



Nicholas Simpson Statement of Qualifications & Relevant Experience

1 INTRODUCTION & QUALIFICATIONS

- 1.1 My name is Nicholas David Simpson. I am the Director of Elevate Planning Ltd, a company of planning consultants, a position that I have held since November 2021. I hold the qualification of Bachelor of Urban Planning (Hons) from the University of Auckland.
- 1.2 I have over nine years of experience in planning and resource management. My experience has included work across the private and public sectors throughout New Zealand encompassing an extensive range of resource management matters, predominantly focusing on the preparing and processing applications for resource consent(s) or consideration of applications under the Fast Track Approvals Act ("FTAA"), alongside providing expert planning evidence on behalf of submitters.
- 1.3 In my current role, I have been engaged by a number of public and private sector clients to provide planning and resource management input in preparing and processing applications for resource consent(s) across New Zealand, with a predominant focus in the Auckland and Canterbury regions. Prior to my current role, I was employed by Auckland Council between December 2016 – August 2021 across a variety of roles with the latter two years in the capacity as Senior Planner / Acting Team Leader. My experience extends across a considerable number of applications either processed on behalf of local government and/or prepared on behalf of private clients, which have involved Council-led hearings; Environment Court assisted mediation; and/or representation as an expert planning witness in the Environment Court.
- 1.4 I am currently contracted to AC's Resource Consents Department and AT's Development Planning Team in a Consultant Planner capacity, where I regularly process applications for resource consent(s) on behalf of either organisation. I have been contracted to AC since January 2022 and AT since May 2022, which has resulted in having processed a significant number of applications for resource consent(s) for both entities.

2 RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- 2.1 I have been involved in the broader redevelopment associated with the redevelopment of the Downtown Car Park (“**DTC**”) as AT’s Consultant Development Planner since pre-application engagement first undertaken in March 2023. I was later engaged to peer review the applications for resource consents on behalf of AT for a broadly similar scheme, albeit with some nuanced changes, compared with the works sought under this FTAA application, which were described by Council as LUC60435285 and BUN60435935 prior to their withdrawal at the Applicant’s request. I had prepared final memos on both applications prior to their withdrawal and resubmission under the FTAA.
- 2.2 Of relevance to this application, I have been involved in an extensive number of large-scale and/or complex mixed-use developments across Auckland, including, but not limited to, the following:
- (a) Waimauku West Fast Track Application: The construction, and use, of between 1,500 – 2,020 dwellings across a range of densities and typologies; a neighbourhood centre; a green network of open spaces for recreation and stormwater purposes; a light industrial precinct; solar farm; infrastructure installation; and any required enabling works. I was, and remain, AT’s Consultant Planner peer reviewing the application under the FTAA for resource consent(s) providing input to AC. My involvement is ongoing;
 - (b) 4-8 Mayoral Drive; 10A Mayoral Drive; & 32 – 42 Wellesley Street West, Auckland Central: The construction, and use, of a 21-storey mixed-used development over the Aotea Train Station, involving the construction of a two-storey basement and public realm upgrades over a three-year construction period. For this application, I was AT’s Consultant Planner peer reviewing the application for resource consent(s) providing input to AC;
 - (c) 510 Ellerslie-Panmure Highway, Mount Wellington: For the construction, and use, of a comprehensively master planned development comprised of a four-storey mixed use supermarket; retail; and residential building, accommodating 124 apartments; alongside a number of other associated buildings of varying uses; the required enabling works, such as earthworks and remediation of contaminated soils; alongside an associated 12 Lot subdivision around approved development and for the vesting of several parcels of land for roads. For this application, I was AC’s processing planner; &

- (d) 666A Great South Road, Penrose: To construct, and use, of a new 13 storey mixed-use building accommodating a 103-bedroom hotel; offices; retail; and 155 apartments, alongside the construction of supporting piles within a stream bed, being a modified watercourse. For this application, I was AC's processing planner

3 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 3.1 I confirm that I have read the Code of Conduct for expert witnesses contained in the Environment Court of New Zealand Practice Note 2023 and that I have complied with it when preparing my evidence. Other than when I state I am relying on the advice of another person, this evidence is entirely within my area of expertise. I have not omitted to consider material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions that I express.