

Mayor and Councillors
COUNCIL

25 JANUARY 2018

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Information and decision

CONSULTATION ON PRIORITISING HIGH-USE STREETS AND WALKWAYS FOR EARTHQUAKE RISK

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This report is to inform Council about the outcome of consultation and seek confirmation of thoroughfares with sufficient traffic to warrant prioritisation of unreinforced masonry buildings that may fall on people.

DELEGATION

- 2 Council has the authority to consider this matter.

BACKGROUND

- 3 The Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016 required territorial authorities to consult with the community to identify thoroughfares with sufficient traffic to warrant prioritisation.
- 4 Unreinforced masonry (URM) buildings on identified high use streets and walkways may be determined by Council officers to be **priority** buildings with a shorter timeframe for seismic strengthening.

ISSUES AND OPTIONS

Issue

- 5 On 28 September 2017 Council was presented with a paper (refer RS-17-324) outlining proposed changes to the Earthquake-prone Building project as a consequence of the new legislation.
- 6 Council approved consultation, using the special consultative procedure, to identify thoroughfares warranting prioritisation at that meeting.
- 7 The consultation documentation noted that there were few URM buildings known in the Kapiti District and consequently proposed that only Elizabeth Street, Waikanae and Te Rauparaha Street, Otaki be identified as thoroughfares warranting prioritisation.
- 8 Deciding that an earthquake-prone building is a priority building effectively halves the timeframe for seismic strengthening from 15 to 7.5 years.
- 9 Consultation was open for submissions from 13 November to 15 December 2017. No submissions were received.

Option

- 10 The next step is to confirm that Elizabeth Street, Waikanae and Te Rauparaha Street, Otaki are thoroughfares warranting prioritisation of unreinforced masonry buildings that may fall on them.
- 11 Based on our current assessments, there are two potentially earthquake-prone buildings on these streets.
- 12 The legislation requires that warranted officers consider the building's location with respect to high use thoroughfares when deciding whether or not an earthquake-prone URM building is a priority building.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy considerations

- 13 There are no policy implications as legislation has removed former territorial authority Earthquake-prone Buildings policies.

Legal considerations

- 14 The Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Act 2016 required use of the special consultative procedure in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 to identify thoroughfares with sufficient vehicle or pedestrian traffic to warrant prioritisation.

Financial considerations

- 15 There are no financial considerations.

Tāngata whenua considerations

- 16 There are no Tangata whenua considerations.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

Significance policy

- 17 The matter is not significant under the Council's significance and engagement policy. The consultation undertaken was prescribed by legislation.

Consultation already undertaken

- 18 The consultation was publically advertised on 8 November 2017.
- 19 Submissions could be made on-line or delivered by hand to the Council Offices, libraries and service centres.
- 20 Posters were displayed at Council offices, and libraries. Notifications were posted on our web site and an edition of the Earthquake-prone e-newsletter was emailed to subscribers.
- 21 Owners of the known URM buildings in Elizabeth and Te Raparaha Streets were notified individually. They will also be advised of the Council decision on this matter.

Publicity

- 22 No publicity is proposed. With only two known URM buildings in the district the potential impact is minimal.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 23 That Council note that special consultation to identify high use streets and walkways was undertaken as required by the Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Act 2016 and that no submissions were received.
- 24 That Council confirm the identification of Elizabeth Street, Waikanae and Te Rauparaha Street, Otaki as thoroughfares warranting the prioritisation of the identification and seismic strengthening of unreinforced masonry buildings.

Report prepared by **Approved for submission** **Approved for submission**

Katharine Wheeler

Max Pedersen

Natasha Tod

**Building Team
Manager**

**Group Manager
Community Services**

**Group Manager
Regulatory Services**