The slipway intersection with Nelson Street has good visibility in both directions.

Noise

Schools modify the local noise environment in three ways:

- Through the introduction of an additional concentrated local noise source at regular times of the day when pupils are outside the classroom environment;
- Through the introduction of an additional concentrated local noise source at regular times of the day as pupils arrive at and depart from the school; and
- Through the introduction of an irregular local noise source with other school based activities.

The activity which is subject to this notice is existing, and is an accepted part of the noise environment of the area. Accordingly, there are no significant adverse effects on the environment from noise generated on the school site as a result of this Notice of Requirement. No proposed mitigation measures are therefore called for.

Alternative sites, routes, and methods have been considered to the following extent:

The site which is the subject of this Notice of Requirement is currently an established activity. It represents a considerable taxpayer investment and is a facility that provides for the educational needs of individuals and communities.

The preference for the designation technique and alternative methods available are discussed below.

The public work and designation are reasonably necessary for achieving the objectives of the requiring authority because:

Designation of existing schools is a technique used nationally by the Minister of Education and is seen by the Minister as being the most effective way of ensuring that the Minister's interest in a site is protected. The primary reasoning for adopting this technique is the greater certainty provided in terms of future management options for the site relative to other available methods. This certainty is considered to be very important by the Minister since a longer-term commitment is traditionally made to any particular site selected for the operation of a school.

Designation also clearly identifies the likely long term location of this particular activity and this is seen as beneficial to both other resource uses and to the Hutt City Council.

The principal alternative means of protecting the Minister's long term interest in a particular site would be to seek to have an appropriate rule included in the District Plan which classifies the operation of school and other related activities as "permitted activities" within the given area.

This alternative approach would leave the Minister exposed to future proposed plan changes, which may not be directly related to the carrying out of these specific activities but which nevertheless would cause the Minister to incur unnecessary cost and to reduce uncertainty as to future operations. Consequently, designation is regarded by the Minister as the most appropriate method for protecting his interests.

The following consultation has been undertaken with parties that are likely to be affected:

No consultation has been undertaken in respect of this Notice of Requirement as the site is existing with established primary school and associated activities thereon. Notwithstanding this, there is a commitment to consulting affected parties as appropriate with respect to any relevant new works on this site.

The following information is attached to this notice as required to be included by the district plan, regional plan, or any regulations made under the Resource Management Act 1991.

- a) Copies of Titles



.....
Lucy Ross

Regional Infrastructure Manager – Central South
Ministry of Education

(Pursuant to an Instrument of delegation as at June 2016)

Date:.....

27 February 2019

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1.8206 hectares being Lot 2 and part Lot 3 Deposited Plan 6931 and being part Section 28 Waitara West District described in Title 169/79.

