

Porirua's Proposed District Plan 2020

Submission on Porirua's Proposed District Plan

To - Environment and City Planning Team

Date received 12/10/2020

Submission Reference Number #32

Wishes to be heard? Yes

Is willing to present a joint case? Yes

Could gain an advantage in trade competition in making this submission? No

Directly affected by an effect of the subject matter of the submission? Yes

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Submission points

Point 32.1

Support / Support in part / Oppose

Support in part

Section: LIGHT - Light

Sub-section: Standards

Provision

LIGHT-S5	Sky glow
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Submission

The installation of outdoor lighting should be targetted at 0% as this is still relatively easy to achieve with modern fixtures. Any areas which are unable to achieve 0% upward lighting should either be on a timer to be off between 10pm-7am, or if even that is not achievable or desirable, should be on a motion activated circuit which illuminates on movement (Passive Infra-Red) and illuminates for a maximum of 5 minutes. This better aligns this policy with the goal of not adversely affecting views of the night - sky. Outdoor fixtures should also utilise light sources that do not exceed a colour temperature of 3000K (warm white), which also decreases the impact on sky glow and follows global best practice.

Relief sought

LIGHT-S5	Sky glow
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Neighbourhood	3. Outdoor artificial lighting must not exceed an	Matters of discretion restricted to:
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Centre Zone	<u>upward light ratio of 15%. not project any light above a horizontal plane. Any fittings or applications where this is not achievable should either be operated on a fixed timer circuit where the fixture is not illuminated between 10pm-7am, or should be on a motion-activated circuit which illuminates the fixture for a maximum of 5 minutes upon movement being detected. Fixtures used should not emit light at a colour temperature exceeding 3000K.</u>
Local Centre Zone	
Large Format Retail Zone	
Mixed Use Zone	
City Centre Zone	
General Industrial Zone	
Hospital Zone	
Special Purpose Zone (BRANZ)	

1. The number, placement, design, height, colour, orientation and screening of light fittings and light support structures;
2. Effects on views to the night sky;
3. Effects on visual amenity; and
4. Any positive effects generated from the use of artificial lighting.

Point 32.2

Support / Support in part / Oppose

Support in part

Section: LIGHT - Light
Sub-section: Standards
Provision

Residential Zones	2. Outdoor artificial lighting must not exceed an upward light ratio of 5%.
Open Space and Recreation Zones	
Māori Purpose Zone (Hongoeka)	

Matters of discretion restricted to:

1. The number, placement, design, height, colour, orientation and screening of light fittings and light support structures;
2. Effects on views to the night sky;
3. Effects on visual amenity; and
4. Any positive effects generated from the use of artificial lighting.

Submission

The installation of outdoor lighting should be targetted at 0% as this is still relatively easy to achieve with modern fixtures. Any areas which are unable to achieve 0% upward lighting should either be on a timer to be off between 10pm-7am, or if even that is not achievable or desirable, should be on a motion activated circuit which illuminates on movement (Passive Infra-Red) and illuminates for a maximum of 5 minutes. This better aligns this policy with the goal of not adversely affecting views of the night -

sky. Outdoor fixtures should also utilise light sources that do not exceed a colour temperature of 3000K (warm white), which also decreases the impact on sky glow and follows global best practice.

Relief sought

LIGHT-S5	Sky glow	
Residential Zones	<u>2. Outdoor artificial lighting must not exceed an upward light ratio of 5%.not project any light above a horizontal plane. Any fittings or applications where this is not acheivable should either be operated on a fixed timer circuit where the fixture is not illuminated between 10pm-7am, or should be on a motion-activated circuit which illuminates the fixture for a maximum of 5 minutes upon movement being detected. Fixtures used should not emit light at a colour temperature exceeding 3000K.</u>	Matters of discretion restricted to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number, placement, design, height, colour, orientation and screening of light fittings and light support structures; 2. Effects on views to the night sky; 3. Effects on visual amenity; and 4. Any positive effects generated from the use of artificial lighting.
Open Space and Recreation Zones		
Maori Purpose Zone (Hongoeka)		

Point 32.3

Support / Support in part / Oppose

Support in part

Section: LIGHT - Light

Sub-section: Standards

Provision

LIGHT-S5	Sky glow	
General Rural Zone	1. Outdoor artificial lighting must not exceed an upward light ratio of 3%.	Matters of discretion restricted to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number, placement, design, height, colour, orientation and screening of light fittings and light support structures; 2. Effects on views to the night sky; 3. Effects on visual amenity; and 4. Any positive effects generated from the use of artificial lighting.
Rural Lifestyle Zone		
Settlement Zone		
Future Urban Zone		

Submission

The installation of outdoor lighting should be targetted at 0% as this is still relatively easy to achieve with modern fixtures. Any areas which are unable to achieve 0% upward lighting should either be on a timer to be off between 10pm-7am, or if even that is not achievable or desirable, should be on a motion activated circuit which illuminates on movement (Passive Infra-Red) and illuminates for a maximum of 5 minutes. This better aligns this policy with the goal of not adversely affecting views of the night - sky. Outdoor fixtures should also utilise light sources that do not exceed a colour temperature of 3000K (warm white), which also decreases the impact on sky glow and follows global best practice.

Relief sought

LIGHT-S5	Sky glow
General Rural Zone	<p>1. Outdoor artificial lighting must not exceed an upward light ratio of 3%. <u>not project any light above a horizontal plane. Any fittings or applications where this is not achievable should either be operated on a fixed timer circuit where the fixture is not illuminated between 10pm-7am, or should be on a motion-activated circuit which illuminates the fixture for a maximum of 5 minutes upon movement being detected. Fixtures used should not emit light at a colour temperature exceeding 3000K.</u></p>
Rural Lifestyle Zone	
Settlement Zone	
Future Urban Zone	

Matters of discretion restricted to:

1. The number, placement, design, height, colour, orientation and screening of light fittings and light support structures;
2. Effects on views to the night sky;
3. Effects on visual amenity; and
4. Any positive effects generated from the use of artificial lighting.

Point 32.4

Support / Support in part / Oppose

Support in part

Section: LIGHT - Light

Sub-section: General

Provision

General

Submission

Less than 100 years ago, everyone could look up and see a spectacular starry night sky. Now, millions of children across the globe will never experience the Milky Way where they live. The increased and widespread use of artificial light at night is not only impairing our view of the universe, it is adversely affecting our [environment](#), our [safety](#), our [energy consumption](#) and our [health](#).

For three billion years, life on Earth existed in a rhythm of light and dark that was created solely by the illumination of the Sun, Moon and stars. Now, artificial lights overpower the darkness and our cities glow at night, disrupting the natural day-night pattern and shifting the delicate balance of our environment. The negative effects of the loss of this inspirational natural resource might seem intangible. But a growing body of evidence links the brightening night sky directly to measurable negative impacts including

- [Increasing energy consumption](#)
- [Disrupting the ecosystem and wildlife](#)
- [Harming human health](#)
- [Affecting crime and safety](#)

The Maramataka (Maori Lunar Calendar), Matariki, celestial lore, and Maori culture have an intimate connection with the night sky. A connection which is being slowly torn apart, literally before our eyes.

56% of New Zealanders can no longer see the Milky Way, we have an opportunity to act now to protect our natural heritage.

Let's not add the residents of Porirua to that total.

Relief sought

I would like to see the council implement a higher standard of compliance for both upward projected lighting, and the colour temperature of outdoor lighting. This will not only bring the policy closer to global best practice, but also to National best practice, as is being implemented by a growing number of Wairarapa Councils.

PCC has an opportunity to show others how it should be done through changes which are simple, and easy to navigate, without compromising development, growth or opportunity.

Please see my specific submissions on the LIGHT-S5 and LIGHT general policy.