

Chapter G RUB and Walkable Catchments
G1 Rural Urban Boundary
G2 Walkable Catchments

G1. Rural Urban Boundary

The Rural Urban Boundary identifies land potentially suitable for urban development.

The location of the Rural Urban Boundary is a district plan land use rule pursuant to section 9(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991, other than for Waiheke Island where it is an interim regional policy statement method until it is considered as part of a plan change to incorporate the Auckland Council District Plan – Operative Hauraki Gulf Islands Section into the Unitary Plan.

The planning maps show the Rural Urban Boundary line.

The only method for relocating the Rural Urban Boundary is by way of a plan change pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Any relocation of the Rural Urban Boundary must give effect to the objectives and policies of the regional policy statement which establish it.

G2. Walkable Catchments

Policy 3(c) of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020, updated May 2022, requires regional policy statements and district plans in tier 1 urban environments to enable building heights of at least six storeys within at least a walkable catchment of the following:

- (i) existing and planned rapid transit stops
- (ii) the edge of city centre zones, and
- (iii) the edge of metropolitan centre zones.

Auckland is a tier 1 urban environment.

A walkable catchment of around 1,200m is applied from the edge of the Business – City Centre Zone. A walkable catchment of around 800m is applied from both the edge of the Business – Metropolitan Centre Zones and from the pedestrian access points to existing or planned rapid transit stops.

Edge and route modifying factors such as property boundaries, road boundaries, severance, topography, block sizes, the walking environment and the mix of land use activities can affect these general walkable catchment distances.

The depiction of walkable catchments in the planning maps is a district plan method pursuant to section 75(2) of the Resource Management Act 1991 for implementing the policies of the district and giving effect to the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020, updated May 2022.

The planning maps show the location and extent of walkable catchment boundaries, many of which overlap with each other.

The location or extent of a walkable catchment can only be amended by way of a plan change pursuant to Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Any amendment to the location or extent of a walkable catchment must give effect Policy 3(c) of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development 2020, updated May 2022.