

9 August 2024

Lance Hessel
Civix
99 Albert Street
Auckland CBD, 1010

Email: lance@civix.co.nz

Dear Lance,

Re: Your further request for an assessment of water and wastewater capacity
Address: 40 Mahi Road, Helensville
Watercare application number CON 223399

This assessment is independent of the Auckland Council consenting process. This letter does not constitute a pre-approval from Watercare.

In your consultation application you requested information from Watercare regarding the capacity in the water and wastewater systems to service a proposed plan change for **40 Mahi Road Helensville**.

Watercare provided a letter in response to the consultation application on 31/05/2024.

On 15 July 2024 via email, you requested clarification of the advice provided in the 31/05/2024 letter in relation to:

1. Confirmation of the capacity at the recently upgraded WWTP for the proposed development.
2. Whether assessments in terms of wastewater servicing need only relate to the wastewater network infrastructure.
3. Advice on aspects of the current wastewater infrastructure network as sought in the attached Civix assessment response memo – including details of the Rautawhiri Road pumpstation capacity and flows.
4. Clarification of the required scope of information for the plan change application, noting that more detailed information is usually required at the resource consent and Engineering Plan Approval stages.

Please find our response below with some additional comments provided in relation to water supply and the Future Development Strategy.

Confirmation of the capacity at the recently upgraded WWTP for the proposed development

Watercare have recently completed a comprehensive upgrade of the Helensville WWTP. The upgraded WWTP has capacity to accommodate the anticipated growth in population within Helensville over the next 30 years to 2054. The proposed plan change area comprises the entire Helensville (Stage 1) Future Urban Area, which is anticipated under Auckland Council's Future Development Strategy 2023-2053 (FDS) to be urbanised from 2035 onwards. The WWTP upgrade provides capacity in line with the Council's growth scenario to 2054 and therefore will have capacity to service the development of the Helensville (Stage 1) Future Urban Area. This presumes that the existing live zone and the Stage 1 and Stage 2 FUAs develop at a

density and rate anticipated by the Council's growth scenario. Where development does not align with the Council's growth scenario capacity at the WWTP may be taken up sooner than anticipated.

Water Supply

There is very limited capacity in the existing Helensville WTP. The Helensville Future Urban Areas are not able to be serviced for water supply until this capacity constraint is resolved which according to current forecasts is anticipated to be late 2026. However, there is some uncertainty for this timing given that an additional water source needs to be confirmed, and that the new timing of servicing the Helensville FUAs has been deferred to not before 2035+ which could result in the deferral of projects in Watercare's AMP to align with the FDS.

Whether assessments in terms of wastewater servicing need only relate to the discharge network infrastructure

Assessment to support the proposed plan change will need to consider the capacity of Watercare's bulk infrastructure. In Helensville Watercare's bulk infrastructure is limited to the WWTP and WTP. The capacity of these assets as at today's date is set out above.

Advice on aspects of the current wastewater infrastructure network as sought in the attached Civix assessment response memo – including details of the Rautawhiri Road pumpstation capacity and flows.

Watercare have reviewed the proposal to develop 135 lots within the plan change area and from a local wastewater network perspective there is sufficient capacity to service the proposed lots within the existing Rautawhiri wastewater pump station servicing catchment. This assessment is valid as of today's date and will need to be reassessed at the resource consent stage.

Water Supply

In terms of local water network capacity, a new 250PE (200mm ID) has been laid from the WTP through the reserve and east along Rautawhiri Road. This 250PE also extends into Mahi Road. The proposed development is on high elevated areas >35m with the HGL from the WTP reservoir only at 53m. Any development above the 35m contour will require boosting via a pump station, which will be the responsibility of the developer to deliver. With high elevations to the east which is a live zoned area the capacity of this booster pump station will need to consider the wider development catchment.

Clarification of the required scope of information for the plan change application.

The plan change application will need to consider the capacity of Watercare's bulk infrastructure to service the proposed development of the plan change area including how the rezoning of rural zoned land will impact the planned capacity of the bulk infrastructure and how the development proposes to provide potable water in advance of capacity becoming available in the WTP.

Assessment of the capacity of the local network is required at the time of Resource Consent.

Future Development Strategy

Watercare is required to align with Council in opposing private plan changes that are not in accordance with the FDS. Watercare considers that proposed plan change is out of sequence with the FDS and, due to the inclusion of rural land, is not anticipated by the Unitary Plan or the Council growth scenario.

Yours Sincerely

Amber Taylor

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