

# HELP

# SHAPE

# THE FUTURE

We all have a stake in the way councils provide for people to live, work and play.

Environment Waikato is strongly encouraging people to have their say in the way we plan for the future of the Hamilton, Waipa, Waikato sub-region.

The council has prepared a change to the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) that will provide specific guidance on land use patterns and the limits of urban growth around Hamilton. This change is now open for submissions.

The proposed change aims to give weight to Future Proof, an integrated growth management strategy involving Hamilton, Waipa, Waikato and Environment Waikato councils, together with tangata whenua and the New Zealand Transport Agency.

Hamilton city, Waipa district and Waikato district are currently experiencing strong growth pressures. The population of this sub-region is expected to nearly double over the next 50 years, from 223,000 people to 437,000 people. The increasing population will be accompanied by additional housing, industry, commerce and services. Infrastructure will need to expand to support the additional population.

Uncontrolled and ad hoc growth can have a range of unwanted impacts on communities and on the environment. Future Proof recognises that well managed growth can enhance the community's ability to live, work and play in their local area.

The aim of the strategy is to manage growth smartly and it includes an implementation action plan. A number of planned actions require the RPS be changed.

**The aims of the proposed RPS changes include:**

1. helping define urban limits to protect our versatile and productive soils
2. providing sustainable transport
3. protecting our environment, water bodies and biodiversity from the effects of development
4. providing guidance on how city and district councils plan for development
5. providing policies to control where and when residential and industrial development will occur
6. outlining principles to guide the way such development happens
7. setting out requirements for the way transport infrastructure and development are coordinated.

Turn the page for details on how to find out more about the proposed RPS change and how to make a submission on it.



# Have your say!

## Waikato Regional Policy Statement – Proposed Change No.2 – FUTURE PROOF

In accordance with clause 5 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Waikato Regional Council hereby publicly notifies Waikato Regional Policy Statement – Proposed Change No.2 – FUTURE PROOF.

**Change No. 2 (Future Proof)** has been prepared to provide policies and methods to implement the Future Proof growth strategy. The Future Proof Growth Strategy was developed by Environment Waikato, Hamilton City Council, Waikato and Waipa District Councils and tangata whenua, in association with the New Zealand Transport Agency, to manage growth in the Future Proof sub-region. It provides a long term settlement pattern, allocations for residential and industrial land, and principles to guide development decisions. You can read more about the strategy at [www.futureproof.org.nz](http://www.futureproof.org.nz).

Submissions must be received by **5pm on Friday, 11 December 2009**. Submissions should be lodged in accordance with Form 5 of the Resource Management (Forms, Fees, and Procedure) Regulations 2003 or use the submission form provided in the document. Submissions should be forwarded to the Chief Executive, Waikato Regional Council, 401 Grey Street (PO Box 4010), Hamilton East 3247, or faxed to (07) 856 0551.

Any person may make a submission to this Change. The council will prepare a summary of all decisions requested and will give public notice inviting further submissions. The council will then hold a hearing into submissions and further submissions. The council will give at least 10 working days notice of the dates, times and place of the hearings to every person who makes a submission or further submission and who requested to be heard.

The documents can be inspected at Environment Waikato's offices in Hamilton (401 Grey Street), Paeroa (13 Opatito Road), Taupo (cnr Titiraupenga and Paora Hapi streets) and Whitianga (33-35 Albert Street).

The documents can also be inspected at your local city or district council or major libraries within the Waikato region.

You can also download the Change for free from our website [www.ew.govt.nz](http://www.ew.govt.nz) or request a copy by calling Environment Waikato's freephone 0800 800 401.

For further information on **Waikato Regional Policy Statement – Proposed Change No.2 – FUTURE PROOF** please contact us by email at [policy@ew.govt.nz](mailto:policy@ew.govt.nz) or on Environment Waikato's freephone 0800 800 401.

**BF Laing**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

