

10 May 2021

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Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) – reference: 8222940 (OIR: 2021-237)

I refer to your information request we received on 14 April 2021 for the following:

- 1. *Would you please advise the conditions required to be met to qualify for a council house.***

Housing for Older Persons - qualifying conditions

Applicants must:

1. Be in receipt of a Government war pension and / or National Superannuation, and
2. Not be in fulltime or regular paid employment, and
3. Have limited financial assets (includes bank accounts, investments, shares, property and the like and excludes personal possessions, such as one vehicle, furniture) *as per thresholds below, and
4. Have a genuine housing need, and
5. Be able to live independently, and
6. Have a current Community Services Card.

*NB Applications are accepted from anywhere in New Zealand but preference may be given to Kāpiti Coast residents or those with family members living on the Kāpiti Coast.

Financial asset thresholds for 2020/21:

- Individuals – total asset limit \$39,222;
- Couples – total combined asset limit \$46,481.

Prospective tenants applying since 2018 must meet the above qualifying conditions and provide verification documents for identification, a Community Services Card, all income received, copies of bank statements supporting financial position and all asset holdings. Applications are to be witnessed by a Justice of the Peace.

- 2. *What are the benefits of constructing the connector between Ihakara St and Makarini St; what would be the effect of delaying this work?***

The road that we are looking to build is from the end of Ihakara Street and will connect Kāpiti Road near the intersection of Arawhata Road/Kāpiti Road. The benefits of this road are as follows:

- Improves the urban environment in the town centre by redirecting significant traffic volumes away from Rimu Road and Kāpiti Road;
- Supports the shift from vehicles to walking, cycling and public transport by enabling access to residential and commercial land-uses around and within the town centre, and children accessing local schools and journeys to the rail and bus hub;
- Allows speed management and safer crossing places / routes into and within the town centre;
- Supports better quality urban design outcomes for the undeveloped land adjacent to the town centre;
- Reduces maintenance costs for the existing arterial roads by transferring a large proportion of vehicles, in particular heavy freight vehicles, to the new link road.

The effects of delaying this work would likely result in the following:

- A steady decline in traffic conditions on Kāpiti Road, with increased delays, congestion and an increased risk of road accidents;
- The development of land in and around the town centre may be delayed or be implemented in a less than ideal format. This could lead to issues such as compromised access, poor urban outcomes, missed opportunities for wider network connectivity, preventing the progression of the Council's Town Centre projects and the overall anticipated economic benefits for the district will not be realised;
- Increased maintenance costs on the arterial roads of Rimu Road and Kāpiti Road from continuing increases in traffic flow.

Yours sincerely



Sacha Haskell
Group Manager Place and Space
Te Kaihautū Takiwā, Waahi hoki