

My name is Edward Thompson.

I ask that PPDC 48 be declined in its entirety

I have lived in Oakura since 2008 having raised both my children from the ages of 2 and 4 to now 13 and 15. I do not pretend to be an expert in the field of traffic, town planning or New Zealand law. What I do consider myself to be is someone who is honest (i.e. keeps promises) and considerate of others with my actions.

My wife and I purchased our house on Wairau Road for many reasons.

Our house is bordered at the rear by the tributary of the Wairau Stream that separates us from the esplanade and the current farm.

Amenities that made our decision to buy, raise a family and put down roots where we did include,

Ability to walk to the school, beach and CBD area of Oakura.

All four of us very much appreciate the work that has been done before and since our arrival by long standing residents of the community. Surf clubs, tennis courts, volunteer fire brigade and an excellent school come to mind.

We are very thankful to the members of the Kaitake Community Board for all the hard work they have put in drafting the long-term plan for the village. It was great to be part of the consultation for this plan and made us feel part of the community when our opinion was asked for.

They have made our community a place where I hope my family will live for generations.

Shortly after purchasing our house it came as a surprise to be presented with the paddocks development. The inclusion within this was the esplanade strip that would border the rear of my property. Although there are rules as to the use of this walkway, for example no motorcycles, horses and dogs, I have seen many times where these rules have been broken and not respected. Any further urbanisation of the land on the other side of the esplanade will I feel increase the possibilities of nuisances, reduce the security of my property and

increase my stress in years to come. Policing of this area is something that would be difficult and who would be responsible for it?

During the process for allowing the paddocks development we in Oakura were promised that no further development of the Mckie farmland would happen. Now in a few years' time we have this situation where the long term plans of the village are wanting to be changed by an individual that we were supposed to trust. I would like to know how we can be expected to have any trust going forward.

Experts have presented how the negative aspects of the plan change can be mitigated. Based on past performance I have very little faith that these mitigations will happen as promised. The responsibility and ownership of the problems can be passed from person to person and before we know it nothing gets done. I feel if the land was to be rezoned it would be mortgaging the safety and the future of our village and the people within it.

In November 2016 we all witnessed a terrible accident that resulted in the death of one gentleman on SH45 approaching the Wairau Road crossroads.

Although we love Oakura and its environment it is unfortunate in a way that there are few opportunities for employment here. This means that both my wife and I must head towards New Plymouth for work. I imagine any future residents of the proposed development would not be much different.

Over the years the volume of traffic at the State Highway 45 Wairau Road crossroads has increased. The lack of knowledge of traffic rules and an increase in impatience due to longer queues increases the risk of further accidents.

The opportunity for my children to walk to school and around the village safely is one of the positive points of living there, an increase in traffic volume would greatly reduce this.

Please Mr Commissionaires if you get the opportunity spend some time during rush hour at this crossroads or at the Donnelly Street intersection on a rainy day at school knock off time.

Again, as I am not an expert in road safety, I can not see how a roundabout on SH45 will increase safety and reduce the likelihood of an accident.

I learnt to drive in a British town with its fair share of roundabouts, I soon realised how people must be educated in their use. When I sit at the Wairau / SH45 crossroads and witness logging trucks and twin milk tankers fly by at much more than 50km/h I can picture people in long traffic queues who may be late for work or dropping the children off at the overcrowded school taking chances to join the traffic moving eastward.

I have listened and read the applicants experts on how to deal with the increased traffic, but I am certain that it will not be these experts or the applicant that will be out there sweeping up broken glass and worse.

The prospect of many years of continuous building work is something that gives us great worry. Any time the wind blows from the west, dust would be sent over our house, garden, car, washing etc. This would be a situation I'm sure many people have to put up with from time to time. However, the duration of any urban development on the farm would be enough to affect the quality of life of the residents living on the west side of Wairau Road for many years.

Any person doesn't need to be an expert in town planning or psychology to see that any development of the farmland will drastically change the village forever. I myself, and I am sure I would be not alone in having a constant fear of what would be coming next on the land, based on what we have experienced already with the paddocks.

I am very worried that the quality of life for my family and our friends and neighbours will be affected and changed from what we have now. From the top of my head I can imagine that our safety, security, travel times, views of the beautiful Kaitake Ranges will be changed forever.

I ask again that this plan change be rejected in its entirety

Thank you for your time.