## **Landowners & Contractors Association**

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Auckland Council's Long Term Plan 2024-2034

Submission from the Landowners & Contractors Assoc Inc.

## Issues:

**Central Proposal** --- we support the central proposal over the other options. We agree that Council spending should be where it is needed most and not forgetting Rural Auckland.

**Rural/Urban Divide** --- the consultation documentation is too urban centric. Rural ratepayers cannot get a fair hearing. The 'big' issues and 'big' expenses are all city based --- CRL, wastewater, stormwater, public transport, investment and spending.

**Transport** — reviewing and maintaining the existing transport infrastructure is the 4<sup>th</sup> priority on the list. To fit the principles of the 'Central Proposal' this should be the first priority on the list. We demand a greater spend on rural roads. The rate take from rural Auckland should be spent on services rural communities can access.

Investment and Spend --- we say yes to cost reduction targets.

Rates --- Rates increases be kept in line with inflation, no higher.

Water --- all the options seem to be urban based.

**Council Support** - we say yes to consolidation, reducing duplication and reducing Council's operating costs. This should be a given with no need for consultation.

Rodney Local Board - we fully support increased funding for roading maintenance and renewals including the \$124m earmarked for URIP. This spend should be front loaded and not deferred.

Concluding comments - we just want a fair share of Council spending in rural areas. We support any initiatives to using local community contractors and service providers. There needs to be a focus on accountability among Council staff and Council contractors.

Residents in rural Auckland now feel captured by a bureaucratic juggernaut which serves itself rather than the ratepayers