Wi Neera to Onepoto Shared Pathway & Coastal Resilience Project

Analysis of Relevant Objectives and Policies of the RPS 2013

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
Coastal Environment Objectives and Policies (Chapter 3.2):	
Objective 3 Habitats and features in the coastal environment that have significant indigenous biodiversity values are protected; and Habitats and features in the coastal environment that have recreational, cultural, historical or landscape values that are significant are protected from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.	*The RPS does not identify (by mapping) the habitats and features considered to have significant indigenous biodiversity values. However, the Salt Ecology assessment identifies the seagrass beds within the near-shore area along Titahi Bay Road as having significant indigenous biodiversity values. The proposed coastal resilience works are located to avoid these seagrass beds and the proposed construction methodology is intended to protect the seagrass beds from the adverse effects of sedimentation during and following construction.*
Objective 4 The natural character of the coastal environment is protected from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development.	*The natural character of the coastal edge along Titahi Bay Road and Wi Neera Drive is highly modified as a result of historical reclamation. The proposed saltmarsh wetland areas and the proposed landscape planting will restore elements of natural character and the use of natural rock, gravel and cobble materials will be in keeping with (protect) the natural character of these harbour edges.*
Objective 5 Areas of the coastal environment where natural character has been degraded are restored and rehabilitated.	*The shape and planted form of the proposed saltmarsh wetland areas will restore elements of the natural character of this part of the inner Te Awarua-o-Porirua and will re-create natural habitat.*
Objective 6 The quality of coastal waters is maintained or enhanced to a level that is suitable for the health and vitality of coastal and marine ecosystems.	*The proposed coastal resilience works will not degrade coastal water quality and the construction activities to build the proposed coastal resilience works will be managed to minimise the risk of contamination by sediment mobilisation. Any adverse sedimentation effects during construction are expected to be minor and of short duration, with no long term degradation of coastal water quality or coastal marine ecosystems.*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
Objective 7 The integrity, functioning and resilience of physical and ecological processes in the coastal environment are protected from the adverse effects of inappropriate subdivision, use and development.	*The proposed works will not disrupt the integrity or natural functioning or ecological processes in the coastal environment. Rather, they will enhance the resilience of this part of the harbour edge and protect it from coastal erosion.*
Objective 8 Public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers is enhanced.	*The proposed coastal resilience works will restrict public access to the extent necessary to ensure establishment of the proposed saltmarsh wetland cells (and direct access down the eroding bank is not currently safe or practicable in any event). The proposed beach nourishment alongside Wi Neera Reserve will facilitate safer and more convenient direct access between the reserve and foreshore. The proposed coastal resilience works along Titahi Bay Road will facilitate the future planned shared pathway which will (in future) enhance opportunities for, and the safety and amenity of, public walking and cycling access along the coastal marine area.*
Policy 3: Protecting high natural character in the coastal environment District and regional plans shall include policies, rules and/or methods to protect high natural character in the coastal environment from inappropriate subdivision, development and/or use.	*Policy 3 directs the contents of district and regional plans and is not relevant for this proposal. The relevant provisions of the operative and proposed regional and district plans are discussed separately.*
Policy 5: Maintaining and enhancing coastal water quality for aquatic ecosystem health Regional plans shall include policies and rules to: (a) require, as a minimum, water quality in the coastal marine area to be managed for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing aquatic ecosystem health; and (b) manage coastal water quality for other purposes identified in regional plans.	
Policy 6: Recognising the regional significance of Porirua Harbour (including Pāuatahanui Inlet and Onepoto Arm) District and regional plans with jurisdiction over all or part of the Porirua Harbour catchment area shall include policies, rules and/or methods that: (a) recognise and acknowledge the regional significance of Porirua Harbour (including Pāuatahanui Inlet and Onepoto Arm); and (b) recognise and provide for the maintenance, protection and enhancement of the significant amenity,	*The whole Te Awarua-o-Porirua, including the Onepoto Arm, is recognised as regionally significant in the proposed Natural Resources Plan (discussed separately below).*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
recreational, ecological and cultural values associated with the Porirua Harbour.	
Policy 24: Protecting indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values District and regional plans shall include policies, rules and methods to protect indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.	
Policy 35: Preserving the natural character of the coastal environment – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, particular regard shall be given to preserving the natural character of the coastal environment by: (a) minimising any adverse effects from point source and non-point source discharges, so that aquatic ecosystem health is safeguarded; (b) protecting the values associated with estuaries and bays, beaches and dune systems, including the unique physical processes that occur within and between them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development, so that healthy ecosystems are maintained; (c) maintaining or enhancing amenity – such as, open space and scenic values – and opportunities for recreation and the enjoyment of the coast by the public; (d) minimising any significant adverse effects from use and enjoyment of the coast by the public; (e) safeguarding the life supporting capacity of coastal and marine ecosystems; (f) maintaining or enhancing biodiversity and the functioning of ecosystems; and (g) protecting scientific and geological features from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.	*As already noted in the commentary on the NZCPS, the natural character of the Titahi Bay Road and Wi Neera Drive harbour edges has been highly modified by historical reclamation. There is very little genuinely natural character remaining.* *Construction activities will be managed to avoid or minimise the discharge of sediment and contaminants into coastal water.* *The proposal will re-create saltmarsh wetland and create habitat that has long been absent from this part of the harbour (although it is present in the Pāuatahanui Arm of the harbour), while avoiding adverse effects on the near-shore seagrass beds.* *The proposed saltmarsh and landscape planting will enhance the amenity and landscape values.* *The proposed construction activities will be managed to avoid or minimise risks to, and therefore to safeguard, the life supporting capacity of coastal water and to maintain the seagrass beds.* *The proposed saltmarsh wetlands and the proposed terrestrial landscape planting will enhance local biodiversity. Policy 35 will be achieved.*
Policy 36: Managing effects on natural character in the coastal environment – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, a determination shall be made as to whether an activity may affect natural character in the coastal environment, and in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to: (a) the nature and intensity of the proposed activity including: i. the functional need or operational requirement to locate within the coastal environment ii. the opportunity to mitigate anticipated adverse effects of the activity (b) the degree to which the natural character will be modified, damaged or destroyed including: i. the duration and frequency of any effect, and/or	*The proposal will affect natural character in this part of the coastal environment – by improving it overall. The planted saltmarsh wetlands and terrestrial landscape planting will enhance natural character values. Supplementing the Wi Neera Reserve beach with gravels and cobbles will have a neutral effect on natural character. Installing sections of rock seawall along parts of the Titahi Bay Road harbour edge (replacing the eroding reclaimed bank there) will have a minor or neutral impact on natural character, mitigated as proposed by the terrestrial landscape planting.* *The proposed coastal resilience works are functionally necessary (they can only provide the*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
ii. the magnitude or scale of any effect; iii. the irreversibility of adverse effects on natural character values; iv. whether the activity will lead to cumulative adverse effects on the natural character of the site/area. (c) the resilience of the site or area to change; (d) the opportunities to remedy or mitigate previous damage to the natural character; (e) the existing land uses on the site.	*resilience intended if constructed in the locations proposed).* *The proposal will, overall, improve natural character compared to the highly modified character of this part of the coastal environment. The proposal will contribute to restoring (mitigating and remedying) the loss of natural character caused by historical reclamation and restoring the mana of Te Awarua-o-Porirua.*
Policy 37: Safeguarding life-supporting capacity of coastal ecosystems – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, particular regard shall be given to safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of coastal and marine ecosystems by maintaining or enhancing: (a) any area within the intertidal or subtidal zone that contains unique, rare, distinctive or representative marine life or habitats; (b) areas used by marine mammals as breeding, feeding or haul out sites; (c) habitats in the coastal environment that are important during the vulnerable life stages of indigenous species; (d) habitats, corridors and routes important for preserving the range, abundance, and diversity of indigenous and migratory species; (e) any area that contains indigenous coastal ecosystems and habitats that are particularly vulnerable to modification – such as, estuaries, lagoons, coastal wetlands, dunelands, rocky reef systems and salt marshes; and (f) the integrity, functioning and resilience of physical and ecological processes.	*The proposed works will occupy (reclaim) some areas of foreshore and seabed but will not adversely affect the life-supporting capacity of coastal ecosystems and, in particular:* • *Will not replace or occupy any seagrass bed or any other rare, distinctive or representative marine life or habitats.* *This part of the Onepoto Arm is not known to be used by marine mammals.* *The integrity and capacity of the seagrass beds to support life, including during vulnerable life stages of indigenous marine species, will be protected during and post construction.* *The proposal will not interrupt any known migration routes of indigenous species.* *The vulnerability of this inner harbour location to modification is acknowledged. The proposed works saltmarsh wetlands will enhance ecological diversity. The proposed gravel and cobble beach supplement will use materials compatible with the Onepoto location. The footprint of the rock seawall will largely be confined to the landward side of mean high water springs and, where it extends beyond MHWS, will be of limited extent (and much lesser extent than the historical reclamation).* *The proposed works will not interrupt the functioning or integrity of the physical and ecological processes in this inner harbour location and will enhance the resilience of the area to withstand coastal erosion.*
Policy 38: Identifying the landward extent of the coastal environment – consideration	*This is a direction to regional and district plans.*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
Policy 39: Recognising the benefits from renewable energy and regionally significant infrastructure – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, particular regard shall be given to: (a) the social, economic, cultural and environmental benefits of energy generated from renewable energy resources and/or regionally significant infrastructure; and (b) protecting regionally significant infrastructure from incompatible subdivision, use and development occurring under, over, or adjacent to the infrastructure; and (c) the need for renewable electricity generation facilities to locate where the renewable energy resources exist; and (d) significant wind and marine renewable energy resources within the region.	*Although Titahi Bay Road is identified in the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (as amended following mediation of appeals) as 'regionally significant infrastructure', it is not specified in the RPS definition of 'regionally significant infrastructure'. The proposal will, however, protect a road connection that is acknowledged to be regionally significant infrastructure from coastal erosion, and it is appropriate to recognise this benefit in assessing the merits of the proposal.*
Policy 40: Safeguarding aquatic ecosystem health in water bodies – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan, particular regard shall be given to: (a) requiring that water quality, flows and water levels and aquatic habitats of surface water bodies are managed for the purpose of safeguarding aquatic ecosystem health; (b) requiring, as a minimum, water quality in the coastal marine area to be managed for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing aquatic ecosystem health; and (c) managing water bodies and the water quality of coastal water for other purposes identified in regional plans.	*The RPS does not define 'reclamation'. The only aspect of the proposal that meets the Regional Coastal Plan and PNRP definitions of 'reclamation' is the narrow strip of the base of the fill slope at the landward edge of parts of the proposed saltmarsh wetland cells. These small areas of proposed reclamation are designed to not contaminate water quality long term (for example by releasing sediment). The proposed construction activities will be managed to contain and minimise the risk of, and adverse effects of sediment generated by earthworks. No short term or long term adverse effects on marine aquatic ecosystem health are anticipated. Aquatic ecosystem health will be maintained.*
Policy 41: Minimising the effects of earthworks and vegetation disturbance – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan, particular regard shall be given to controlling earthworks and vegetation disturbance to minimise: (a) erosion; and (b) silt and sediment runoff into water, or onto or into land that may enter water, so that healthy aquatic ecosystems are sustained.	*The proposed construction methodology has been tailored to match the vulnerability of this tidal marine coastal environment. Earthworks will be progressed in small areas (cell by cell) and will be managed to contain sediment and minimise the risk of erosion and sedimentation contaminating coastal water.*
Policy 42: Minimising contamination in stormwater from development – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, the adverse effects of stormwater run-off from	*Stormwater from staged construction will be managed to minimise the potential for sediment-*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
subdivision and development shall be reduced by having particular regard to: (a) limiting the area of new impervious surfaces in the stormwater catchment; (b) using water permeable surfaces to reduce the volume of stormwater leaving a site; (c) restricting zinc or copper roofing materials, or requiring their effects to be mitigated; (d) collecting water from roofs for domestic or garden use while protecting public health; (e) using soakpits for the disposal of stormwater; (f) using roadside swales, filter strips and rain gardens; (g) using constructed wetland treatment areas; (h) using in situ treatment devices; (i) using stormwater attenuation techniques that reduce the velocity and quantity of stormwater discharges; and (j) using educational signs, as conditions on resource consents, that promote the values of water bodies and methods to protect them from the effects of stormwater discharges.	*laden water to discharge into the coastal marine area.*
Policy 47: Managing effects on indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, a determination shall be made as to whether an activity may affect indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and in determining whether the proposed activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to: (a) maintaining connections within, or corridors between, habitats of indigenous flora and fauna, and/or enhancing the connectivity between fragmented indigenous habitats; (b) providing adequate buffering around areas of significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats from other land uses; (c) managing wetlands for the purpose of aquatic ecosystem health; (d) avoiding the cumulative adverse effects of the incremental loss of indigenous ecosystems and habitats; (e) providing seasonal or core habitat for indigenous species; (f) protecting the life supporting capacity of indigenous ecosystems and habitats; (g) remedying or mitigating adverse effects on the indigenous biodiversity values where avoiding adverse effects is not practicably achievable; and (h) the need for a precautionary approach when assessing the potential for adverse effects on indigenous ecosystems and habitats.	*The proposal has the potential to affect the indigenous seagrass bed ecosystems. However, the proposed location of physical works and proposed construction methodology will mitigate and minimise the potential for adverse effects on the life supporting capacity and ecosystem health of the seagrass beds because:* • *Connections between the seagrass beds will be maintained.* *Erosion and sediment control measures will be implemented which contain any potential sedimentation and avoid or minimise the risk of it affecting the seagrass beds.* *The location of the proposed coastal resilience works, and construction methodology are intended to avoid cumulative adverse effects on indigenous ecosystems including the seagrass beds.* *For the above reasons, the life supporting capacity of the seagrass beds will be protected.* *The proposed construction methodology is appropriately precautionary, responding to the vulnerability of the seagrass beds to adverse*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
	effects caused by sedimentation (and this is confirmed by the Salt Ecology assessment).
Policy 51: Minimising the risks and consequences of natural hazards – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review to a district or regional plan, the risk and consequences of natural hazards on people, communities, their property and infrastructure shall be minimised, and/or in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to: (a) the frequency and magnitude of the range of natural hazards that may adversely affect the proposal or development, including residual risk; (b) the potential for climate change and sea level rise to increase the frequency or magnitude of a hazard event; (c) whether the location of the development will foreseeably require hazard mitigation works in the future; (d) the potential for injury or loss of life, social disruption and emergency management and civil defence implications – such as access routes to and from the site; (e) any risks and consequences beyond the development site; (f) the impact of the proposed development on any natural features that act as a buffer, and where development should not interfere with their ability to reduce the risks of natural hazards; (g) avoiding inappropriate subdivision and development in areas at high risk from natural hazards; (h) the potential need for hazard adaptation and mitigation measures in moderate risk areas; and (i) the need to locate habitable floor areas and access routes above the 1:100 year flood level, in identified flood hazard areas.	*The relevant matters listed in Policy 51 have been taken into consideration (including the potential for climate change, changing storm intensity, sea level rise) in the design parameters for the proposed coastal resilience works. An appropriately conservative approach has been adopted to ensure the integrity of regionally significant infrastructure (Titahi Bay Road) is maintained. In particular, the design assumes 1% AEP storm surge increasing to 2.23m for 0.45m of sea level rise, consistent with government guidelines.*
Policy 52: Minimising adverse effects of hazard mitigation measures – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, for hazard mitigation measures, particular regard shall be given to: (a) the need for structural protection works or hard engineering methods; (b) whether non-structural or soft engineering methods are a more appropriate option; (c) avoiding structural protection works or hard engineering methods unless it is necessary to protect existing development or property from unacceptable risk and the works form part of a long-term hazard management strategy that represents the best practicable option for the future;	*The coastal resilience works are necessary to protect the regionally significant Titahi Bay Road infrastructure from continued coastal erosion that is encroaching on the bank supporting the road and which risks compromising the integrity of the road itself if allowed to continue. Resilience works are also required to restore the resilience against erosion of Wi Neera beach. The applicant's preference is to adopt soft engineering measures (the saltmarsh wetland and beach supplement gravel and cobble placement). Adopting a soft engineering approach along the length of Titahi Bay Road would, however, result in the loss of ecologically significant seagrass beds. For that reason, the applicant is proposing short sections of*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
(d) the cumulative effect of isolated structural protection works; and (e) residual risk remaining after mitigation works are in place, so that they reduce and do not increase the risks of natural hazards.	*rock seawall adjacent to the seagrass beds. This is considered to be the only feasible option able to be implemented with minimal footprint and to avoid adversely affecting the seagrass beds. The package of proposed measures is considered to be the best practicable option, responding to the vulnerability of the component areas of the project to future coastal erosion and to the ecological sensitivity of this part of the coastal environment. The cumulative effects of the proposed rock armour seawall will be mitigated by the landscape planting and by the planted saltmarsh wetlands within the view from the harbour towards Titahi Bay Road. The works will provide a long term response to hazard risk, without exacerbating hazard risk for any other infrastructure or land.*
Policy 53: Public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers – consideration When considering an application for a subdivision consent, or a coastal or land use consent on public land, or a change, variation or review of a district plan to address subdivision or rezoning, particular regard shall be given to enhancing public access to, and along: (a) areas of the coastal marine area, and lakes and rivers with: i. places, sites and areas with significant historic heritage values identified in accordance with policy 21; ii. areas of indigenous ecosystems and habitats, and areas with significant indigenous biodiversity values identified in accordance with policy 23; iii. outstanding natural features and landscapes identified in accordance with policy 25; iv. special amenity landscapes identified in accordance with policy 27; v. places, sites and areas with high natural character identified in accordance with policy 36; and (vi) the rivers and lakes identified in Table 15 of Appendix 1; (b) Wellington Harbour and Porirua (Onepoto Arm and Pāuatahanui Inlet) Harbour; Except where there is a need to protect: (c) sensitive indigenous habitats of species; (d) the health or safety of people; (e) sensitive cultural and historic heritage values; and/or (f) the integrity and security of regionally significant infrastructure.	*Public access to and along the foreshore will be restricted only within the proposed saltmarsh wetlands because of the need to prevent disturbance to the plants and soil there. Alternative routes along the foreshore will, though, remain available at low tide. The proposed coastal resilience works will facilitate a future planned shared pathway which will provide a safer and more pleasant walking and cycling pathway along the harbour edge and enable people to enjoy the coastal values without having to walk along the foreshore.*

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
Policy 64: Supporting a whole of catchment approach – non-regulatory Take a whole of catchment approach that recognises the inter-relationship between land and water, and support environmental enhancement initiatives to restore and enhance: (a) coastal features, ecosystems and habitats; (b) aquatic ecosystems and habitats; and (c) indigenous ecosystems and habitats.	*Although the proposed works involve the seaward part only of Takapūwāhia stream catchments, the proposed project will give effect to the restoration imperative of Policy 64 and result in substantial environmental enhancement of this highly modified part of the coastal environment.*
Objectives and Policies Relevant to Resource Management with Tangata Whenua (Chapter 3.10):	
Objective 23 The region's iwi authorities and local authorities work together under Treaty partner principles for the sustainable management of the region's environment for the benefit and wellbeing of the regional community, both now and in the future.	*The applicant has been working with Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira in developing the design for the Project, to ensure Te Rūnanga has full information describing the reason for and implications of the proposed works, is able to influence the design of the proposal and to ensure that the sites and values of significance to the Iwi are identified, recognised and protected, in accordance with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. The Cultural Impact Assessment and letter of support included in Attachment 7 confirm the support of Te Rūnanga for the design proposed.*
Objective 24 The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are taken into account in a systematic way when resource management decisions are made.	
Objective 25 The concept of kaitiakitanga is integrated into the sustainable management of the Wellington region's natural and physical resources.	*The role of Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira as kaitiaki in relation to Te Awarua-o-Porirua has been recognised throughout the design process and assessment of the proposed works. The proposed coastal resilience works will rehabilitate part of the inner Te Awarua-o-Porirua and, in this way, will contribute to restoring the mana and mauri of Te Awarua-o-Porirua. The Cultural Impact Assessment and letter of support included in Attachment 7 confirm the support of Te Rūnanga for the design proposed.*
Objective 26 Mauri is sustained, particularly in relation to coastal and fresh waters.	
Objective 27 Mahinga kai and natural resources used for customary purposes, are maintained and enhanced, and these resources are healthy and accessible to tangata whenua.	*The proposed coastal resilience works will not intrude into the known cockle beds (a source of mahinga kai).*
Objective 28 The cultural relationship of Māori with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga is maintained.	*The proposed coastal resilience works will rehabilitate part of the inner Te Awarua-o-Porirua and, in this way, will contribute to restoring the mana and mauri of Te Awarua-o-Porirua. The Cultural Impact Assessment and letter of support included in Attachment 7 confirm the support of Te Rūnanga for the design proposed.*
Policy 48: Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi – consideration	

REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT 2013	*Commentary:*
When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, particular regard shall be given to: (a) the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi; and (b) Waitangi Tribunal reports and settlement decisions relating to the Wellington region.	*The matters of significance identified in the Ngāti Toa Rangatira Claims Settlement Act 2014 are discussed in Attachment 7 to this assessment. Representatives of Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira have participated in the Project Team, in accordance with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, to ensure that the sites and values of significance to Ngāti Toa Rangatira are identified, recognised and actively protected in the Project design.*

PROPOSED CHANGE NUMBER 1 TO THE REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (AUGUST 2022)	*Commentary:*
Objective A: Integrated management of the region's natural and built FW environments is guided by Te Ao Māori and: (a) incorporates mātauranga Māori; and (b) recognises ki uta ki tai – the holistic nature and interconnectedness of all parts of the natural environment; and (c) protects and enhances mana whenua / tangata whenua values, in particular mahinga kai, and the life-supporting capacity of ecosystems; and (d) recognises the dependence of humans on a healthy natural environment; and (e) recognises the role of both natural and physical resources in providing for the characteristics and qualities of well-functioning *urban environments*; and (f) responds effectively to the current and future pressures of climate change, population growth and development.	*The applicant has consulted with Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira about how to incorporate mātauranga Māori into the proposed activities. In response, the Council has been supplied with a mātauranga Māori calendar that will be added to the construction parameters (alongside tidal exclusion periods).*
Chapter 3.1A Climate Change	
Objective CC.1 FW By 2050, the Wellington Region is a low-emission and climate-resilient region, where *climate change mitigation* and *adaptation* are an integral part of: (a) sustainable air, land, freshwater, and coastal management, (b) well-functioning *urban environments* and *rural areas*, and (c) well-planned infrastructure.	*The proposed coastal resilience works align well with proposed Objective CC.1. The proposed works are intended to strengthen the resilience of a regionally significant infrastructure asset (Titahi Bay Road). The Project will also provide the edge protection works for a future shared pathway that will contribute positively to Porirua City's well-functioning urban environment and to provision of non-fossil-fuel transport options within the City.*

PROPOSED CHANGE NUMBER 1 TO THE REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (AUGUST 2022)	*Commentary:*
Objective CC.3 To support the global goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, net greenhouse gas emissions from transport, agriculture, stationary energy, waste, and industry in the Wellington Region are reduced: (a) By 2030, to contribute to a 50 percent reduction in net greenhouse gas *emissions* from 2019 levels, including a: (i) 35 percent reduction from 2018 levels in land transport-generated greenhouse gas *emissions*, and (ii) 40 percent increase in active travel and public transport mode share from 2018 levels, and (iii) 60 percent reduction in public transport *emissions*, from 2018 levels, and By 2050, to achieve net-zero *emissions*.	*The coastal resilience works will facilitate the future construction of a shared pathway (within the time frames given in proposed Objective CC.3) that will enable increased active (non-vehicle) travel along Titahi Bay Road.*
Objective CC.4 FW *Nature-based solutions* are an integral part of *climate change mitigation* and *adaptation*, improving the health and resilience of people, biodiversity, and the natural environment.	*The proposed coastal resilience works were selected as Council's preferred response to coastal erosion because of the extensive use of nature based solutions (the saltmarsh wetland cells and beach renourishment).*
Objective CC.6 Resource management and adaptation planning increase the resilience of communities and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change.	*The Project is intended to strengthen the resilience of the communities who rely on the Titahi Bay Road transport corridor against the sea level rise and increased storm expected to be associated with climate change.*
Chapter 3.4 Freshwater	
Objective 12 FW Natural and physical resources of the region are managed in a way that prioritises: (a) first, the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems (b) second, the health needs of people (such as drinking water) (c) third, the ability of people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being, now and in the future; and *Te Mana o te Wai* encompasses six principles relating to the roles of tangata whenua and other New Zealanders in the management of freshwater, and these principles inform this RPS and its implementation. The six principles are:	*The minor extent of works (stormwater pipe extensions) that potentially interact with streams at the seaward end of existing stormwater pipes do not raise any issues in terms of Te Mana o te Wai. Importantly, the proposed stormwater pipe extensions will not adversely affect the health or well-being of freshwater bodies or freshwater ecosystems.*

PROPOSED CHANGE NUMBER 1 TO THE REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (AUGUST 2022)	*Commentary:*
(a) Mana whakahaere: the power, authority, and obligations of tangata whenua to make decisions that maintain, protect, and sustain the health and well-being of, and their relationship with, freshwater (b) Kaitiakitanga: the obligation of tangata whenua to preserve, restore, enhance, and sustainably use freshwater for the benefit of present and future generations (c) Manaakitanga: the process by which tangata whenua show respect, generosity, and care for freshwater and for others (d) Governance: the responsibility of those with authority for making decisions about freshwater to do so in a way that prioritises the health and well-being of freshwater now and into the future (e) Stewardship: the obligation of all New Zealanders to manage freshwater in a way that ensures it sustains present and future generations, and (f) Care and respect: the responsibility of all New Zealanders to care for freshwater in providing for the health of the nation.	
Chapter 3.6 Indigenous Ecosystems	
Objective 16 FW Indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant ecosystem functions and services and/or biodiversity values are ~~maintained~~ *protected*, enhanced, and restored to a healthy functioning state.	*The proposed works will, to the extent practicable, avoid important seagrass beds. In the small areas where this cannot be avoided, it is proposed to uplift and transplant the seagrass nearby. The net result will be neutral impact for seagrass beds (the area of seagrass beds will be maintained). Substantive improvement in habitat values will occur where saltmarsh wetland cells are created.*
Objective 16A FW The region's indigenous ecosystems are *maintained*, enhanced, and restored to a healthy functioning state, improving their resilience to increasing environmental pressures, particularly climate change, and giving effect to *Te Rito o te Harakeke*.	
Objective 16B FW Mana whenua / tangata whenua values relating to indigenous biodiversity, particularly taonga species, and the important relationship between indigenous *ecosystem health* and well-being, are given effect to in decision-making, and mana whenua / tangata whenua are supported to exercise their kaitiakitanga for indigenous biodiversity.	*The proposed works will avoid areas of cockle beds that are known to be valued by Ngāti Toa Rangatira. The presence of the cockle beds and potential impact of the proposed works on indigenous foreshore habitats has been discussed with representatives of Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira. Construction activities will be timed to avoid wet tide periods and will be required to mark out seagrass beds, to avoid potentially adverse effects of sedimentation on seagrass beds.*

PROPOSED CHANGE NUMBER 1 TO THE REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT (AUGUST 2022)	*Commentary:*
Chapter 3.9 Natural Hazards	
Objective 19 The risks and consequences to people, communities, ~~their~~ businesses~~es~~, property, ~~and~~ infrastructure and the environment from natural hazards and the effects of climate change ~~effects~~ are ~~reduced~~ *minimised*.	*The proposed works will assist in achieving Objective 19, being explicitly intended to arrest coastal erosion along this length of coastline and to enhance the resilience of Wi Neera Reserve and Titahi Bay Road against coastal erosion.* *The proposed design includes nature-based defences (saltmarsh wetland cells) as the primary response to coastal erosion hazard and will enhance indigenous biodiversity in this part of the inner Harbour.* *The design accounts for sea level rise and intensified storm patterns associated with future climate change.*
Objective 20 FW Natural hazard and *climate change mitigation and adaptation* activities minimise the risks from natural hazards and impacts on *Te Mana o te Wai*, *Te Rito o te Harakeke*, natural processes, indigenous ecosystems and biodiversity.	
Objective 21 The resilience of our ~~C~~communities ~~are more resilient to natural hazards, including the impacts~~ and the natural environment to the short, medium, and long-term effects of climate change~~,~~ and sea level rise is strengthened, and people are better prepared for the consequences of natural hazard events.	
Objective 22 FW Urban development, including housing and infrastructure, is enabled where it demonstrates the characteristics and qualities of well-functioning *urban environments*, which: (a) Are compact and well designed; and (b) Provide for sufficient development capacity to meet the needs of current and future generations; and (c) Improve the overall health, well-being and quality of life of the people of the region; and (d) Prioritise the protection and enhancement of the quality and quantity of freshwater; and (e) Achieve the objectives in this RPS relating to the management of air, land, freshwater, coast, and indigenous biodiversity; and (f) Support the transition to a low-emission and climate-resilient region; and (g) Provide for a variety of homes that meet the needs, in terms of type, price, and location, of different households; and (h) Enable Māori to express their cultural and traditional norms by providing for mana whenua / tangata whenua and their relationship with their culture, land, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga; and (i) Support the competitive operation of land and development markets in ways that improve housing affordability, including enabling intensification; and	*The proposed coastal resilience works will contribute positively to Porirua City's well-functioning urban environment, including by strengthening the resilience of this coastal edge to erosion and by the proposed saltmarsh wetland cells. The proposed works will provide the edge protection for, and therefore facilitate, the future shared pathway that will enable enhanced walking, micro-mobility and cycling opportunities described in clause (k).*

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(j) Provide for commercial and industrial development in appropriate locations, including employment close to where people live; and (k) Are well connected through multi-modal (private vehicles, public transport, walking, micro-mobility and cycling) transport networks that provide for good accessibility for all people between housing, jobs, community services, natural spaces, and open space. ~~A compact well designed and sustainable regional form that has an integrated, safe and responsive transport network and:~~ ~~(a) a viable and vibrant regional central business district in Wellington city;~~ ~~(b) an increased range and diversity of activities in and around the regionally significant centres to maintain vibrancy and vitality ;~~ ~~(c) sufficient industrial based employment locations or capacity to meet the region's needs;~~ ~~(d) development and/or management of the Regional Focus Areas identified in the Wellington Regional Strategy ;~~ ~~(e) urban development in existing urban areas, or when beyond urban areas, development that reinforces the region's existing urban form;~~ ~~(f) strategically planned rural development;~~ ~~(g) a range of housing (including affordable housing);~~ ~~(h) integrated public open spaces;~~ ~~(i) integrated land use and transportation;~~ ~~(j) improved east-west transport linkages;~~ ~~(k) efficiently use existing infrastructure (including transport network infrastructure); and~~ ~~(l) essential social services to meet the region's needs.~~	
Chapter 4.2 Regulatory Policies	
Policy IM.1: Integrated management – ki uta ki tai – consideration FW When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional or district plan particular regard shall be given to: (a) partnering with mana whenua / tangata whenua to provide for mana whenua / tangata whenua involvement in resource management and decision making; and (b) recognising the interconnectedness between air, freshwater, land, *coastal marine areas*, ecosystems and all living things – ki uta ki tai; and	*The applicant has worked closely with Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira in developing the design for the proposed coastal resilience works (and the planned future shared pathway). Representatives of Te Rūnanga have participated in the Project Team, to inform Project understanding of the interconnectedness of resources in this harbour environment, the relationship between natural coastal resources and the built environment, mātauranga Māori, and the context of historical development that has degraded the natural character and quality of this part of Te Awarua-o-Porirua. The proposed works attempt to address*

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(c) recognising the interrelationship between natural resources and the built environments; and (d) making decisions based on the best available information, improvements in technology and science, and mātauranga Māori; and (e) upholding Māori data sovereignty; and (f) requiring Māori data and mātauranga Māori to be interpreted within Te Ao Māori; and (g) recognising that the impacts of activities may extend beyond immediate and directly adjacent area, and beyond organisational or administrative boundaries **Explanation** This policy requires that a holistic, integrated view is taken when making resource management decisions. It also requires both regional and district councils to provide for mana whenua / tangata whenua are actively involved in in resource management and decision making, including the protection of mātauranga Māori and Māori data.	*aspects of historical degradation in enhancing resilience of land and infrastructure assets against coastal erosion.*
Policy IM.2: Equity and inclusiveness – consideration FW When considering an application for a notified resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a regional and district plan particular regard shall be given to achieving the objectives and policy outcomes of this RPS in an equitable and inclusive way, by: (a) avoiding compounding historic grievances with iwi/Māori; and (b) not exacerbating existing inequities, in particular but not limited to, access to public transport, amenities and housing; and (c) not exacerbating environmental issues; and (d) not increasing the burden on future generations. **Explanation** This policy requires that equity and inclusiveness are at the forefront of resource management and decision making to prevent any increase in existing inequities, to ensure intergenerational equity, and to improve the overall wellbeing of people and communities.	*The Cultural Impact Assessment and letter of support contained in Attachment 7 confirm the support of Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira. The proposed works will not compound historic grievances. The proposal will contribute to restoring the mana of Te Awarua-o-Porirua and will improve environmental quality of this historically reclaimed part of the Harbour.*
Policy CC.12: Protect, enhance and restore ecosystems that provide nature-based solutions to climate change – consideration	

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FW When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, a determination shall be made as to whether an activity may adversely affect a *nature-based solution* to climate change and particular regard shall be given to avoiding adverse effects on the *climate change mitigation or adaptation* functions. **Explanation** *Nature-based solutions* are critical components of the region's climate change response. This policy seeks to *protect* the functions that they provide to support *climate change mitigation* and/or mitigation.	*The proposed coastal resilience works incorporate nature-based solutions to the maximum practicable extent, whilst minimising the footprint of coastal marine area occupied.*
Policy CC.14: Climate-resilient urban areas – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, provide for actions and initiatives, particularly the use of *nature-based solutions*, that contribute to climate-resilient urban areas, including: (a) maintaining, enhancing, restoring, and/or creating urban greening at a range of spatial scales to provide urban cooling, including working towards a target of 10 percent *tree canopy cover* at a suburb-scale by 2030, and 30 percent cover by 2050, (b) the application of water sensitive urban design principles to integrate natural water systems into built form and landscapes, to reduce flooding, improve water quality and overall environmental quality, (c) capturing, storing, and recycling water at a community-scale (for example, by requiring rain tanks, and setting targets for urban roof area rainwater collection), (d) *protecting*, enhancing, or restoring natural ecosystems to strengthen the resilience of communities to the impacts of natural hazards and the effects of climate change, (e) providing for efficient use of water and energy in buildings and infrastructure, and (f) buildings and infrastructure that are able to withstand the predicted future temperatures, intensity and duration of rainfall and wind. **Explanation** Climate change, combined with population growth and housing intensification, is increasingly challenging the	*The proposed works are intended to protect, enhance and restore natural ecosystems and to strengthen community resilience to coastal hazards, as intended by clause (d) of the policy.*

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resilience and well-being of urban communities and natural ecosystems, with increasing exposure to natural hazards, and increasing pressure on water supply, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and the health of natural ecosystems. This policy identifies the key attributes required to develop climate-resilience in urban areas and requires district and regional councils to take all opportunities to provide for actions and initiatives, particularly *nature-based solutions*, that will prepare our urban communities for the changes to come.	
Policy 40: ~~Maintaining~~ Protecting and enhancing the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems ~~aquatic ecosystem health in water bodies~~ – consideration FW When considering an application for a regional resource consent, particular regard shall be given to: (a) ~~requiring~~ that water quality, flows and water levels and aquatic habitats of ~~surface~~ water bodies are managed in a way that gives effect to *Te Mana o Te Wai* and protects and enhances the health and well-being of waterbodies and the health and wellbeing of freshwater ecosystems ~~for the purpose of safeguarding aquatic ecosystem health~~; (b) that, ~~requiring~~ as a minimum, water quality in the *coastal marine area* is ~~to be~~ managed in a way that protects and enhances the health and well-being of waterbodies and the health and wellbeing of marine ecosystems.; ~~for the purpose of maintaining or enhancing aquatic ecosystem health; and~~ ~~(c) managing water bodies and the water quality of coastal water for other purposes identified in regional plans.~~ (c) providing for mana whenua / tangata whenua values, including mahinga kai; (d) *maintaining* or enhancing the functioning of ecosystems in the water body; (e) *maintaining* or enhancing the ecological functions of riparian margins; (f) minimising the effect of the proposal on groundwater recharge areas that are connected to surface water bodies; (g) *maintaining* or enhancing the amenity and recreational values of rivers and lakes, including those with significant values listed in Table 15 of Appendix 1;	*Acknowledging that the proposed stormwater pipe extensions will interact with short sections of stream (where these discharge onto the foreshore above mean high water springs), the proposed works will not adversely affect or compound any existing adverse effects associated with piped streams.* *The Salt Ecology assessment contained in Attachment 4A acknowledges the potential for the proposed works to mobilise sediment and makes recommendations, accepted by the applicant, that will minimise the potential for adverse sedimentation effects during and as a result of construction activities and the placement of material. The Salt Ecology assessment concludes that the proposed coastal resilience works will result in a net reduction in the potential for sedimentation in this part of the harbour, by protecting the currently unprotected reclaimed harbour edge and preventing routine erosion that generates sediment currently.* *The proposed saltmarsh wetland cells will enhance biodiversity values, ecological values and environmental quality of the coastal edge interface in this part of the inner Harbour, compared with the current environment.*

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(h) protecting the significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values of rivers and lakes, including those listed in Table 16 of Appendix 1; (i) *maintaining* natural flow regimes required to support aquatic *ecosystem health*; (j) *maintaining* or enhancing space for rivers to undertake their natural processes: (k) *maintaining* fish passage; (l) protecting and reinstating riparian habitat, in particular riparian habitat that is important for fish spawning; (m) ~~discouraging~~ restricting stock access to estuaries rivers, lakes and wetlands; and (n) ~~discouraging~~ avoiding the removal or destruction of indigenous wetland plants in wetlands.	
Explanation Policy 40 provides criteria for considering regional consents to protect the health and wellbeing of waterbodies, particularly during the transition period before regional plans are changed to give effect to the NPS-FM.	*Fish passage will be maintained (no new obstructions to fish passage are proposed).*
~~Clause (a) identifies ecosystem health as a water management purpose for surface water bodies and clause (b) identifies water quality in the coastal marine area is to be managed for the purpose of aquatic ecosystem health. Other water management purposes for water bodies and coastal waters in clause (c) are to be established in regional plans as required by policies 5 and 12.~~ ~~Application for a resource consent refers to all types of resource consent. Policy 40 shall cease to be considered for resource consents processed by the Wellington Regional Council once policy 5 and 12 are given effect to in a regional plan. Policy 40 shall continue to be considered by city and district councils when processing resource consents, notices of requirement and making changes, variations or reviews of district plans.~~ ~~District and city councils could implement this policy by requiring setback distances between buildings and rivers, wetlands and the coastal marine area to protect riparian areas, limiting the amount of impervious surfaces allowed in new developments in some catchments, requiring rooftop rainwater collection for gardens, requiring roadside swales, filter strips and 'rain gardens' for stormwater runoff instead of kerb and channelling, encouraging advanced community sewerage schemes rather than septic tanks in areas where groundwater is vulnerable, and encouraging the treatment of stormwater at source in car parks and industrial yards.~~	*The seagrass plants that have to be removed will be transplanted nearby, so that there is no net loss of seagrass extent in this locality.*

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Policy 42: <u>Effects on freshwater and the *coastal marine area*</u> from urban development – consideration ~~**Minimising contamination in stormwater from development – consideration**~~ FW <u>When considering an application for a resource consent the regional council must give effect to *Te Mana o te Wai* and in doing so must have particular regard to:</u> (a) <u>Adopt an integrated approach, ki uta ki tai, that recognises the interconnectedness of the whole environment to determine the location and form of urban development;</u> (b) <u>Protect and enhance mana whenua /tangata whenua freshwater values, including mahinga kai;</u> (c) <u>Provide for mana whenua/tangata whenua and their relationship with their culture, land, water, wāhi tapu and other taonga;</u> (d) <u>Incorporate the use of *mātauranga Māori* to ensure the effects of urban development are considered appropriately;</u> (e) <u>The effects of use and development of land on water, including the effects on receiving environments (both freshwater and the *coastal marine area*);</u> (f) <u>The target attribute states set for the catchment;</u> (g) <u>Require that the development, including stormwater discharges, earthworks and vegetation clearance meets any limits set in a regional plan;</u> (h) <u>Require that urban development is located and designed and constructed using the principles of Water Sensitive Urban Design;</u> (i) <u>Require that urban development located and designed to minimise the extent and volume of earthworks and to follow, to the extent practicable, existing land contours;</u> (j) <u>Require that urban development is located and designed to protect and enhance gully heads, rivers, lakes, wetlands, springs, riparian margins and estuaries;</u> (k) <u>Require *hydrological controls* to avoid adverse effects of runoff quantity (flows and volumes) and maintain, to the extent practicable, natural stream flows;</u>	*The proposed coastal resilience works represent an integrated approach – by better integrating the coastal marine area with land than the current eroding coastal edges can.* *The proposed works will contribute positively to restoring the mana of Te Awarua-o-Porirua.* *Mātauranga Māori will be incorporated, as relevant and as advised by Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira, into construction of the proposed coastal resilience works.* *Potential adverse effects of construction of and occupation by the proposed coastal resilience works are assessed by Salt Ecology as minor, with potential for improvement over the long term, relative to the rates of erosion from the exposed formerly reclaimed coastal banks.* *The proposed design strikes the right balance between minimising the footprint of coastal marine area occupied and achieving meaningful nature-based resilience. This drives the extent of earthworks and disturbance of land and foreshore required (i.e., it is minimised to the extent practicable for the type of work proposed). Mitigation measures are proposed to minimise the potential for sediment laden stormwater to enter the coastal marine receiving environment.* *It is not practicable to 'daylight' the stormwater pipe ends through this project or to avoid the pipe*

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(l) Require stormwater quality management that will minimise the generation of contaminants, and maximise, to the extent practicable, the removal of contaminants from stormwater; (m) Require riparian buffers for all waterbodies and avoid piping of rivers; (n) Daylighting of rivers, where practicable; (o) Mapping of rivers and wetlands; (p) Efficient end use of water and alternate water supplies for non- potable use; (q) protecting drinking water sources from inappropriate use and development; and (r) applying an integrated management approach to wastewater networks including partnering with mana whenua as kaitiaki and allowance for appropriately designed overflow points where necessary to support growth and consideration of different approaches to wastewater management to resolve overflow. ~~When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district plan, the adverse effects of stormwater run-off from subdivision and development shall be reduced by having particular regard to:~~ ~~(a) limiting the area of new impervious surfaces in the stormwater catchment;~~ ~~(b) using water permeable surfaces to reduce the volume of stormwater leaving a site;~~ ~~(c) restricting zinc or copper roofing materials, or requiring their effects to be mitigated;~~ ~~(d) collecting water from roofs for domestic or garden use while protecting public health;~~ ~~(e) using soakpits for the disposal of stormwater;~~ ~~(f) using roadside swales, filter strips and rain gardens;~~ ~~(g) using constructed wetland treatment areas;~~ ~~(h) using in situ treatment devices;~~ ~~(i) using stormwater attenuation techniques that reduce the velocity and quantity of stormwater discharges; and~~ ~~(j) using educational signs, as conditions on resource consents, that promote the values of water bodies and methods to protect them from the effects of stormwater discharges.~~ **Explanation** The stormwater design and treatment approaches set out in this policy are to reduce adverse effects of subdivision and	*extensions (because of the need to extend and retain the integrity of the stormwater pipes through the re-shaped bank behind the proposed saltmarsh wetland cells and through the proposed sections of seawall), the very short sections of pipe involved and the need to avoid erosion and scour at the pipe discharge points.* *The proposed stormwater pipes will not alter the flow or composition of stormwater carried from the upstream networks.*

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development on the quantity and quality of stormwater. The policy only applies to regional consents. ~~Clauses in the policy are aimed at achieving hydraulic neutrality and aquatic ecosystem health when land is developed. It is important to take an integrated approach to management of the adverse effects of stormwater discharges, particularly on low energy aquatic receiving environments – such as Wellington Harbour, Porirua Harbour, inlets, estuaries, lakes, lowland streams and wetlands.~~	
Policy IE.2: Giving effect to mana whenua / tangata whenua roles and values when managing indigenous biodiversity – consideration FW When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a plan change, variation or review of a district plan for subdivision, use or development, particular regard shall be given to enabling mana whenua / tangata whenua to exercise their role as kaitiaki, including, but not restricted to: (a) providing for mana whenua / tangata whenua values associated with indigenous biodiversity, including giving local effect to *Te Rito o te Harakeke*, (b) incorporating the use of mātauranga Māori in the management and monitoring of indigenous biodiversity; and (c) supporting mana whenua / tangata whenua to access and exercise sustainable customary use of indigenous biodiversity, including for mahinga kai and taonga, in accordance with tikanga. **Explanation** Policy IE.2 requires consideration of enabling mana whenua / tangata whenua to exercise their kaitiakitanga in the region.	*The applicant has worked with Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira, including in the development of the design of the proposed works, the specification of plant species and in understanding mātauranga Māori. The Council will continue to involve Te Rūnanga to ensure the outcomes intended are achieved during construction of the Project.*
Policy 51: *Minimising* the risks and consequences of natural hazards – consideration When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review to a district or regional plan, the risk and consequences of natural hazards on people, communities, their property and infrastructure shall be minimised, and/or in determining whether an activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:	

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(a) the ~~frequency and magnitude~~ likelihood and consequences of the range of natural hazards that may adversely affect the ~~proposal or development~~ subdivision, use or development, including ~~residual risk~~ those that may be exacerbated by climate change and sea level rise~~,~~ ~~(b) the potential for climate change and sea level rise to increase in the frequency or magnitude of a hazard event;~~ (c) whether the location of the subdivision, use or development will foreseeably require hazard mitigation works in the future; (d) the potential for injury or loss of life, social and economic disruption and civil defence emergency management implications – such as access routes to and from the site; (e) whether the subdivision, use or development causes any change in the risk and consequences from natural hazards in areas beyond the application site; (f) *minimising* effects ~~on the impact~~ of the ~~proposed~~ subdivision, use or development on any natural features that may act as a buffer to ~~or~~ reduce the impacts ~~of a~~ from natural hazards ~~event;~~ ~~and where development should not interfere with their ability to reduce the risks of natural hazards;~~ (g) avoiding ~~inappropriate~~ subdivision, use or development and *hazard sensitive activities* where the hazards and risks are assessed as high to extreme; ~~in areas at high risk from natural hazards;~~ (h) appropriate hazard risk management and/or adaptation ~~and/or mitigation~~ measures for subdivision, use or development in areas where the hazards and risks are assessed as low to moderate ~~hazard areas~~, including an assessment of residual risk; and (i) the allowance for floodwater conveyancing in identified overland flow paths and stream corridors; and (j) the need to locate ~~habitable~~ floor ~~areas~~ levels of habitable buildings and buildings used as places of employment above the 1% AEP (1:100 year) flood level, in identified flood hazard areas. **Explanation** Policy 51 aims to minimise the risk and consequences of natural hazards events through sound preparation, investigation and planning prior to development. This policy reflects a need to employ a precautionary, risk-based	*The design of the proposed coastal resilience works expressly respond to the predicted risks of sea level rise and storm intensification associated with climate change and is designed to protect important community and infrastructure assets from the adverse effects of coastal erosion exacerbated by climate change.*

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approach, taking into consideration the likelihood of the hazard and the vulnerability of the development. ~~• Typical natural hazards in the region include, but are not limited to:~~ ~~• Flooding and inundation (river, stormwater, coastal)~~ ~~• Earthquake (groundshaking, amplification, liquefaction, ground displacement)~~ ~~• Coastal hazards (erosion, storm surge, tsunami)~~ ~~• Mass movement (landslip, rockfall)~~ ~~Other site specific hazards may become apparent during the course of an assessment for a proposal or development; however, those above are the most serious hazards to consider.~~ ~~Policy 51 refers to residual risk, which is the risk that remains after protection works are put in place. Stopbanks, seawalls and revetments and other engineered protection works can create a sense of security and encourage further development. In turn, this increases the extent and value of assets that could be damaged if the protection works fail or an extreme event exceeds the structural design parameters.~~ ~~Policy 51(g) will cease to have effect once policy 29 has been given effect to in the relevant district plan.~~ ~~The term areas at high risk refers to those areas potentially affected by natural hazard events that are likely to cause moderate to high levels of damage to the subdivision or development, including the land on which it is situated. It applies to areas that face a credible probability of experiencing significant adverse impacts in a hazard event – such as such as fault rupture zones, beaches that experience cyclical or long term erosion, failure prone hill slopes, or areas that are subject to repeated flooding.~~ ~~Policy 51(i) requires that particular regard to be given, in identified flood hazard areas, to the need to locate floor levels above the expected level of a 1 in 100 year flood or 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP), to minimise damages. It also recognises that access routes should be located above this level, to allow evacuation or emergency services access to and from a site. The clause uses the 1% annual exceedance probability as a minimum standard, allowing for the possibility that it may need to be higher in certain areas, depending on the level of risk.~~ ~~To promote more resilient communities that are better prepared for natural hazards, including climate change impacts, there is a need to support the Civil Defence Emergency Management principles of hazards and/or risk reduction, readiness, response and recovery.~~	

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~~Reduction is concerned with minimising the adverse impacts from natural hazards through sound planning and management. Readiness is about preparing for hazard events before they occur and involves local authorities, civil defence emergency management and the community. An important way to achieve this is through public education and by providing information and advice in order to raise awareness of natural hazard issues. Response and recovery are the important functions carried out by local authorities and civil defence emergency management during and after a civil defence emergency.~~ ~~The policy recognises the need to involve the community in preparing for natural hazards. If people are prepared and able to cope, the impacts from a natural hazard event are effectively reduced.~~	
Policy 52: Minimising adverse effects of hazard mitigation measures – consideration FW When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, for hazard mitigation measures, particular regard shall be given to: ~~(a) the need for structural protection works or hard engineering methods;~~ (b) whether non-structural, soft engineering, *green infrastructure*, room for the river or Mātauranga Māori options provide a more appropriate or suitably innovative solution; (c) avoiding structural protection works or hard engineering methods unless it is necessary to protect existing development, *regionally significant infrastructure* or property from unacceptable risk and the works form part of a long-term hazard management strategy that represents the best practicable option for the future; (d) the long-term viability of maintaining the structural protection works with particular regard to how climate change may increase the risk over time; (e) adverse effects on *Te Mana o te Wai*, mahinga kai, *Te Rito o te Harakeke*, natural processes, or the local indigenous ecosystem and biodiversity; (f) sites of significance to mana/tangata whenua identified in a planning document recognised by an iwi authority and lodged with a local authority or scheduled in a city, district or regional plan; (g) a no more than minor increase in risk to nearby areas as a result of changes to natural processes from the hazard mitigation works;	*The applicant has selected a design that is based, to the extent reasonably practicable, on a nature-based solution to respond to the risks of coastal erosion. Titahi Bay Road is defined as regionally significant infrastructure. Hard protection structures are included only to the extent that is necessary to avoid occupying areas of important seagrass beds. The mix of nature-based and hard protection structures is considered to be the best practicable option for the circumstances of this Project area.* *The significance of the entire Te Awarua-o-Porirua, and its surrounding catchment, are acknowledged by the applicant. Hence the involvement of representatives of Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira in the Project Team to develop a design that responds appropriately to the particular site conditions and avoids the damage caused by historic harbour reclamation.*

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(h) the cumulative effect of isolated structural protection works; (i) any residual risk remaining after mitigation works are in place, so that they *minimise* ~~reduce and do not increase~~ the risks from ~~of~~ natural hazards. **Explanation** Policy 52 recognises that the effects of hard protection structures can have adverse effects on the environment, increase the risks from natural hazards over time and transfer the risks to nearby areas. It provides direction to consider lower impact methods of hazard mitigation such as non-structural, soft engineering, *green infrastructure*, room for the river or Mātauranga Māori options, that may be more appropriate providing they can suitably mitigate the hazard. ~~Objective 19 seeks to reduce the risks and consequences from natural hazards, while Objective 20 aims to ensure activities, including hazard mitigation measures, do not increase the risk and consequences from natural hazards. Policy 52 promotes these objectives.~~ ~~Having established there is a need for protection works, non-structural and soft engineering methods should be the first option for hazard mitigation. Soft engineering methods may include, for example; hazard avoidance or controlled activity zones; setback or buffer distances; managed retreat or land retirement; a 'do nothing' policy; restoration projects for wetlands, dunes or hillslopes prone to flooding, slipping or erosion.~~ ~~Activities such as river bed gravel extraction which may assist in the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards are also a consideration under this policy.~~ ~~Structural measures or hard engineering methods can have significant environmental effects and should be considered as the least desirable option for natural hazard control. Where there is an unacceptable risk to development or property, there may be a place for structural measures or hard engineering methods, if they are part of a long-term hazard management strategy that includes other measures. Policy 51 will need to be considered alongside policy 52(c) when deciding whether a development faces an unacceptable risk or not.~~ ~~The risk that remains after protection works are put in place is known as the residual risk. Stopbanks, seawalls, and revetments and other engineered protection works can create a sense of security and encourage further development. In turn, this increases the extent and value of assets that could be damaged if the protection works fail or an extreme event exceeds the structural design parameters.~~	

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Policy UD.2: Enable Māori cultural and traditional norms – consideration FW When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a plan change of a district plan for use or development, particular regard shall be given the ability to enable Māori to express their culture and traditions in land use and development, by as a minimum providing for mana whenua / tangata whenua and their relationship with their culture, land, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga. **Explanation** Policy UD.2 supports Māori to express their cultural traditions and norms in land use and development. This includes recognising taonga and sites and areas of significance, awa and moana and important places where mana whenua / tangata whenua still practice mātauranga.	*The design process to develop the design for the proposed coastal resilience works and the resulting design recognise and provide for the relationship of Ngāti Toa Rangatira with Te Awarua-o-Porirua.*
Proposed Appendix 1A: Limits to Biodiversity Offsetting and Biodiversity Compensation Proposed Appendix 1A includes a proposed list of indigenous habitats and species for which adverse effects are not able to be 'offset' or 'compensated' under an effects management hierarchy. Appendix 1A lists seagrass as one of the species not able to be 'offset' or 'compensated'.	**Proposed Appendix 1A: Limits to Biodiversity Offsetting and Biodiversity Compensation** There is a small area of seagrass (area 'B1' described in the Salt Ecology Assessment Report (in Attachment 4A) within the footprint of the proposed saltmarsh wetland cells. This is shown on Sheet 3 of the plans in Attachment 1. The applicant proposes to uplift and relocate the seagrass from these areas and replant it within appropriate herbfield nearby. Removal of this seagrass will cause a localised adverse effect which the applicant proposes to remedy by replanting the seagrass nearby. The Salt Ecology Assessment Report (Section 2.2.2 in Attachment 4A) identifies seagrass as providing important habitat value in the coastal marine area. It is not, however, a species listed in Policy 11 (a) of the NZCPS (for which all adverse effects must be *avoided*). Policy 11 (b) of the NZCPS and Policy P38 (b) and (c) of the proposed Natural Resources Plan apply: significant adverse effects must be avoided, and other adverse effects must be avoided (where practicable), remedied or mitigated. The Salt Ecology Assessment Report concludes that no significant adverse effects will result for the local seagrass beds overall. Translocation of the small area of seagrass within the Project footprint will ensure that there is no net loss of seagrass from this part of the Harbour. In this respect, the potential adverse effect of removing the seagrass is *remedied* by

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	transplanting it nearby, and this is a management response available under the relevant policy instruments. No offsetting or compensation is proposed (or necessary). Accordingly, in this respect, the proposal does not raise any issues in terms of proposed Change 1 to the RPS, NZCPS Policy 11 or the proposed Natural Resources Plan.