



Lake Rotoiti Community Association Incorporated

Registered Charity CC11386

PDC Mourea RD4 Rotorua

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The Chief Executive Officer
Bay of Plenty Regional Council
5 Quay Street
Whakatane

25th April 2011

Submission to Bay of Plenty Regional Council in respect of the Draft Annual Plan 2011/2012

Lake Rotoiti Community Association, Inc. ("LRCA") is pleased to submit in respect of the BOPRC Draft Annual Plan 2011/2012 and wishes to congratulate Council on the clarity and ease of understanding of the Draft Annual Plan.

Sewerage Reticulation Subsidy for Lakes Rotorua and Rotoiti.

LRCA appreciates the funding that BOPRC is putting forward but has deep concerns in respect of the scheme currently under planning by RDC in respect of Lake Rotoiti from Curtis Road to Tamatea Street, Lake Rotoehu and Lake Rotoma. This scheme, as currently proposed, is indicating that the cost per household will be in the region of \$17,000 to \$18,000. This cost is prohibitive for many of the families living in this area and LRCA requests that BOPRC works very closely with RDC and the Government Agencies involved in funding to ensure that greater subsidies are made available to these households to bring the scheme into an affordable margin.

Rates

LRCA wishes to submit that there should be equity in rating around the Region and requests that the residents in the Rotorua District should not be unfairly treated.

As currently proposed the Rotorua Lakes Targeted Rate places a high burden on the Rotorua district and Lakes residents in the form of a targeted rate for Lakes restoration. However we note that many other comparable activities that occur within other Districts are not targeted. In this regard, we would specifically note the restoration work for the Tauranga and Ohiwa Harbours. In all three instances it is specific Districts receiving the major direct benefits from restoration. LRCA is concerned at the inequity of the funding of such restoration and wishes to see that residents in the Rotorua District are not treated unfairly. In addition to the current situation of targeted rates, LRCA would like to point out that many of the residents of the lakes in the Rotorua area are having to fund the sewerage schemes that are being installed around their specific lakes.

LRCA acknowledges that the rivers and drainage schemes are appropriately funded on a targeted rate basis as all of these schemes directly benefit the landowners adjacent to such schemes.

LRCA has considerable concern in respect of the farming rate again being set at zero. BOPRC has, in the past, promised an equitable rate reflecting a fair contribution from farming. LRCA believes that this inequality places an unfair burden on residential ratepayers in the Rotorua District and requests that BOPRC works urgently to rectify this inequality.

LRCA is concerned that BOPRC is moving more towards direct rating and placing less reliance on their investments for funding projects throughout the region.

LRCA wishes to be heard in respect of this submission.

Hilary Prior
Chair
Lake Rotoiti Community Association

(delivered by email and to BOPRC Offices in Rotorua)