

Calm Alarmist Law Madness

Adaptation Zones could cost YOUR home !

PAEKAKARIKI COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING/CAP UPDATE 30TH APRIL 2024

Dear Chair, Councillor, and Board Members

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of CALM, a local advocacy group made up of Kapiti residents and business owners.

For some time now, we have had genuine concerns about the Coastal Adaptation Area process led by the Coastal Advisory Panel.

As we will all be aware at this late stage in the proceedings, the process is fraught with so many holes it has become a farce and can no longer be taken seriously.

The climate science is not based on reality, and the 'community engagement' portion is nowhere near genuine consultation with the residents of Kapiti. The same residents who will bear the harsh consequences of decisions made by apparently misinformed individuals ironically elected by us.

The consultation process recently carried out by Council cannot even be considered a serious attempt at engaging with the community. Numerous residents provided feedback to CALM that they didn't even receive their letter from Council until the popups were all but over. There was no opportunity for working ratepayers to show up as they were held during business hours. At least one of the venues was inappropriate - a noisy swimming pool foyer. And the feedback process was so complicated that even seasoned accountants and economists struggled to understand the information presented to them. The average person with little or no background knowledge on the Takutai Kapiti process would have been at a loss to understand what was going on.

We do however appreciate the efforts of the CAP members who took the time to attend these popups and community Board meetings such as this, who provided honest answers about their own process. Despite the Council's opposition, Don, Kelvin and Martin have consistently fronted up when it would have been far easier to take the route which was strongly advocated by Council staff. For that we thank them on their stance. We do, however, wonder if having members of the Technical Advisory Group present may have been a good idea.

Despite all the rhetoric of the risk of climate change no one seems to be asking how our ratepayers can afford to pay for the hypothetical pathways CAP and Jacobs are tabling in their recent economic analysis for KCDC consideration in June.

The figures are in excess of \$1B (which is a cost of approximately \$40,000 per ratepayer).

The critical point is that if KCDC adopt CAP's recommendations, they will be making Kapiti uneconomical to live in and will instigate the demise of our valued tūrangawaewae. Residents struggling with mortgages and rent, and the cost-of-living crisis in general, now face astronomical insurance premiums and the very real potential for insurance being cancelled. This is unfortunately already happening and is harming people.

The Council and CAP are working against the best interests of the whole community on the pretext of protecting it from climate change. This degree of climate alarm is not supported by scientific evidence internationally. Climate catastrophism is clearly progressive politics, shamelessly dressed up as science. The science continues to be nowhere near settled.

The irony is that if CAP used the recommended international sea rise factor of SSP/RCP 4.5 instead of the extreme 8.5 there would be no hazard or cost to our community and we could have saved \$4M on this process and avoided the insurance train crash that is heading our way. We don't build roads, bridges and homes to protect ourselves from 1% probability of risk do we?

The Council is also damaging its own community using ratepayer funds to do so - an excess of \$4m to consultants, scientists and bureaucrats so far and counting, including generating ridiculously voluminous reports to justify their income. It has the appearance of a typical gravy train.

The solution to this fiasco clearly looks like a whole new council and mayor need to be elected in 2025 because what we have now is an undemocratic conglomerate chosen from the ill-advised and largely misinformed to do the unnecessary. We are all aware that the directives come from central government - the Ministry for the Environment - but what if the Kapiti Coast District Council was prepared to take a stand against this for the citizens in their jurisdiction? People just trying to live their lives in peace. The Councillors need to remember when they vote that their only legal requirement is the NZ Coastal Statement Policy, not the Ministry for the Environment guidelines which suggest the RCP8.5 scenario. Guidelines are just that and have no statutory basis.

I would like to close by asking this question to each of the Board members and Council staff present tonight. Is the part you're playing acting as a catalyst for inflicting an unprecedented level of chaos on our beautiful Coast and its inhabitants? **Or are you working for the greater good of our community?**

Thank you for your time.

www.kapiticalm.com

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/kapiticalm>

