

BEFORE INDEPENDENT HEARING COMMISSIONERS

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of an application to Hamilton City Council for
subdivision and land use consent for the
Amberfield development by Weston Lea Ltd

STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF JUSTINE YOUNG

8 May 2019

**Additional text following presentation shown as track changes,
in response to a request by Chair Bill Wasley**

Introduction

- 1 My full name is Justine Young. I have lived in Riverlea for eight years, and have a longer connection with the area from visiting and swimming in the Waikato river since 1999. I am presenting this evidence as a resident and member of Riverlea Environment Society. To support some of my statements, I note that I have the following qualifications and experience set out below.
- 2 I hold a BSc from Massey University and a MSc in Resource Management from Lincoln and Canterbury Universities. I have 23 years' experience working for local, regional and national government in resource management planning and policy advisor roles. I led the policy development team for the Waikato Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project, up until finalising the Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1 - Waikato and Waipa River catchments (PC1).
- 3 My direct involvement in this process began when I made a submission on the proposal in September 2018. I have reviewed some of the submissions lodged with Hamilton City Council (HCC) and evidence before the Independent Hearing Commissioners, in particular the evidence prepared on behalf of the Riverlea Environment Society, the applicants planner Mr David Sergeant, and parts of the s42A Officers Report.

Evidence

- 4 In summary, the relief I sought in my submission was to either decline the application, or to grant it if the adverse effects could be adequately dealt with.
- 5 I acknowledge the changes offered on behalf of Weston lea Ltd, but I do not believe these are adequate. In my view, the Commissioners have the chance to make the critical decisions now for the long term health and wellbeing of the Waikato River and all it embodies for generations to come. These decisions should not be left in the hands of HCC implementers who are trying to follow plans that are developed outside of the consent, such as the environmental management plan.
- 6 I request the Commissioners defer your decision until you can be completely confident that consent conditions are sufficiently robust. By this I mean:
 - a. Ecologist agreement about the location, setback from human activity, and vegetation composition and time to establishment to mitigate effects on the bat population. The consent conditions set out in Mr Sergeant's Evidence in reply of 1 May 2019 that require agreement amongst expert ecologists are conditions under the heading "Ecological Management and Monitoring" 67-70 inclusive, 77 – 81 inclusive and 88 – 89 inclusive.
 - b. Further review of all of the consent conditions set out in Mr Sergeant's Evidence in reply of 1 May 2019. In addition to the conditions listed in paragraph a) above, the particular conditions I believe need to be re-worded

Deleted:

to clarify implementation and compliance are conditions 8, 82, 88, and 90-98 inclusive.

Justine Young
8 May 2019