

**Before a Board of Inquiry
Northern Corridor Improvements Project**

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 ('the Act')

In the matter of a Board of Inquiry appointed under section 149J of the Act to consider notices of requirement for designations and resource consent applications by the New Zealand Transport Agency for the Northern Corridor Improvements Project

Summary statement of Robert James Greenaway for the New Zealand Transport Agency (Recreation and Reserves)

Dated 4 August 2017

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SUMMARY STATEMENT OF ROBERT JAMES GREENAWAY FOR THE NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY

1 Introduction

1.1 This summary statement provides a summary of my Evidence In Chief ('**EIC**'), dated 20 April 2017 and my rebuttal evidence, dated 15 June 2017 and includes updates to my evidence as a result of conferencing and as a result of further discussions since the conferencing session.

2 Summary of evidence in chief¹

2.1 In my opinion the Project offers a well-balanced outcome for recreation values in the North Harbour area, considering the additional connectivity offered by the Shared Use Paths ('**SUPs**') and the Transport Agency's approach to reserve reinstatement and compensation.

2.2 Three reserves are almost fully occupied by the Project (Arrenway, Centorian and Tawa). However, their development for SUPs provides benefits to the community through increased connectivity and activation of otherwise unutilised (for recreation) open space.

2.3 Two reserves (Meadowbank and Bluebird) are only very slightly impacted by the Project and will continue to be used for their existing purposes without any restraints resulting from the Project.

2.4 Rook Reserve, while losing an area of open space to a stormwater pond, has the potential to be developed to enhance its existing level of recreation amenity, and the final result has the potential to be positive. **Mr Bray** is currently working with Auckland Council Parks Sports and Recreation Unit ('**AC Parks**') on a concept plan for Rook Reserve.

2.5 Substantial work has been completed by the Project Team to secure the ongoing function of the North Harbour Hockey Stadium ('**NHHS**'), North Harbour BMX and the Rosedale Pony Club. A resource consent application for the new North Harbour Hockey Stadium is currently being processed by Auckland Council ('**AC**'). This process is a work in progress

¹ EIC, section 5 (amended version as appended to rebuttal evidence).

at the time of writing. However, it shows the ability to fully mitigate the immediate effects of the displacement of those facilities.

- 2.6 Temporary construction effects on recreation are limited to the partial occupation of Rook Reserve, which has a low level of existing use, and the temporary closure of the Alexandra Creek underpass (which will last for only a short period, months if not weeks). There are sufficient alternative recreation settings nearby to cater for these short-term losses of opportunity, although some Unsworth Heights residents will need to drive to sports fixtures at Rosedale Park for a short period during construction if they currently walk or cycle.
- 2.7 The net result of the Project is the reduction of public reserve land. However, much of this land is not presently used for recreation or has low recreation amenity. Those reserves that are currently used are either being retained or subject to the relocation plan which is in progress for the North Harbour Hockey Stadium.

3 Summary of rebuttal evidence

- 3.1 In my rebuttal evidence, I addressed matters raised in the evidence of Ms Maylene Barrett (Auckland Council – Public Open Space and Community Facilities).
- 3.2 Appended to my rebuttal is:
- a An amended version of my EIC adopting the names for Rosedale Park South and Constellation Reserve as used by Ms Barrett in her evidence, in order to avoid confusion;² and
 - b A map showing these areas and the areas referred to as Rosedale Park West and Rosedale Park North.³
- 3.3 I concluded that⁴ I remain of the opinion that the Project has achieved an appropriate balance in terms of its net effect on recreation values and resources and open space and the benefits provided by the SUP and

² Rebuttal evidence, Annexure C.

³ Rebuttal evidence, Annexure A.

⁴ Rebuttal evidence, section 9.

Rook Reserve mitigation plan. I support the condition proposed by **Mr McGahan** in relation to the relocation of the Hockey Stadium.

- 3.4 I do not consider that an additional condition is necessary in relation to provision of land to mitigate the loss of the future sports fields at Rosedale Park South and Constellation Reserve. There is sufficient sports field land in the local area available to provide for demand up to 2045. Accordingly, there is no adverse effect in terms of the availability of sports facilities for the local community from a resource management perspective. The financial and / or replacement land compensation package that is currently being addressed by Auckland Council and the Transport Agency is a separate matter under the Public Works Act 1981.

4 Changes to evidence as a result of conferencing

- 4.1 I took part in the expert conferencing session on recreation and reserves with **Ms Barrett** of AC Parks on 22 June 2017.
- 4.2 My evidence has changed due to this in relation to the need to relocate and replace the fitness equipment currently located on Rook Reserve, as per the recommendation of Ms Barrett.⁵ These items are located on the edge of the development area and their continued use *in situ* will be unpleasant during the construction period.

5 Updates

- 5.1 Subsequent to conferencing I confirmed the locations of the areas that the Longdill report into sports field demand in Albany⁶ refer to with Ms Barrett. The Longdill report states that “[t]he 2045 shortfall of -68 hours can be accommodated by upgrades at Carribbean Drive and Rosedale Park North plus development of 3 new fields at Rosedale North.”⁷
- 5.2 Ms Barrett confirmed that the three new fields at “Rosedale North” would be at the corner of Bush Road and Rosedale Road (north of the proposed relocated hockey facility) and in an area that is currently occupied by pony club grazing but is to be vacated after the pony club relocates. The

⁵ EIC of Maylene Barrett 25 May 2017, paragraph 7.46.

⁶ The “Albany Field Review” appended to my rebuttal evidence.

⁷ Albany Field Review at page 96.

upgrade at “Rosedale Park North” is on the existing fields between the proposed relocated hockey facility and the Watercare pond. Carribean Drive is in Unsworth Heights. On this basis, there is sufficient alternative sports field land to meet projected demand.



Robert James Greenaway

4 August 2017