Submission Form Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw 2018 consultation

Full Name Jane Demeter



I neither oppose nor support the Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw

Your comment(s) on the Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw:

While acknowledging that HDC is required to review the 2011 Freedom Camping Bylaw the current proposal is, in parts, insufficient to deliver needed outcomes.

1. Enforcement.

Current HDC enforcement resources appear to be extremely limited and current HDC planning indicates no additional resources will be allocated. Given that the proposal includes allowing permitted freedom camping for a specified number of vehicles in locations with a toilet, unless there is enforcement those numbers will likely be exceeded as per the experience of many TAs.

Until enforcement officers are funded (or deputized) and scheduled to check compliance with requirements just on dusk the bylaw will fail its objectives

2. Self Contained Certification (CSC).

The requirement of an accessible toilet (New Zealand Standard 5465:2001: Self Containment of Motor Caravans and Caravans. '...and a toilet that is able to be used even when the bed is made-up. ') came into effect only after 31 Jan 2018. Many vehicles have been certified in 2017/18 and met requirements to have an onboard toilet. However that toilet in many cases is inaccessible and unused because in the previous certification wording there was no requirement around accessibility. That certification is valid for 4 years so we now have vehicles with onboard toilets that are inaccessible and unused.

Having recently been traveling around for 7 weeks in a purpose built motorhome I can assure you there are hundreds of these vehicles that have CSC cards and inaccessible toilets. Until that time period expires it seems to me that to merely have certification is insufficient to allow Permitted Freedom Camping in designated areas. Either i. Amend your bylaw to specify the new CSC wording '...and a toilet that is able to be used even when the bed is made-up. 'and resource enforcement across the district.

or

ii. Remove all CSC permitted areas from the proposed bylaw until after 2022

3. Map Colouring

Current maps can be less than clear where status colour is overlaid over an area such as a road reserve. E.g. at the terminal end of Hurunui Mouth Road.

4. Gore Bay designated overnighting spaces.

If proposed CSC permitted areas are endorsed by HDC, the 2 spaces outside the Old School Reserve need to be clearly marked, signposted and must be supported by enforcement. Anything less will likely result in a return to the situation prior to the 2011 bylaw where we would have up to 16 vehicles overnighting. Our own motorhome experience is that there might be a number of designated spaces but up to 3 times that number will pull in and overnight alongside.

Thankyou.

Do you wish to speak in support of your submission? Yes