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SUBMISSION ON NOTIFIED PROPOSAL FOR POLICY STATEMENT OR PLAN, CHANGE OR VARIATION.

Submitter 216 – Proposed Plan Change PPC18/00048 (Wairau Road, Oakura Rezoning).

BRUCE AND PATTI HOOKHAM

JULY 2019

HAU LANE, OAKURA

Hi, I am speaking on behalf of both myself Bruce Hookham and my wife Patti.

We are here to oppose the private plan change 48 rezoning of land on the original Marsh farm at Wairau Road.

I have lived in the same house in the village since 1952 (67 years) and so have seen a lot of changes as have others over that time.

We feel as a village Oakura has reached its critical mass and a development as proposed would ruin its village atmosphere.

Another 400 houses would be a visual blot on the side of our village. We should be able to continue enjoying a rural edge on both sides of our existing village.

The original paddocks subdivision that was granted meant this area would stay as farm land. We relied on the sub-divider at that time to be upfront and honest about his intentions. We now find he wishes to make a major change to the plan without honouring the consent that was originally granted. Surely the NPDC and the RMA Act would ensure he would be obliged to keep his word and honour what the villagers believed would be developed.

Our objections, include the obvious, and which have been stated by many others – roading, parking, infrastructure and the effect on the natural environment we currently enjoy. 400 houses, 400 extra vehicles will be a minimum of 700 to 800 considering most households have 2 vehicles per household.

ROADING:

We have struggled in the past to get any changes to our main road with 50k signs just past the four square on the New Plymouth side and on the other side just a few metres past Wairau Road. Vehicles are often still at 100k's hitting the 50k sign still driving at speed past both these signs. Many of us have witnessed near misses of many residents and more often children crossing the road and in particular outside the four square. Do we have to have a child killed before we see any changes. Corbett Park another danger with the 100k limit through this area. Imagine another 400 plus vehicles speeding past.

PARKING:

Difficult to get any parking through the village now at busy times during the day and weekends. What will another 400 plus vehicles do? Think about it.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

Water, we already have restrictions in the summer months so how much extra water do we have to share with 400 extra houses.

School, how does the school cope when its already at capacity?

Population of the proposed sub-division will increase the numbers and almost double the village size that will affect the wonderful unique rural village feel we currently enjoy. Will we be able to call our village a village or will it change to being just another suburb of New Plymouth?

One of the reasons we love our village is because of its uniqueness and we need to fight to keep it that way. We need to have a say on how our village progresses in the future. It needs to be managed with care.

SIGNED: Bruce Hookham



Patti Hookham

