

Lynne Baines

Greetings to **committee members, councillors**. My submission is that I object to the indiscriminate removal of mature trees along the Pinehaven stream. I do not believe proper investigation has been done in many aspects of the proposed plan. This plan shows the complete removal of a very valuable, safe and vital **green corridor** the native species of birds use as they return to urban living in this area.

The bird count that was done was incorrectly planned so the data gathered is very biased and completely erroneous. It was done in March in Willow Park, Kereru do not feed on Willow in March and that is all there is in Willow park. Kereru only eat willow in spring - the new growth - a count further along the stream in spring would be more accurate of the native population that relies on this area.

There are 4 mature kowhai trees on the stream area just by our place alone as well as various other species of trees that tuis, wax eyes, fantails, bell birds and kereru feed on and use. I have counted 21 tuis in one tree at one time on one day.

The plan carefully allows for the native fish (which the ducks would eat) but not the native birds. This proposed plan with a grass and flax edging will just create a rodent refuge in the long grass worse than we have now. Instead of a green bird corridor it will be a rat corridor.

I would like to point out that Wellington City council wants to protect the native birds by limiting cats and micro chipping them but here the Wellington Regional council plans to eliminate the native birds food source and the protective green corridor that the birds use and thereby eliminating birds from urban areas. This is a a sight, I treasure as having come from Wanganui I only saw a few Kereruru in town my 30 years there.

These are native trees which we as rate payers/ citizens are not allowed to remove. However I do not object to the oak trees being taken out.

The problem with flooding appears to have been caused by the culvert sizes from Sunbrae Drive down through the shopping area not back up.

The question is ...are the **existing culverts Under Whitemans Road big enough** to handle increased flow? It looks like this upper area around Dellar grove etc will be used as a holding lake and that is a whole different scenario.

There has been no maintenance along this stream removing debris etc in the past or now. The mapped flooded areas are based on previous floods and that may not have happened if maintenance had been done and had there had not been a private logging dam burst above Elmslie street sending a huge wave down the creek.

As I like to look for solutions, my idea is to build the holding pond by creating stop banks in the Pinehaven reserve with flood gates to limit the water volume down the stream time just like they have Feilding. This area was put aside specifically for a holding area.

The stream can cope with what is coming down now but any new development should bypass the Pinehaven stream and go directly into Hulls creek.

Finally and a big PLEASE. I ask for straight retaining type sides to the creek to maintain the green corridor and also to have occasional maintenance done to remove dead trees and other debris that could block the creek at the division past the church.

Thank you for listening.

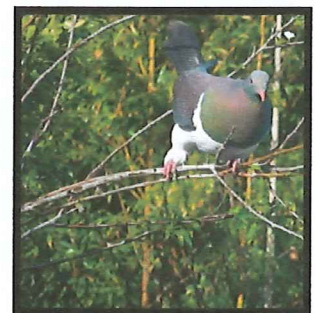
Submission re Pinehaven Floodplain.

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The Green
Corridor that is
proposed for
removal.



The birds will be sad if this food source was removed.

Pinehaven Stream Floodplain Proposed Flood Management Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of my submission on this plan.

There are four main areas of concern I have with this plan.

1: Sewerage main at the rear of 24 Blue Mountains Road

There is no evidence in the plan for the consideration of this main that would be affected should the widening of the stream banks go ahead. This neglect could lead to an ecological incident during construction as there is no surface indication of its existence. In my twenty years in Civil Engineering I have seen this and worse happen in construction areas. Just look at the fuel pipeline incident. North of Auckland.

There has been no change to indicate this issue is being addressed

2: Proof of River flow Data

The plan does not state what the flow rates for the 1% AEP or the 4% AEP and whether the culverts under Whiteman's Road, or even Hulls Creek itself, have the capacity to cope with either of these incidents. There is also no indication of what the inflow from the Heretaunga area and Chatswood Road area into Hulls Creek will have on the outflow from the Pinehaven Stream.

Is there any actual data on the flood flow volumes or are the numbers picked out of the thin air

Informally a value of 6 cumecs was given to me as the 1% AEP flow rate however an independent survey indicates the flood effect shown in the plan would require a flow of 15 cumecs. Why the difference? I am sure that the combined culverts under Whiteman's Road would not be capable of handling this volume of water.

It is of interest to note that during the 2009 flooding that occurred in the Sunbrae drive area coincided with high tide and backup in the Hutt River. Half an hour after high tide the flood waters had disappeared. This indicates that flooding is influenced more by external events than rainfall runoff in and out of the Pinehaven catchment.

Are the works in the area south west of Sunbrae Drive Bridge designed to create a Flood lake in this area? It appears so.

It appears that properties in the bottom of the valley between Pinehaven Road and Sunbrae drive are to be sacrificed for the benefit of others

3: Property security

I have concerns for security of properties in the area bounded by Sunbrae Drive, Blue Mountains road, Dellar Grove, that back onto Pinehaven Stream. The plan to batter the banks back at approx 5 to 1 ratio provides easy access to private property from the stream area. Adequate security fencing will need to be placed at either end of this area. This is not shown in the plan. In fact plan drawings indicate this would be a public thoroughfare.

4: Future Development

The proposal to construct residential development on the Pinehaven Spur and on the tops of the south western hills surrounding Pinehaven. will increase the immediate runoff in this area, and could be as high as 3 times the existing volumes. If this development is allowed to go ahead then storm water runoff **MUST** be piped directly into the Hutt River. And not be allowed to enter the Pinehaven catchment.

The audit report has unequivocally stated that any development in this area will adversely affect water flows in the valley So our properties that lie on the valley floor are to become the sacrificial lamb for a needless white elephant development. If this development is allowed to go ahead any and all stormwater and flood runoff must be channelled away from the valley and directly into the Hutt River This needs to be clearly stated and available to the public so that all parties in this development can be held legally accountable.

Summary

I am not against a flood management plan per se, but the plan presented does not address the real issues but appears to hide facts that are pertinent to the protection of the area.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that a major contribution to the 1976 flood was an illegal earth dam on Guilford land which burst and allowed a large quantity of muddy lake water to wash down the valley. I have since been told by a resident of the valley the dam was created by waste from timber milling which collapsed and resulted in a wall of muddy water to cascade down the valley.

I urge this committee to throw out this document and request the council to seek an unbiased independent review of the entire process including data and that if the Pinehaven hills development is allowed to proceed that NO stormwater is allowed to enter the Pinehaven / Silver stream ecosystem.

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