

IN THE MATTER OF

of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER OF

of Resource Consents and Notices of Requirement for the Central Interceptor main project works under the Auckland Council District Plan (Auckland City Isthmus and Manukau Sections), the Auckland Council Regional Plans: Air, Land and Water; Sediment Control; and Coastal, and the National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health

FURTHER SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF BELINDA PETERSEN ON BEHALF OF WATERCARE SERVICES LIMITED

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 My name is Belinda Petersen. I am the Resource Consents Manager at Watercare Services Limited ("**Watercare**"). My qualifications and experience are set out in my primary statement of evidence, dated 12 July 2013.

1.2 The purpose of this supplementary evidence is to provide additional information and clarification to the Commissioners on the alternatives assessment that was undertaken by Watercare at the Mount Albert War Memorial Reserve ("**MAWMR**").

2. ALTERNATIVES ASSESSMENT

2.1 The need for a surface construction site at or in the vicinity of the MAWMR was identified early in the concept design phase in 2010.

2.2 Various site options were identified and assessed between 2010 - 2011. The options identified and assessed at that time are shown on page 56 of Part B of the August 2012 AEE. The Commissioners have expressed interest in Watercare's consideration of the option shown below in **Figure 1**.

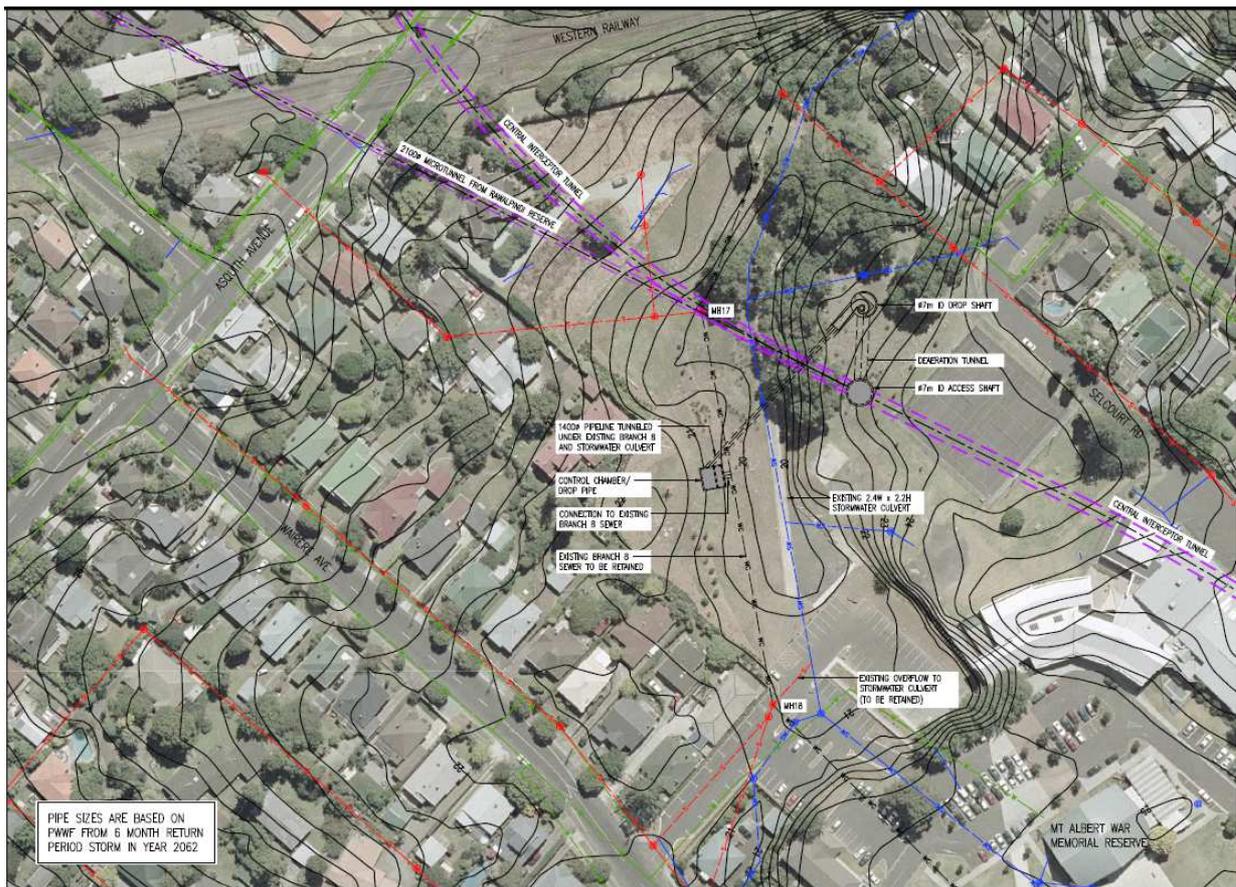


Figure 1

- 2.3 This option is located centrally within the open space area of the MAWMR, straddling the upper terrace and the lower flat. Initially the site would need to be cleared of trees and levelled in a cut / fill balance to provide a working area sufficient for the works. The construction works would then involve establishing the same structures now shown on the Reserve Site and Car Park Site permanent works layouts, principally being drop shaft and access shafts, a connection to the local network, connection chamber and working shaft for the Link Sewer 2 tunnel. Access for construction traffic would be via Wairere Avenue, as for the proposed sites.
- 2.4 This option was not preferred for a number of reasons.
- 2.5 Geotechnical investigations show that the entire area, including the upper terrace, is underlain by basalt. Excavation works to form either a level site, if required, or to form shafts on the upper terrace, would involve excavation works through a greater depth of basalt compared to the proposed sites on the lower level. Excavating the greater depth of basalt would necessitate a longer duration of construction activities which would have a greater impact on residents and park users. It would also result in greater costs.

- 2.6 As with the two proposed sites, site fencing would be required around the site perimeter, including acoustic barriers. The surrounding residential properties would be exposed to greater noise effects because of the longer construction period and the need to break up or blast the greater depth of basalt.
- 2.7 Some occupation of the area of the tennis / netball courts would likely be required. With the Reserve and Car Park sites, neither of these recreational facilities are within the proposed designations.
- 2.8 Wairere Avenue would remain the preferred construction access to the site. Access via Selcourt Road, or Jesmond Terrace to the north, would be difficult given the extent of excavation required to establish the site. Regardless, these streets are narrow compared to Wairere Avenue (around 7 metres kerb to kerb, as opposed to Wairere Avenue which is around 11.5 metres wide). Mr Hills has advised that enabling truck movements along these streets would require removal of around 40 on-street car parks. The New North Road / Selcourt Road intersection would need to be widened to accommodate truck manoeuvring, however, the intersection does have a right turn bay and good sight distance. Access via Jesmond Terrace off St Lukes Road would be possible, but is less desirable than via Selcourt Road.
- 2.9 While the site would be located further from the residential properties on Wairere Avenue and Asquith Avenue, it would be closer to properties on Selcourt Road and Jesmond Terrace. For example, the drop shaft would be some 25 metres from 25 Jesmond Terrace and 50 metres from 22 Jesmond Terrace.
- 2.10 The works would effectively bisect the entire open space area (the upper and lower terraces) rather than, as the proposed Reserve and Car Park sites do, restricting works and the associated effects to only one part of the Reserve. This would result in similar landscape, pedestrian access and amenity effects as described for the Reserve and Car Park sites also being extended over the upper terrace area, and would make the existing active outdoor recreational area of the Reserve (eg. tennis courts) largely unusable over the duration of the works. Site reinstatement would possibly also be made more difficult due to the excavation of the upper terrace.

- 2.11 The option would also involve the removal of a number of the large mature specimen trees located on the upper terrace.

Selection of the preferred site

- 2.12 The result of the assessment undertaken in 2010 – 2011 of the four sites, including the site queried by the Commissioners, was the selection of the Reserve Site as Watercare's preferred site.
- 2.13 As a result of further consultation in 2012 with the Albert-Eden Local Board, Auckland Council's Parks, Sports and Recreation ("**PSR**"), and local residents, the area of the proposed designation for the Reserve site was increased in the north-eastern corner to include the area containing the basketball hoop. The reason for this was to provide flexibility during detailed design for reconfiguration of site facilities further from residential properties. This extension to the designation boundary was supported by the Local Board and PSR. This is the site that was included in NoR1 which was lodged in August 2012.
- 2.14 Nineteen submissions were received from local residents in opposition to this site when NoR1 was notified. In response to the submissions received, Watercare undertook further consultation with the Local Board, PSR and local residents in early 2013. This included site visits with some residents and a meeting with submitters.
- 2.15 The consultation process included further assessment of options, primarily those shown in the comparative summary assessment table in Appendix G of my primary statement of evidence. A further variation of the option shown in **Figure 1** and summarised earlier was considered in early 2013. That variation is also located centrally within the Reserve but predominantly within the lower terrace. This option is shown as Option 3: Basketball Court in the comparative summary assessment table in Appendix G. PSR supported this option, but the residents consulted did not, as in their view it still did not sufficiently address their concerns. The Local Board also did not support this option for similar reasons.

2.16 As set out in my primary evidence:

- (a) The Albert-Eden Local Board made a resolution at its meeting on 13 February 2013 recommending that Watercare undertake the works in the Car Park site.¹
- (b) There was general support expressed by many (but not all) of the residents to relocate the proposed construction site into the Car Park site.²

2.17 Accordingly, Watercare then submitted the new NoR3 for the Car Park site, as outlined in paragraphs 5.49 to 5.53 of my primary statement of evidence.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 A surface construction site is required at or in the vicinity of the MAWMR. No matter which option is implemented, there will be temporary disruption to residents and park users, and the works will need to be managed so that those temporary construction effects are minimised. Watercare has taken into account views of, and concerns raised by, various parties in deciding its preferred site, and during the detailed design process will continue to look at options for design optimisation within the designation to further reduce the potential for adverse effects.

Belinda Petersen

1 August 2013

¹ Refer primary evidence of Belinda Petersen paragraph 5.52.
² Refer primary evidence of Belinda Petersen paragraph 5.51.