

**From:** [Susan Sturman](#)  
**To:** [Regional Plan](#)  
**Subject:** Submission on PC1  
**Date:** Thursday, 14 December 2023 8:43:25 pm

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Susan Sturman

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I won't gain an advantage in trade.

I'm submitting as an individual. I am also a member of FOWKS and assist in Waipāhihi - Karori Stream monitoring and cleanups.

I support PC1's water elements: they're an important first step.

I believe that there should be no dry weather discharges of wastewater into stormwater *including from cross connections on private land*. These should be actively indentified and fixed (at landowners expense if on private land). We cannot value, use, or safely care for our streams if they are contanimated with sewage. This is basic hygiene.

I believe that there should be no wet weather overflows of wastewater into stormwater. Rain does not cause the production of extra wastewater. We should not permit contamination just because its raining. Anything allowing rain to enter the wastewater system should be actively identified and fixed (at landowners expense if on private land). 2 per year is too permissive (WH.P19). Especially as we do not have constant real-time monitoring of eColi in our waterways so we can't police that. We should not put money into managing overflows, we should put the money into identifying what is letting rain enter the wastewater network and stopping it.

I believe that *all development* should be done in such a way as to avoid adding to the storm water load by mandating use of permeable surfaces, water gardens, rainwater tanks, and/or other mitigations.

I believe there should be heavy fines for contaminant discharges, and a system for properly enforcing this.

I am concerned about lofty goals and long timeframes. In this era of constant change (climate, technology, politics, AI) we should focus on small, achievable, measurable goals. Then assess the value provided and use feedback and innovation to continuously improve the interventions.

I encourage councils to collectively resource enforcement, science, and complementary policy tools like education, industrial water plans, community governance, and citizen water-care activity. Restoring our water quality, preventing flooding, and protecting our water supply are critical roles for council to fund and manage.

I hope I've been "on topic". There is so much information out there that I am unable to digest it all, and nearly didn't submit due to feeling that it was impossible to be accurately informed about what is actually being proposed and what impact it will really have.

Thank you for considering my submission,

Susan Sturman