

Designations

Ngā Tautapatanga



What is a Designation?

A designation is a planning tool that allows approved public authorities to use land for important public works or infrastructure, either now or in the future.

They are commonly applied to:

- roads and transport corridors.
- schools and education facilities.
- electricity, telecommunications, and network utilities.
- emergency services and other public infrastructure.

Once land is designated, the requiring authority can carry out works for that purpose without needing to comply with the usual District Plan land-use rules.

A designation also provides that:

- works within the scope of the designation do not require resource consent.
- any works outside the scope of the designation still require resource consent.

What does the Proposed District Plan – Decisions Version (PDP-DV) do?

As part of the District Plan review, all requiring authorities with existing designations in the current Plan were asked to confirm whether they wanted those designations:

- Rolled over unchanged.
- Rolled over with modifications; or
- Removed.

Those designations were then notified as part of the Proposed District Plan in July 2022 which provided the community with an opportunity to make submissions on them.

The Hearings Panel has made recommendations on designations which the council adopted on the 11 June 2026.

On 30 June 2026, each requiring authority was notified of the recommendations, alongside the Proposed District Plan decisions on submissions. Each requiring authority is asked to confirm whether it accepts those recommendations by 12 August 2026.

Where a designation has simply been rolled over from the Operative Plan with no changes, and no submissions were received, no formal decision is required.

What's changed from the Operative District Plan (ODP) Designations?

The large majority of designations were rolled over from the ODP with only minor amendments to the schedule and mapping of designations held by the following requiring authorities:

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| • Airways Corporation of NZ | • Waka Kotahi |
| • Chorus NZ Limited | • Radio New Zealand |
| • Far North District Council | • Spark NZ Trading Ltd |
| • Kiwirail Holdings Ltd | • Top Energy |
| • Meteorological Service of New Zealand Limited | • Kordia Limited |
| • Minister of Education | • Minister of Corrections |
| • Minister of Police | • Minister of Court |
| | • Northland Regional Council |

When do I need a Resource Consent?

- When works are carried out outside the designation area.
- When works are carried out beyond the conditions attached to the designation.