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Form 5 - Submission on a change proposed to the District Plan

Plan change number **PC113**

Plan change name **Ruakaka Racecourse**

All correspondence to the Policy Department **Heather McNeal**

Submission must be received by **Friday 26 April 2013**

Full name **Ruak** Ruakaka Parish Residents & Ratepayers Association Inc.

Postal address **PO Box 151, Ruakaka, 0151**



Doc ID

VD RATEPAYE

Submitter no

Telephone no **09 4327268**

Submission no **RR-15**

Email **wjdanield@rka.co.nz**

~~I **can**/could not ******gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission~~

~~I **am** not ******directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission that :~~

- ~~a adversely affects the environment; and~~
- ~~b does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition~~

~~* Delete the entire paragraph if you could not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission~~

~~** Select one~~

The specific provisions of the Plan Change that my submission relates to are

General Submission.
c.f. attached Submission.



I support/oppose/seek amendment to the specific provision listed above. (delete what's not applicable)

My submission is

Lined area for submission text

My reasons are (attach additional pages if required)

Lined area for reasons text

State the decision you wish Council to make to ensure the issues you raise can be dealt with (i.e. give precise details of what you would like included or deleted from the plan)

Lined area for decision text

I wish to be heard in support of my submission

Yes No

If others make a similar submission, I will consider presenting a joint case with them at a hearing.

Yes No

Signature of submitter or authorised agent

A signature is not required if you make your submission by electronic means

[Handwritten signature]

Secretary
Date 24.4.13

Note to person making submission - If you are making a submission to the Environmental Protection Authority, you should use form 16B. If you are a person who could gain an advantage in trade competition through the submission, your right to make a submission may be limited by clause 6 (4) of Part 1 of Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Ruakaka Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association Inc.

PO Box 151, Ruakaka, 0151

22 April 2013

Heather McNeal,
Policy department,
Whangarei District Council,

Dear Heather,

Re: Plan Change PC113 – Ruakaka Racecourse

Our Association generally **supports** Plan Change PC113, although some members of our Committee do have reservations about parts of it. The height and scale of proposed commercial and residential development on the site is contentious.

We believe that the Plan Change could enable the Whangarei Racing Club to achieve its aims to establish a Centre of Equine Excellence at its Ruakaka Racecourse site.

The present Racecourse already provides an 'all-weather' race track which is the envy of most other Racing Clubs – especially during the winter. The area could provide further expanded training facilities for both galloping and trotting horses as well as other equine activities, e.g., Eventing, Pony Club, Dressage, etc. The area could include equine veterinary hospital and research facilities. Racing personnel training requirements (e.g. a Jockey School), together with their associated accommodation needs, could be provided.

The Ruakaka racecourse already provides employment opportunities in our area, which, together with Race Day activities makes a worthwhile economic contribution to Ruakaka. This proposed Plan Change will enhance that economic contribution. In addition, racing at Ruakaka publicises our district throughout New Zealand. It puts us 'on the map' – there is no other local other industry that does so to the same extent.

Should this Plan Change proceed, we are mindful that increased activity (both human and equine) at the Racecourse could lead to some environmental issues. We are especially concerned about the 'pressures' caused by equine activities on the adjacent beach. Strict protocols will need to be established and enforced on the use of the beach for such activities. The adjoining Wildlife and Lake Dune Reserves will need to be fully protected from environmental harm.

We understand that the development of the racecourse land is a very long term project and we support it's progressive 'staging'.



(WJ Daniel)

Secretary