Your Ref:

Our Ref:

31 July 2020

Address

Kia ora

**Mamaku Community Meeting - Sunday, 28 June 2020**

This is a letter to follow up the meeting that was held at the Mamaku School Hall on Sunday, 28 June 2020. We’d like to thank the community for attending and we hope this letter will clearly outline what was discussed and what the next steps are.

To recap, Bay of Plenty Regional Council presented the investigation findings and how they may affect the possible options to manage On-site Effluent Treatment Systems (OSETs) in Mamaku as part of Plan Change 14.

Rotorua Lakes Council also discussed potential longer-term treatment options available to the community.

This letter includes a copy of the questions and answers that were raised at the meeting (please see attached). All information on the discussed findings and proposals, including copies of the reports can be found online at [www.boprc.govt.nz](http://www.boprc.govt.nz).

Alternatively, you can request hard copies to be sent to you as well as update your preferred contact details by emailing mamaku.pc14@boprc.govt.nz.

**Next steps**

**Plan Change 14 – OSET rules**

We’d like to hear from you about the proposed rules for Mamaku that were discussed at the meeting. Feel free to email your feedback to mamaku.pc14@boprc.govt.nz.

The community will have the opportunity to make formal submissions on the Proposed Plan Change when it is notified in early 2021.

**Long term solution for Mamaku’s wastewater**

We’d encourage you to be involved in discussing the potential next steps for the community around a preferred longer term solution for Mamaku’s wastewater. Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) would be facilitating this process. A number of people expressed their interest at the meeting, in being a part of a project group that investigates longer term solutions with support from RLC & BOPRC. We’ll be back in touch shortly about the next steps.

If you’re interested in taking some ownership on behalf of the community in this project and being a part of the project group, please contact: letstalk@rotorualc.nz or call (07) 348 4199.

**Future contact to the community**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Medium** | **Purpose** | **Audience** |
| Email and Mail drop | All community updates | Mamaku residents |
| Mamaku Messenger/Mamaku School Newsletter | Notification for any community meetings and submission dates | Mamaku residents |
| Mamaku community board | Notification for any community meetings and submission dates | Mamaku residents |
| Bay of Plenty Regional Council website | All updates and current information | BOPRC communities and stakeholders/Mamaku residents |
| Contact email: mamaku.pc14@boprc.govt.nz. | Contact point for all residents to update their contact details, submit feedback and request further information. | Mamaku residents |

**Background**

Plan Change 14 – what the proposed rules mean.

Regional Council is proposing Maintenance Zone rules for Mamaku. This would:

* Require tanks to be pumped out and inspected to relieve the impacts of discharges on the environment and ‘reset’ systems.
* Remove the automatic requirement to meet minimum septic tank sizes from the current plan.
* Instead link actions required (if any) with outcomes of septic tank inspections.
* Provide the ability for Mamaku to be an Interim Maintenance Zone with more lenient rules if reticulation is planned and committed to by Rotorua Lakes Council (this means it’s included in Years 1 to 3 in the Long Term Plan).

Interim Maintenance Zone rules mean there’s no requirement for an outlet filter to be installed and based on the outcome of the septic tank inspection, there’s a greater threshold before action must be taken to address an OSET issue.

The Interim Maintenance Zone rules must also provide for the situation that reticulation may not eventuate. At that point people will be required to upgrade their wastewater systems to an AWTS+NR (aerated wastewater treatment system with nutrient reduction) to address the risk from OSETs in Mamaku. Noting this is not ideal for all properties in Mamaku, as many lot sizes aren’t suitable for these systems and a resource consent may be needed.

**Other considerations**

Regional Council recommends a community solution as the best option for Mamaku. Our reports show that even with rules in place, the environment isn’t well suited for OSETs in Mamaku and there will be problems with their effectiveness.

We understand costs are a factor. If Mamaku is not reticulated, the community will eventually need to move to AWTS+NR systems. These systems cost about $20,000 per property and need to be regularly serviced. Funding subsidies aren’t available for these types of systems as it is not a community solution.

Ngā mihi nui

**Key Contacts for any further queries**

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| Bay Of Plenty Regional Council:Jill Owen – Planner, Environmental Policy and PlanningTel: 0800 884 880E-mail: mamaku.pc14@boprc.govt.nz  | Rural Community BoardChair – Shirley TrumperE-mail: Shirley.trumper@rotorualc.nzTel: 021 2771040 | Rotorua Lakes CouncilGreg ManzanoManager Water PlanningTel: (07) 348 4199E-mail: info@rotorualc.nz |