

**KiwiRail Submission from G & K Woodfield
9a Maple Street, Bunnythorpe**

1: Noise management areas with Associated Planting. - Amended

We wish to edit some amendments as our property is now the priority.

We have two sons on the autism spectrum who suffer with anxiety in differing degrees. We brought this home – it was a small two bedroom – 30 years ago and have built onto for the specific needs of our sons twice in that time. We created a safe space, relaxing, peaceful with a view that helps keeps them relaxed. Ultimately this place can be broken down into two homes where the boys can live without us as parents and have a secured future of somewhere to live that can cater for their needs. Both our kids have extreme sensory issues. This is when the “typical senses” of a person are heightened to huge magnification. Sound is the main focus in this situation with sometimes the smallest external noise can be like someone running their nails down a chalk board. This impacts them in how they cope with life. This is why we have decided to edit this section and agree with the hill. However we feel that our home will still be compromised and that Kiwi Rail should be responsible for making sure our home is as sound proof as possible. Therefore we are asking for our home to be double glazed entirely.

The independent project person who worked on the sound suggested that we need to “just close the windows” and they would provide “some movement of air” to compensate for the windows being closed as double glazing was not going to be an advantage. However we disagree entirely as purpose built double glazing windows, which can reduce sound up to 90%, will give our sons an opportunity to live as stress free from the external noise as possible. We already have one son with severe mental health, we do not need people to ignore their needs. Please also note, our property is two storied and the sound hill will not work for the second story.

We have noted that the walkway will not be at the top of the hill at our spot and we thank you for that decision and ask it is not changed due to the privacy that would be lost.

There has been no clarity of who will take management of the land between our property and the sound hill. As regards to the length of grass etc. We would like it mowed and to factor in hayfever in regards to the types of bushes and trees planted.

The photos provided are of the view we have currently and the photos with the green line across them are ones of where the sound hill is tentatively going. Please note the dramatic change of our view and how close the hill is to our property.

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Figure 1: View from Joel's room



Figure 2: View from TV Room



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Figure 3: Outdoor Living view



2: Buildings & Other activities ancillary to freight hub. - Oppose

We oppose any new buildings not on the plan, to be built parallel to Maple Street. We also are opposed to flipping the plans around so there is more noise in Maple Street e.g. marshaling yards to stay at the furthestmost point. **Thank you for putting the marshaling yards at the far end.**

3: Access Roads and changing to existing road layout – Oppose

Our son's have huge sensory issues. Specifically to noise and lights. Already this Kiwi Hub process potentially puts our family at risk of intense stress.

We oppose use of access from Maple Street beside 9 and 9a Maple Street for site access for both preparation, building and final plan. We are not in favor of Railway road cutting in front of us. In the first plan this was not planned, but appeared in the second plan. We are concerned with the lack of consideration to those of us in Maple Street, as we are officially "not impacted" by the rail hub, but actually we are going to be impacted more due to the potential road changes and other plans.

We are expecting to have to put in purpose built double glazing to help deal with this. NZ Rail has indicated there is no support for this process. As mentioned above, the impact and mental health on our kids is unpredictable as there are many changes and many variables happening, without consultation or talking to us about how we can be supported to make this process as easy as possible.

We are requesting that the paper road next to our property not be used as an access road in any way. The Photo shows it is right on the corner of our property and this would be disasterous.

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Figure 4: Grey fence is our peroperty, which conrnrs the farmland and paper road

We prefer that the reduction of the proposed lower speed limit be 70 km/h as this will reduce sound and vibration.

4: The Marshaling yards including track signals, overhead line equipment and lightening. - Amended

We have a couple of points to note.

We are not against having a Rail Hub, but against its current siting close to Bunnythorpe.

2: There has been no process of evaluation or reviewing this stage by stage. Or even after the event. By this we mean, what happens if our home starts cracking due to the the vibrations. What happens if the noise becomes out of control. What happens with the decisions from NZTA - although they are separate, their decisons impact the hub and those living in the community. What form of re- dress do we have during and after if this goes ahead.

We would like a Memorandum of Understanding or another document written up that protects us as homeowners and guardians of our sons future home, that these issues can be dealt with.

In this section we want to address the lightening. The plans changed from low lightening of which we were informed off, to now high poles. As previously mentioned with Autism, sensory issues are way more actute. Incorrect lighting for someone on the spectrum can cause headaches, migrains, nausea etc. And due to one of our sons inability to communicate what is happening for him, this may lead to behavioural issues.

We therefore request that Kiwirail fund block out curtains throughout our property.

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5: Final comment: It is not appropriate for us, who are going to be massively impacted but as mentioned, NZ Rail have said we fit into the "not impacted" zone; to not be offered compensation.

Kiwirail has informed us “we are not impacted by the Hub”. However our home has been orientated for the views and the calmness of the place for our family and our children’s future home for their needs. This is changing. We have KiwiRail wanting to come within approx 30 metres of our living areas, our outside living areas etc etc. We expect our real value of our home to drop significantly. We have poured our heart and soul into creating a “safe” home for both our sons, with high needs. We actually have no idea if they will cope with the changes at all, which may force us to move. The ramifications of this are huge with the expected loss of property value and reduced ability to purchase what we have set up for them, for their future.



