

Appendix F-1. Letters of Support

Letters of Support have been received from:

- Insurance Council of New Zealand
- Milford Residents Association
- National Infrastructure Funding and Financing
- New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi
- Te Kawerau ā Maki
- Vector Limited
- Watercare Services Limited

4 November 2025

Sara Zwart
Wairau Flood Resilience Project
Auckland Council
Auckland

By email s 9(2)(a)

Kia ora Sara

Re: Insurance Sector Support for Wairau Flood Resilience Project

This letter reaffirms the public support of the Insurance Council of New Zealand (ICNZ), for the Wairau Flood Resilience Project which includes the plan to convert sections of the Takapuna Golf Course into a flood catchment.

The Insurance Council of New Zealand Te Kāhui Inihua o Aotearoa is the representative organisation for general insurance companies in New Zealand. Our members collectively write more than 95% of all general insurance in New Zealand and protect over \$2 trillion of New Zealanders' assets.

ICNZ advocates to sustain a strong and affordable insurance sector, and to enhance the safety and protection of all New Zealanders by strengthening resilience and reducing the risks of climate change to communities and the economy.

ICNZ members received approximately 1,000 claims from homes and businesses in the areas around the golf course, after the Auckland Anniversary floods and Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023. Insurers advocate for proactive investment to protect communities. This supports the ongoing accessibility of insurance products for New Zealanders. Investing in natural hazard protection now helps avoid far greater costs later.

The case for investment in natural hazard mitigation and avoided cost to communities has been well made. For example, the Taradale stopbank in Hawke's Bay, which cost approximately \$4 million to complete, saved close to 10,000 properties from flooding in Cyclone Gabrielle.

The savings in lives and livelihoods from that investment has been quantified in the billions.¹ In a similar case, also during Cyclone Gabrielle, a recently completed section of the \$14 million Waipaoa River Flood Resilience Project in Gisborne, protected an estimated 7000ha of residential and horticultural land.

Ministers were briefed that it protected a reported 10,000 people and \$7 billion of assets, including major transport links.² Nearby, also on the North Shore of Auckland, Greenslade Reserve in Northcote was transformed into a stormwater detention basin. This approach avoided more costly upgrades to underground pipes to manage stormwater.

In addition to the lower cost of green infrastructure (relative to grey infrastructure), during the Auckland Anniversary floods, the reserve retained over 12 million litres of water, preventing damage to hundreds of homes and businesses and avoiding many millions of dollars in damage³.

From an insurer perspective these relatively small investments also avoided substantial claims volumes for loss and damage, not only reducing the disruption of people's lives, but also have a future bearing on the cost of insurance for consumers.

These investments also assist local insurers in demonstrating to their global reinsurers how NZ Inc is improving natural hazard resilience.

If you require any further information in support of your work to mitigate natural hazards and keep insurance accessible and available, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Nga mihi



Hon. Kris Faafoi
Chief Executive
Insurance Council of New Zealand

¹ <https://www.resilientrivers.nz/files/1705451844741.pdf>

² <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/value-stopbank-project-proven-during-cyclone>

² <https://environment.govt.nz/news/the-science-linking-extreme-weather-and-climate-change/>

³ <https://www.audo.co.nz/news/rain-drain-northcote-s-new-stormwater-infrastructure-tested-to-the-max/>

21 October 2025

Auckland Council

Attn: Healthy Waters, Sara Zwart

s 9(2)(a)

Wairau Flood Resilience Project

Milford Residents Association Inc. is pleased to support the Healthy Waters Wairau Flood Resilience Project (currently in its design and consultation phases), including the A F Thomas Park option.

In the January 2023 flood events, our suburb experienced severe damage to over 140 homes, leading to their buyout and ongoing removal. The Wairau Creek in Milford has been a high flood risk since the 1920s and so today's flood prevention work is essential to protect residents' homes and lives in the future. The project will be a comprehensive if late solution to a 100 year old problem. We view the A F Thomas Park option as critical to the success of the entire project.

Our Association's concerns are naturally focused on Milford, but we are also highly cognisant of the regional significance of building Wairau flood resilience. The Wairau flows through a series of intensively developed suburbs (Sunnynook, Totara Vale, Milford, Forrest Hill and parts of Glenfield), as well as the major industrial/ commercial area of Wairau Valley. In January 2023, extensive flood damage occurred throughout the entire catchment, not just in Milford.

Healthy Waters has engaged with our Association on the A F Thomas Park flood risk reduction option and MRA representatives are part of the Community Advisory Group for the project. These discussions have increased our understanding of all the issues involved.


Milford Residents Association supports the project as a whole, including the A F Thomas Park option. We fully support the use of the fast-track approval process because of the significance of the Wairau flooding problem and the need to provide residents throughout the catchment with safety and peace of mind.

Yours faithfully

Milford Residents Association Inc.



Debbie Dunsford
Co-chairs



Norma Bott

Sara Zwart
Te Tari o Ngā Waiora | Healthy Waters
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland Council

27 November 2025

Dear Sara,

I am writing on behalf of National Infrastructure Funding and Financing (NIFFCo) to provide this letter of support for the referral of Auckland Council's Wairau (Stage 1), North Shore - Flood Risk Resilience project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

The timely delivery of this project is a high priority for Crown under the Auckland North Island Weather Events funding agreement between Crown and Auckland Council. The project is co-funded under the Cyclone Recovery Programme with a Crown Investment of \$36,025,000.00 which is being administered by NIFFCo on behalf of the Crown. This project will reduce the risk of flooding across 10ha of residential properties and other nationally important infrastructure such as roading, power and utilities.

NIFFCo supports the use of the fast-track approval process to enable timely implementation of this important infrastructure project, given the demonstrated climate-related flood risks.

Yours sincerely



Shanon Tapp

Chief Infrastructure Officer

Sara Zwart
Te Tari o Ngā Waiora | Healthy Waters
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland Council

02 October 2025

Kia ora Sara,

The New Zealand Transport Agency is supportive of Healthy Water's proposal for AF Thomas Park on the basis that it reduces the risk of flooding on State Highway 1, particularly in a 1%AEP event. The motorway and busway experience significant flooding and disruption during climate events and we are keen to mitigate this risk, and the risk of flooding to the local road network.

In addition, the proposed walking and cycling link enables improved access to the Smales Farm busway station and maximises our investment in rapid transit.

The proposal aligns to our long-term plans for State Highway 1, the busway and a future walking and cycling link.

The New Zealand Transport Agency supports the use of the fast-track approval process to enable timely implementation of this important infrastructure project, given the demonstrated climate-related flood risks to nationally important transport infrastructure.

Ngā mihi,



Kathryn King
Regional Manager System Design (Tāmaki Makaurau & Te Tai Tokerau)

29 October 2025

Sara Zwart
Te Tari o Ngā Waiora | Healthy Waters
Te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland Council

RE: AF Thomas Park Flood Detention Project

Tēna koe Sara,

I write on behalf of Te Kawerau ā Maki in relation to the Healthy Water proposal for AF Thomas Park which is part of the wider Wairau blue-green network programme. This letter is further to our letter dated 25 June 2025.

As mana whenua of Te Whenua Roa ō Kahu (North Shore) Te Kawerau ā Maki have been a project partner since inception of the Wairau blue-green programme which includes the AF Thomas Park project as an early deliverable. We have developed a good working relationship and mutual trust with Council on this kaupapa and remain steadfast supporters of the project and the wider outcomes it can deliver for the environment and the communities within the catchment.

I can confirm that we are supportive of the AF Thomas Park proposal on the basis that it will help reduce flood risk to people and homes, improve stormwater quality and thus the mauri of the awa, provide ecological improvements, and deliver amenity outcomes for Te Kawerau and the community.

We believe the fast-track approval process should be used sparingly and carefully. In this case, given the immediate flooding risks to the community and the broader positive outcomes achievable, we take the view that this project is an appropriate use of the fast-track process to enable timely implementation.

Ngā Mihi,



Edward Ashby
CEO
Te Kawerau Iwi Tiaki Trust

25 June 2025

Healthy Waters Flood Resilience
Auckland Council

RE: AF Thomas Park Flood Detention Options

Tēna koe

I write on behalf of Te Kawerau ā Maki in relation to options to develop flood retention at AF Thomas Park as part of the wider Wairau Blue-Green project. We have reviewed at a high-level sets of designs and documentation from both Council's Healthy Waters team (Council option) and an alternative design from the Takapuna Golf Course (TGC option).

Te Kawerau Position

Our rights and interests in the Wairau catchment and our cultural values and outcomes sought in relation to the AF Thomas Park project and the wider Wairau Blue-Green Network are set out in this memo.

We believe the kaupapa should be held by a whakatauki:

WAIHŌ MĀ TE WAI E RERE KI TŌNA TAUNGA

Roughly translated this refers to the memory of water and that eventually it will find its path home again. It also captures the importance of reconnecting the natural systems of the catchment as a means of healing both land and community.

We believe the kaupapa should be framed by four guiding values:

- Rangatiratanga – embodying partnership, identity, and outcomes for our people
- Kaitiakitanga – embodying protection and restoration of the mauri of the land
- Manaakitanga – embodying lifting the mana and wellbeing of the community
- Tauritanga – embodying cooperating for a solution that balances both world views

We seek the following key outcomes:

1. Te Kawerau ā Maki are project partners meaning we make decisions together
2. The mauri and wairua of Wairau is healed meaning the manga, wetlands, and awa are restored with meaningful urban setbacks, revegetation, and clean flowing waters running their natural course
3. That the waters are rejuvenated such that they can be used for ceremony, swimming, and can sustain kākihi and other key tohu mauri o te awa
4. That the revegetation creates habitat that supports an abundance of manu as key tohu mauri o te whenua
5. That the restoration of Wairau keeps people and property safe from the risk of flooding and climate change
6. That the restoration of Wairau creates high amenity for the community
7. That the project is delivered in such a way that it fits within a programme that captures the scope of the issue and its solution in a full and holistic manner, being both strategic and long-term via a 100-year Wairau Plan
8. That the business case for the current project references the Wairau Plan and incorporates our values into it including through calculating biodiversity services, carbon

sequestration, risk to life, financial liability (insurance or future buy-outs), health outcomes, and amenity against the future-state

9. That opportunities for iwi place-naming, identity, and activation are identified
10. That procurement opportunities for iwi members to participate in the works are identified

Appraisal of Options

The following is a high-level appraisal of the two options provided to us for comment. We note that our appraisal does not constitute a formal cultural impact analysis of the options due to time and resource constraints. Our appraisal is therefore provided here in good faith, the documentation provided, and based upon a Te Kawerau cultural lens, reflective of the wider outcomes we have identified.

ISSUE	COUNCIL OPTION	TGC OPTION	COMMENT
Storage Capacity	550,000m ³	550,000m ³	No preference
Earthworks	Cut-Fill Neutrality 610,000m ³ total earthworks	Stage 1 Imported Fill 34,000m ³ Stage 2 Exported Fill 5,000m ³ 730,000m ³ total earthworks	Council option preferred as has less bulk earthworks
Flood Risk Reduction to People	Reduces the exposure to 'high danger flood risk' for 19 dwellings, 5 commercial buildings and reduces flood risk for 200 other homes and 10ha of residential properties as well as road flooding to Nile Road, Waterloo and Alma Road.	Reduces the exposure to 'high danger flood risk' for 19 dwellings, 5 commercial buildings and reduces flood risk for 200 other homes and 10ha of residential properties as well as road flooding to Nile Road, Waterloo and Alma Road.	No preference
Flood Risk Reduction to Infrastructure	Significantly reduces the frequency and severity of flooding to critical infrastructure including Wairau Road Transpower Substation which services North Shore hospital and other key infrastructure, and Alma Road Watercare wastewater pump station	Significantly reduces the frequency and severity of flooding to critical infrastructure including Wairau Road Transpower Substation which services North Shore hospital and other key infrastructure, and Alma Road Watercare wastewater pump station	Noted that safeguarding wastewater infrastructure during flood events is culturally significant
Mauri / Environmental Performance	Restored and diverse 14.9ha wetland of regional significance, 70,000m ² permanent pool, given only 0.5%, establishment of ecological reserve, net increase in trees, and potential to improve water quality, treating road runoff from surrounding areas.	6.6ha wetland, and 4,844m ² permanent pool.	Council option preferred as there is a large delta between the options in terms of wetland size and quality and thus ecological and water quality
Amenity	Improved pedestrian and cycling accessibility, provides 30.7ha area available for additional recreation activities/urban parkland including likely potential for a reduced 9-hole golf-course	18-hole golf course and inclusion of walking and cycling network	Council option preferred based on available info. It is unclear what the TGC recreation and amenity offering is for the wider (non-golfing) community in terms of accessibility and connectivity.

Based on the high-level appraisal we conclude a preference for the Council Option. The TGC Option, based on available information, does not outperform the Council Option on any of the key issues above and has a greater level of risk as noted in the feasibility assessments.

It appears that the TGC option also prioritizes maintaining golfing provision over reducing immediate flood risk and wider environmental outcomes, which is not supported through our stated key outcomes.

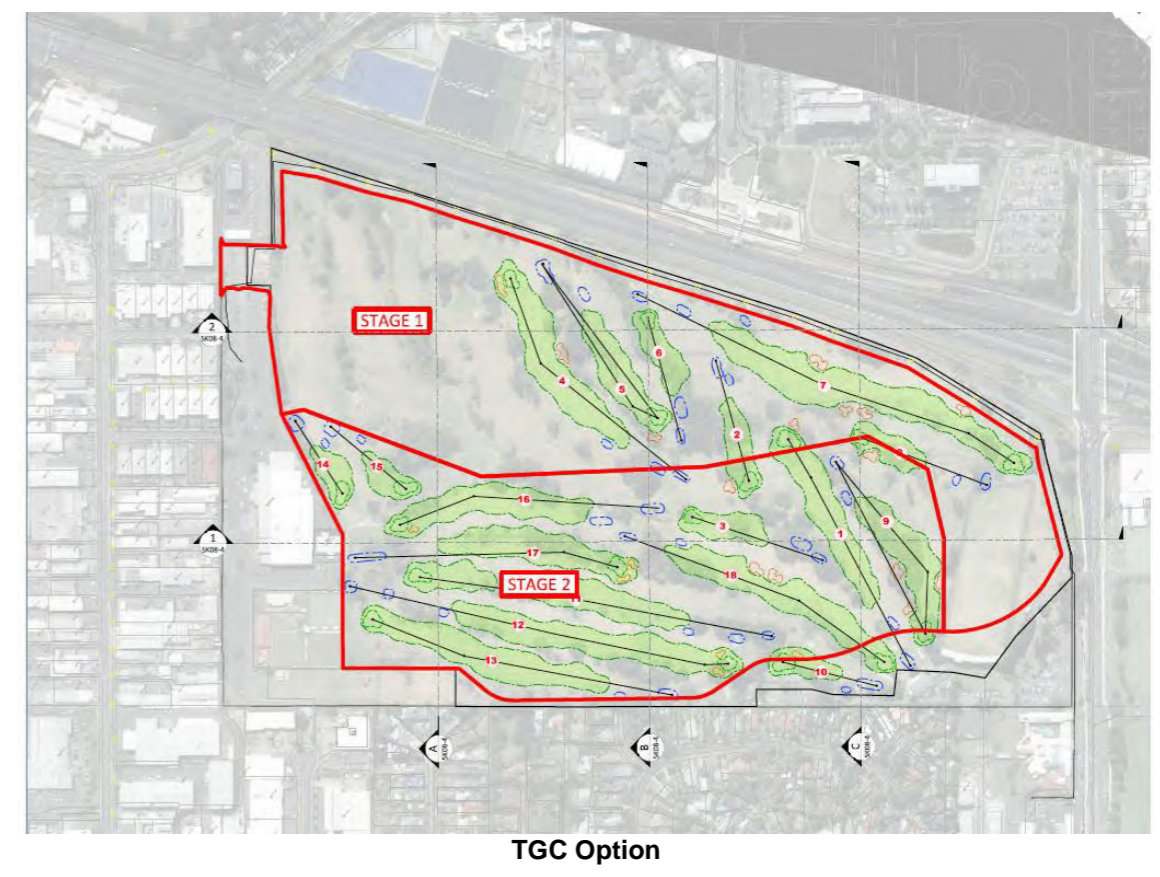
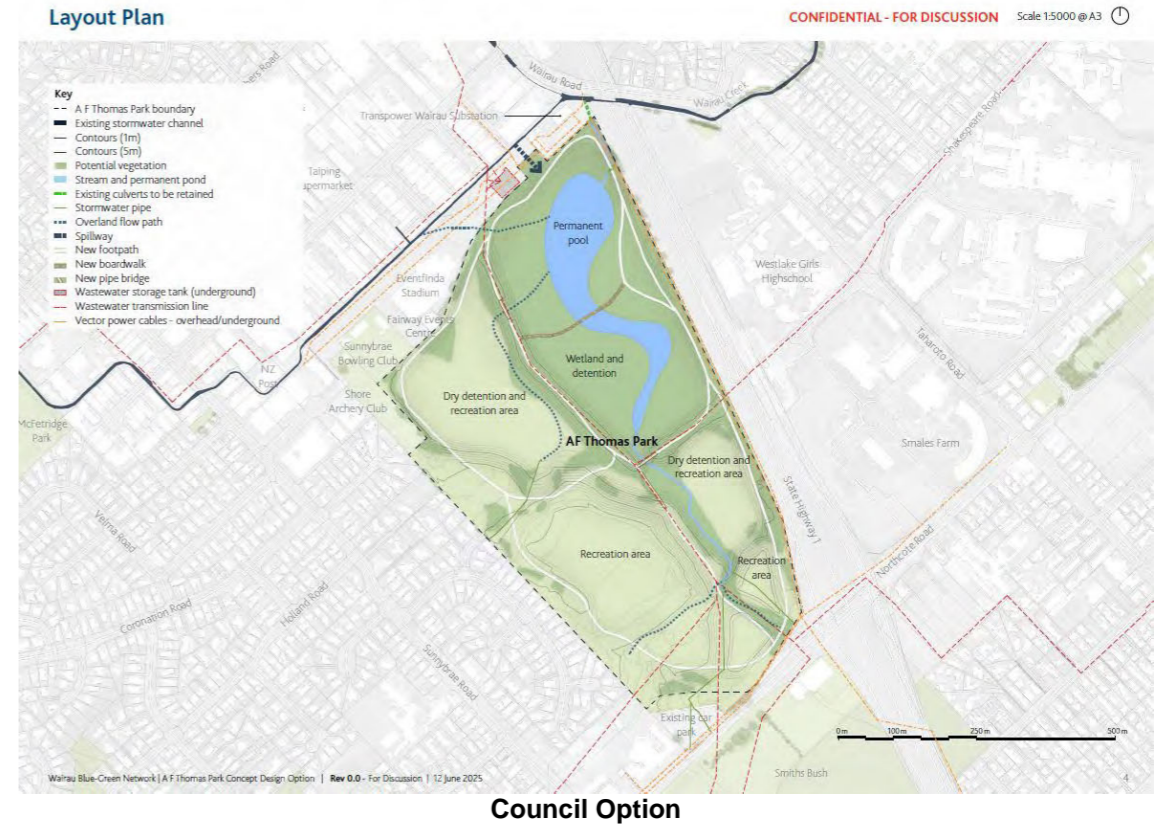
It is important to note that in any option, or variation of any option, that we seek that our values and outcomes identified in this memo are realised and that further work is required.

Ngā Mihi,



Edward Ashby
CEO
Te Kawerau Iwi Tiaki Trust

Email received from Tipa Compain of Ngāti Paoa (02/07/2025) in support of this statement from Te Kawerau ā Maki.



13 October 2025

Sara Zwart
Principal Project Manager
Blue Green Network, Healthy Waters
Auckland Council
Auckland

VIA EMAIL: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Sara

Wairau Flood Resilience – Letter of Support

Vector's Wairau Zone Substation is a strategic network asset and is a key link between Transpower's national transmission network and Vector's electricity network supplying the entire North Shore area located adjacent to the northern end of AF Thomas Park (Takapuna Golf Course). The Zone Substation was significantly impacted by the severe weather events in early 2023 resulting in high flood waters damaging electrical systems and components at Wairau Zone Substation.

Vector supports the Wairau flood resilience project that will help protect and reinforce the resilience of the electricity network for Auckland's North Shore by significantly reducing flood waters around the Zone Substation.

Vector also supports the Blue Green Network team's design which includes consideration of the future relocation of existing electricity assets. This will help ensure the ongoing resilience of the electricity network and to enable the flood resilience project to deliver the most cost-effective solution for Auckland.

Yours sincerely



Minoru Frederiksens
General Manager, Capital Programme Delivery

3rd November 2025

Sara Zwart
Healthy Waters
Auckland Council
Private Bag 92300
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

Dear Sara Zwart,

Wairau Flood Resilience Project – Watercare Support

Watercare Services Limited appreciates the opportunity to engage with Auckland Council on the proposed flood resilience upgrades at AF Thomas Park, as part of the Wairau Flood Resilience Project. We acknowledge the urgency and importance of this initiative in response to the severe weather events of early 2023.

This letter of support in principle is provided following recent meetings held between Auckland Council Healthy Waters and Watercare, where the proposed works and their potential impact on Watercare's infrastructure were discussed.

Protection of Watercare Critical Assets

The proposed wetland and detention pond areas are located directly above or in close proximity to Watercare's Wairau Branch Sewer TS4 and the downstream section of Milford Branch Sewer TS6. These assets are relatively shallow and may be affected or daylighted by the proposed earthworks. Furthermore, the Silverfield Storage Tank is located within the car park to the north of AF Thomas Park and the proposed stormwater, and overland flow path adjustments must consider future expansion of this underground tank.

Given the critical nature of these wastewater assets, proper consideration must be given during the detailed design and construction stages to ensure their protection. This includes avoiding physical damage and surcharge loading, maintaining access for maintenance, and ensuring long-term serviceability. All proposed works must be designed and executed in a manner that does not compromise the integrity or operation of Watercare's infrastructure.

Watercare requires that all relevant design and construction documentation be submitted for review and approval prior to implementation. This process will ensure that asset protection measures are appropriately incorporated and that any potential conflicts are resolved collaboratively.

Coordination with Future Upgrades

Watercare has plans to upgrade this section of the wastewater network. However, the timeframe for these upgrades is not expected within the next 20 years and will not precede the proposed flood resilience works.

To ensure long-term compatibility, Watercare requests that the proposal consider this future upgrade and leave proper access or space where possible. This will help facilitate future works and avoid unnecessary rework or disruption to the flood resilience infrastructure. Potentially there is the opportunity to coordinate the upgrade design with any future stormwater storage capacity upgrades.

Design and Construction Requirements

Watercare's support is subject to the detailed design and construction methodology demonstrating appropriate protection of our assets. This includes:

- Sufficient vertical and horizontal separation between proposed stormwater infrastructure and existing wastewater assets, in accordance with the Watercare Code of Practice for Land Development and Subdivision – Wastewater.
- Structural assessment of the pipelines will be required where construction loading, or temporary support is deemed required.
- Works Over approvals will be required for any construction near or over Watercare assets and must be obtained prior to commencement of works.

Ongoing Engagement

Watercare expects to be consulted during the detailed design and construction phase and provided with relevant documentation to assess potential impacts and ensure alignment with our asset protection requirements.

This letter represents Watercare's high-level support in principle for the AF Thomas Park component of the Wairau Flood Resilience Project, to assist Auckland Council's Fast Track referral process. We look forward to continued collaboration to ensure the successful delivery of this critical flood mitigation initiative.

Yours faithfully,



Andrew Deutsche
Head of Wastewater Planning – Strategy and Planning
Watercare Services Limited