

Renotification of Proposed Plan Change 5: Accessible Parking

Summary Document

In 2020, the Government required all Councils to remove minimum parking requirements from their District Plans¹. These provisions were removed from the Whakatāne District Plan (District Plan) in December 2021. Prior to the removal of minimum parking provisions from the District Plan, developers were required by the New Zealand Standards (NZS 4121: 2001) to include accessible car parks as a ratio of the total number of car parks provided. Table 1 below shows the ratio of accessible car parks to the total number of car parks as required by NZS 4121:2001.

Table 1: Number of accessible car parks required under NZS 4121:2001

Total number of car parks	Number of accessible car park
1 – 20	Not less than 1
21 -50	Not less than 2
For every additional 50 car parks or part of a car park	Not less than 1

NZS 4121:2001 still applies even with the removal of minimum carparking requirements from the District Plan. This means that if one car park is included in a development, at least one accessible car park must be provided. However, if a developer chooses not to provide any car parks, the Council can no longer consider whether accessible car parking is appropriate when assessing a resource consent application or require the provision of accessible car parks.

Proposed Plan Change 5:

- Identifies where accessible parking must be provided and sets an absolute minimum number of accessible car parks in those situations. The minimum number complies with the requirements in NZS 4121:2001).
- Comprises 18 minor changes to the District Plan that will enable the Council to consider during the consenting process whether the provision of accessible parking would be appropriate.

If Plan Change 5 is not implemented, decisions around providing accessible car parking will be made by developers.

¹ National Policy Statement – Urban Design 2020: Section 3.38.

Renotification

Proposed Plan Change 5 was initially notified in May 2022. However, legal advice indicates that the process followed did not meet the requirements of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. In order to ensure that these requirements are met, Whakatāne District Council is renotifying Plan Change 5 by including a leaflet with the May 2023 rates notice advising all ratepayers of the renotification. A public notice will also be included in the Beacon and Rotorua Daily Times on 31 May 2023.

We want your feedback....

We wish to know whether there are:

- issues or concerns you think we should consider relating to the proposed Plan Change 5
- specific changes you would like to see in the proposed wording of proposed Plan Change 5.

Details of proposed Plan Change 5 can be viewed at:

- www.whakatane.govt.nz/
- Customer Services, Whakatāne District Council, Commerce Street, Whakatāne
- Whakatāne Library, 49 Kakaharoa Drive, Whakatāne
- Ōhope Library, 4 Harbour Road, Ōhope
- Edgumbe Library, 38 College Road, Edgumbe
- Murupara Library / Service Centre, Pine Drive, Murupara

If you wish to discuss any of the proposed changes, please contact the Council on 07 306 0500 or email glenda.spackman@whakatane.govt.nz

Submissions:

Options for making a submission are:

- Online: www.whakatane.govt.nz/
- Post: Whakatāne District Council, Private Bag 1002, Whakatāne 3158
- Email: DistrictPlanPolicy@whakatane.govt.nz or shaping.whakatane@whakatane.govt.nz

Please use the submission form provided or a similar format that complies with the Resource Management Regulations Form 5. All submissions must state whether or not you wish to be heard in support of your submission at a hearing.

The closing date for submissions is Friday 7 July 2023.

Attachments:

- **Draft Proposed Plan Change 5**
- **RMA Schedule 1 Section 32 Report**