

SECTION 2:

CITY VIEW OBJECTIVES

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2. CITY VIEW ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Introduction

The intention of this section is to identify the resource management issues and objectives which apply to the City as a total entity rather than focusing on specific activity areas or zones as does much of the rest of this Plan. This is an approach which assumes that both the City's urban and rural parts form a coherent whole which in turn is made up of a series of interrelated elements, e.g. the rural, business, residential and industrial zones. The City View Issues and Objectives therefore provide the overall broad direction to the District Plan.

This section of the Plan also reflects the many roles, statutory functions, plans and strategies that the City has and its very multi-faceted character. Within this part of the Plan there are no policies as these are regarded as too specific and better suited to specific zones and sections of the Plan.

Equally this is the only part of the Plan which has a goal, as this represents the end state that the Plan seeks to achieve.

The City View Issues and Objectives are not listed in a hierarchical manner.

2.2 Strategic Direction

In addition to the City View Issues and Objectives, the District Plan and changes promoted to the District Plan shall be directed by the following strategic documents:

- Sustainable City Strategy
- Urban Design Strategy
- Land Use Strategies including the Residential Growth Strategy, Retail Strategy, Joint Industrial Land Review and Rural-Residential Land Use Strategy
- Recreation Strategy
- Asset Management Plans

Provided that the Council must give effect to relevant provisions in any National Policy Statement or Regional Policy Statement and have regard to the documents listed in section 74(2) to the extent that they are relevant to the resource management issues of the City.

A description of these documents is provided in section 1.3.2 of the District Plan. The relationship between National and Regional Policy Statements and the District Plan is described in section 1.3.1 of the District Plan.

2.3 The City View Resource Management Issues for the City

Through the process of consultation and a review of Council's statutory functions and strategy framework the following were identified as the overall resource management issues which face the City of Palmerston North.

1. The requirement to recognise and provide for residential, industrial, commercial and rural-residential growth and the effects of that growth within the context of how best to achieve sustainable management, and to ensure that supporting infrastructure is efficiently and sustainably funded and utilised.
2. The need to increase density in order to:
 - avoid the unsustainable use of land;
 - provide support to local services; and

- make use of existing infrastructure.
3. How the potential adverse amenity effects of residential intensification should be managed through good design.
 4. The changing demographics and housing demands within the City.
 5. The effects of rural subdivision and development on rural amenity and the rural land resource, particularly Class I and II versatile soils.
 6. Increased demand for urban services within existing and new rural residential areas.
 7. The need for clear direction for the overall establishment and maintenance of amenity standards.
 8. The need to take a proactive approach to urban design to ensure a safe City with good amenity qualities in all areas and an enhanced quality of life.
 9. The requirement to improve connectivity and accessibility at all levels in order to achieve integrated urban development, promote economic efficiency and reduce the use of energy.
 10. The need for appropriate subdivision standards that support corresponding land use objectives.
 11. The need to recognise the role of economic development in the retention and enhancement of the City's economy.
 12. The adverse effects of commercial dispersion on the compactness and commercial viability of the Central City.
 13. The particular concerns of tangata whenua with regard to the management of resources.
 14. The requirement to recognise, maintain and protect the historic heritage of the City within the context of sustainable management.
 15. The requirement to recognize and provide for the protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes.
 16. The scarcity of indigenous biological diversity within the City.
 17. The protection and enhancement of the Manawatu River and its margins and tributaries.
 18. The requirement to control the use of land to avoid or mitigate the effects of natural hazards.
 19. The effect climate change will have on the occurrence and scale of some natural hazards.
 20. The City's contribution towards global climate change.
 21. The need for more sustainable energy use within the City.
 22. The effects of commercial-scale wind farms.
 23. The requirement to increase the level of domestic-scale renewable energy generation within the City and adequately manage the effects of such activities.
 24. The variety of demands for recreational activities within the community.
 25. Noise and its effect on amenity values.
 26. The sustainable management of infrastructure.
 27. The need to increase the promotion, provision and use of active and public transport.
 28. The requirement to recognise the benefits of infrastructure and other physical resources of regional or national importance.
 29. The need to recognise the significant contribution that education and research institutions make to the city and to facilitate their sustainable use and development.
 30. The potential environmental degradation associated with the use of hazardous substances.
 31. The potential environmental and social effects associated with mining, oil and gas exploration.

2.4 The Goal

To promote the sustainable management of the City's natural and physical resources.

Explanation

The goal is drawn directly from the Act, the purpose of which is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. It has been developed in recognition of the fact that the City consists of natural and physical resources which must be managed sustainably if the purpose of the Act is to be achieved.

2.5 The City View Objectives

Introduction

The City View objectives reflect the resource management issues for the City and represent the broad outcomes this Plan seeks to achieve.

1. Planning for residential, industrial, commercial and rural-residential growth sustains a compact, orderly and connected urban form which avoids the adverse environmental effects of uncontained urban expansion into the rural zone.
2. The provision of infrastructure, particularly within identified growth areas, shall be efficient, timely, environmentally sensitive and economically sustainable.
3. The integrated and efficient provision of, and access to, infrastructure, network utilities and local services is facilitated for all residents.
4. Transparent and equitable funding mechanisms are in place to support the provision of infrastructure required to service growth.
5. A variety of high quality residential living environments are provided to satisfy the needs of all residents.
6. Rural subdivision and development is directed away from Class I and II versatile soils.
7. The infrastructural demands of rural subdivision and development are minimised.
8. The distinctive rural and urban character of the City is recognised and a clear differentiation is provided regarding subdivision, development and servicing expectations within rural and urban areas.
9. Subdivisions, buildings and infrastructure are designed and constructed to promote a coordinated, healthy and safe environment.
10. The visual appeal of the City is enhanced.
11. The principles of good urban design are given effect to for all new subdivisions, urban intensification and major building developments, particularly those located within the City Centre or fronting key transportation routes.
12. A wide range of business and economic activities are provided for.
13. Investment within the City is stimulated and identified priority sectors such as research, education, public administration, retail, logistics, construction, manufacturing and agriculture are well supported.
14. The City Centre remains the primary focus for retail, office, commercial and cultural activities within the City. Other commercial centres will be planned to ensure that they support the primary role and function of the City Centre.
15. Active engagement from tangata whenua within resource management decisions.
16. The historic heritage of the City is researched, identified and preserved within the context of sustainable management.
17. The natural and cultural heritage features of the City are preserved and enhanced, including the margins of the Manawatu River and sites of significance to tangata whenua.

18. The characteristics and values of outstanding natural features and landscapes are:
 - a. protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development; and
 - b. managed in a manner where all subdivision, use and development directly affecting them avoids significant adverse cumulative effects.
19. The effects of natural hazards are avoided or mitigated taking into account the effects of climate change and the significant social disruption caused by natural hazard events.
20. The benefits of renewable electricity generation are recognised, and barriers to the provision of small and community-scale renewable electricity generation are reduced, while adequately managing the potential effects of such activities.
21. A broad range of recreation and leisure opportunities are provided for in the City which contribute towards an enhanced quality of life.
22. Appropriate noise standards are in place to protect noise sensitive activities.
23. Infrastructure operates in a safe and efficient manner, and the effects of activities which could impact on the safe and efficient operation of this infrastructure are avoided, remedied or mitigated.
24. All forms of transport, including public transport, walking, cycling and private vehicles are adequately provided for to assist with sustainable energy use and a healthy lifestyle.
25. Infrastructure and physical resources of regional or national importance are recognised and provided for by enabling their establishment, operation, maintenance, upgrading and protection from the effects of other activities.
26. Actively provide for a wide range of education, research opportunities, and supporting services in the City.
27. The effects of activities using hazardous substances are avoided, remedied or mitigated.