

SUBMISSION 165

Name (Please use your full name)

Barry and Jeanne Bowden

Postal Address

48 Flux Road

Address for service (If different from above)

No Answer

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I could gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission

No

My submission is that

The roading infrastructure in Mangaroa and Whitemans Valley and State Highway 2 is inadequate for the traffic now, let alone any increase. Increased traffic on the current roads will lead to more accidents, injury and deaths. There will also be more noise and pollution. The production of food is what should be being encouraged in the valley rather than higher density living. This would help now and also towards a more sustainable future for generations to come.

I seek the following decision from the local authority

That the planning and execution of the roading infrastructure in the valley and state highway 2 is completed before any more increase in traffic.

Please indicate whether you wish to be heard in support of your submission (tick appropriate box)

I do wish to be heard in support of my submission.

please indicate whether you wish to make a joint case at the hearing if others make a similar submission (tick appropriate box)

I do not wish to make a joint case.

If your submission is over 500 words, please upload a word document with your submission. Please provide the questions as your headers before each paragraph.

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ehq-production-australia/e03137be6c911e2f9170db8bf48dd812e283b685/original/1700172325/35638a8a6f74e5f6b9f903e5984a2f38_PC50_Rural_17_November_2023_01.docx?1700172325

Please note that your submission (or part of your submission) may be struck out if the authority is satisfied that at least 1 of the following applies to the submission (or part of the submission):

1. It is frivolous or vexatious
2. It discloses no reasonable or relevant case
3. It would be an abuse of the hearing process to allow the submission (or the part) to be taken further
4. It contains offensive language
5. It is supported only by material that purports to be independent expert evidence, but has been prepared by a person who is not independent or who does not have sufficient specialised knowledge or skill to give expert advice on the matter.

No Answer

The roading is something that needs to be planned for now before any high-density developments, instead of leaving it until the volume of traffic increases substantially and a serious accident or accidents occurs.

It is becoming more dangerous to travel on the valley roads and particularly the Mangaroa Hill Road. Already there is an increase in the traffic and the speed limit on the road is 80ks but a safe speed is about 40 to 50ks on the hill road. The road also needs to be widened because people cut the corners, some truck drivers seem to struggle staying on the right side of the road going around the corners. The other roads need to be 50k or 60ks. There are a wide variety of vehicles on the road now apart from cars, there all types of trucks, trucks & trailers, tractors, Bus and SUV and these roads were never designed for a lot of traffic. The roads are also unsafe for cyclists, runners and walkers.

The one-way bridges are also concerning and need to be widened to two lanes throughout the valleys.

On the Mangaroa Valley road and south Whitemans Valley road a truck or two large vehicles coming towards each other cannot pass without one pulling off to the side of the road and this is in an 80k area. The Blue Mountains Road will also have a large increase in traffic.

The camber on Parkes Lines Road is too steep and it gives the feeling that the vehicle will go off the road to left.

The weekend drive through traffic can consist of motor bike and boy racer type cars travelling at high speeds. A lower speed limit may prevent this.

With the Gabites development already underway and the proposed Maymorn to McLaren Street development, a lot of the vehicles are more likely to travel through the valley and onto Mangaroa or Wallceville Hill Road, rather than using State Highway 2 especially in the rush hours, as the traffic is choking up on the highway and on the urban roads in Upper Hutt. If you are working in the Upper Hutt area or south of it you would be more likely to be going through the valley. The proposals for properties to be able to have more than one house will also add to the increase in traffic. If the vehicles from the Whitemans valley end are going north of Upper Hutt they may be more likely to come through the valley. Altogether this will make it extremely noisy and dangerous for the residents of the drive through roads and other users and destroy the rural character.

Entering and exiting our property with the existing traffic has become scary. There have been two large 35km road signs erected on the corner of Flux Road and Alamein Ave after an accident on the corner. Some drivers approach this 35k corner over the centre line and don't seem to slow down much coming down Flux Road from the school end. We thought the problem was with an overhanging hedge but this has been rectified after pointing it out to the contractors. But this and the enlarged signs haven't helped. We can only assume that it's so they can take the corner at a faster speed. Some of the cars coming from the other direction also cut the corner.

When we cut the grass on the road berm one of us has to stand across the road to slow the cars down and to try to keep them on their side of the road.

What would possibly help at the moment is if the speed limit on the road was lowered from 80ks to 60 or 50ks, a yellow line painted in the middle of the road and a mirror on the corner.

We definitely do not want to lose the vegetation as this is our noise filter, wind brake and privacy. Or have street lights or footpaths. These would ruin the rural character.