



**August  
2022**



## Proposed Plan Change 79 Information Sheet

# Plan Change 79 – Amendments to transport provisions

**In August and September 2022, Auckland Council is inviting submissions on changes to the Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP) – our city’s planning rulebook – to allow for greater building heights and densities in urban Auckland. This is known as Proposed Plan Change 78 - Intensification.**

**This information sheet explains Proposed Plan Change 79 to the AUP, which seeks amendments to the AUP’s transport provisions in relation to parking, vehicle and pedestrian access and lighting.**

**Submissions are now invited on the proposed plan change. The period for submissions closes on 29 September 2022.**

## **The government’s approach to well-functioning urban environments**

The government’s National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD) came into force in August 2020. To deliver the NPS-UD the council is required to publicly notify changes to the AUP by 20 August 2022.

The NPS-UD directs Auckland Council to, among other things, make decisions that contribute to well-functioning urban environments.

The concept of a well-functioning urban environment as set out in Policy 1 of the NPS-UD and covers:

- enabling a variety of homes
- enabling sites for business

- ensuring good access to facilities and services by active modes and public transport
- supporting the operation of land and development markets
- reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- being resilient to effects of climate change.

The NPS-UD also introduces the concept of qualifying matters, and these are also addressed in detail in Proposed Plan Change 78 information sheets #7 and #8.

## **Context**

The Proposed Plan Change 79 is one of five plan changes to the AUP that are not part of the Proposed Plan Change 78 but are complementary to it.

The Proposed Plan Change 78 is a plan change to the district-level provisions of the AUP to incorporate the Medium Density Residential Standards (MDRS) and give effect to Policies 3 and 4 of the NPS-UD.

The changes shown in Proposed Plan Change 79 cannot be included in Proposed Plan Change 78, as the latter plan change does not allow for amendments to the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) as this is a regional plan not a district plan, nor amendments that are not related to provisions that support or are consequential on the MDRS or Policies 3 and 4 of the NPS-UD.

## **Proposed Plan Change 79**

Proposed Plan Change 79 addresses two sets of issues:

- Issues relating to the removal of parking minimums in conjunction with greater intensification across Auckland (enabled through Proposed Plan Change 78) and the need to address climate change, by supporting the modal shift towards low/no-emission transport options.
- Issues relating to the safety, efficiency and convenience of pedestrian and vehicle access provisions for private accessways in the residential zones.

The proposed plan change:

- introduces new accessible parking requirements
- ensures pedestrian access and safety are prioritised within residential developments
- requires the provision of loading spaces for medium and high-density residential developments
- addresses heavy vehicle access for waste collection
- requires secure and covered cycle parking and safe access (where covered carparking is not provided)
- enables greater consideration of the effects of activities on the transport network

- addresses climate change, by future-proofing electric vehicle supply equipment in residential developments to support the modal shift towards low/no-emission transport options
- ensures that pedestrian access and safety are prioritised within private accessways in medium and high-density residential zones.

The sections of the AUP effected by the changes are:

- Chapter E27 Transport: New standards and assessment criteria to address the above issues.
- Chapter E24 Lighting: New artificial lighting standards to enhance pedestrian safety and way-finding along private accessways.
- Chapter E38 Subdivision – Urban: Better alignment with the provisions within Chapter E27 Transport.
- Chapter M Appendices: Documents in Appendix 17 are incorporated by reference, to include materials incorporated by reference; and a new Appendix 23 is proposed, to calculate the required number of accessible parking spaces.

## Further information

- To learn more about how Auckland Council is planning for growth and development, visit [ourauckland.nz/growingtogether](https://ourauckland.nz/growingtogether)
- For detailed information about the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020 (NPS-UD) visit the [Ministry for the Environment website](#).
- For more information on the RMA and the amendments made to it in 2021 including the MDRS requirements [visit the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development website](#).

### **Please note:**

#### **This information sheet is a summary document to assist with understanding Proposed Plan Change 79 – Transport.**

The proposed plan change to the Auckland Unitary Plan was publicly notified by Auckland Council on 18 August 2022.

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