

# Calm Alarmist Law Madness

Adaptation Zones could cost YOUR home!

Dear Chair, Councillor, and Board Members

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of CALM, a local grassroots group consisting of residents and business owners.

As spokesperson, I would like to provide feedback from the residents on the CAP process following our CALM Community Meeting on 19th March. We had an excellent turnout with standing room only, followed by overwhelming support which has given CALM a large amount of traction.

Kapiti residents were completely blindsided by issues on several fronts. Namely basing a scenario on extreme modelling which would lead to an unrecoverable loss of property values, insurance premiums beyond the means of most home and business owners, and the very real potential for the cancellation of policies altogether.

And, in addition, a district-wide placement of hazard notices with reference to Jacob's on all Kapiti ratepayers' LIMs WITHOUT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION.

It's also concerning to CALM that to date the Recommendations to KCDC are incomplete and missing the essential economic analysis and threshold triggers and signals. This is a crucial component since the cost factor will highly likely be astronomical to ratepayers.

It would appear to CALM and the community at large that this issue needs much more public discussion as many residents are only now learning of the work of CAP and its serious implications on their properties and businesses.

The recent council statement withdrawing the extreme model RCP8.5H+ is a red herring. The reality is that their continued use of SSP8.5 results in the same level of extreme outcomes. CALM wants SSP/RCP 8.5 removed, considering it is extremely controversial and many experts locally and overseas deem it as implausible.

Katharine Moody, a senior tutor of Humanities and Social Sciences at Massey, summed it up well when she said, "the most recent IPCC report concludes 'in the real world of 'business as usual' these projections have a very high level of uncertainty and a very low probability of occurrence over the next 100 years (which is the maximum planning time frame required by NZ Coastal Policy Statement law). The use of the IPCC's mid-range emission scenario SSP/RCP4.5 and under, with a greater than 66% probability of occurrence should become the regulatory standard upon which all regulatory rules are written, and decisions are made".

CALM also concurs with the views of Sean Rush (a barrister with a Masters in Climate Change Science & Policy & local property owner) that 'the best available science still seems to be to use the tide gauge network'. Sean also strongly believes the SeaRise study should not be relied upon as a foundation for coastal planning since it has been rejected in its peer review process.

CALM is extremely concerned regarding recent contradictory comments made by CAP members at public Community Board meetings.

A week ago CAP stated that no properties in Kapiti have been identified for managed retreat when on their own Takutai Kapiti website they stated that 100's of homes have been identified for managed retreat from Otaki, Te Horo and PekaPeka.

CAP continues to state insurances won't be affected by the Coastal Adaptation Areas when we know this is already happening.

CAP also stated that they are not interested in using historical climate data for Kapiti.

CAP scientist, Professor Martin Manning, believes searise is more of a risk than earthquakes. He is also quoted as saying in a March 2023 CAP presentation to KCDC that "relocation of people on low lying land needs to start now with identification of priorities and engagement with property owners". He also stated, "developing new land to move onto is becoming more important than protecting existing housing". This is concerning as it shows the process is already predetermined.

In summary, these are just some of the reasons why the CAP process is flawed. The community has lost faith in a costly exercise using extreme and questionable methods which are already adversely affecting the community. Therefore, we would like to urgently request an immediate stop on the CAP process until Central Government have reviewed and clarified their position on future climate planning.

Thank you.

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