

# RUSSELL PROTECTION SOCIETY (INC)

P O Box 154  
Russell, Bay of Islands

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[ablanshard@doc.govt.nz](mailto:ablanshard@doc.govt.nz)  
Department of Conservation  
Whangarei

Dear Sir/Madam

## Submission on Draft Maiki Hill (Flagstaff Hill), Russell Vegetation Management Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above plan. The Russell Protection Society (RPS) has a direct interest in this matter because we promote the wise and sustainable development of historic Russell. Our Committee has considered the Plan and wishes to endorse the major policies and proposals contained within it.

In particular, we support the conclusion that it would be inappropriate to strip the vegetation from Maiki Hill. Instead, the judicious removal of exotic species and certain tall trees, the thinning of such species as pohutukawa and the planting of lower-lying shrubs should provide for a pleasing landscape while enhancing view corridors and screening surrounding urban development. We suggest that such work is carried out under the supervision of a competent arborist.

Our main interest is with the next stage of the project whereby the archaeology and history of the site is interpreted for the public to enjoy. Interpretative development can either enhance or detract from this iconic site, depending on how it is planned and implemented. For this reason we believe that it is vitally important that an independent interpretation expert be employed to oversee this critical next phase of development.

The RPS has access to a range of technical expertise and we are happy to lend this support to the project where possible.

Kind regards



Bob Drey  
Chairperson  
Russell Protection Society

Address for Service: As above

