

**BEFORE THE WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT PLAN REVIEW HEARINGS PANEL**

**IN THE MATTER OF** the Resource Management Act 1991

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF** the hearing of submissions and further submissions on the Proposed Waimakariri District Plan

**AND**

hearing of submissions and further submissions on Variations 1 and 2 to the Proposed Waimakariri District Plan

**Hearing Stream 12E: Rezoning Requests**

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**MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FOR RICHARD AND GEOFF SPARK  
(PDP SUBMITTER 183 / VARIATION 1 SUBMITTER 61)  
IN RELATION TO AVAILABILITY OF URBAN DESIGN EXPERT FOR  
HEARING IN HEARING STREAM 12E**

Dated 16 May 2024

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Aston Consultants Limited  
Resource Management and Planning  
PO Box 1435  
Christchurch

Attention: Fiona Aston  
Phone: 0275 332213  
Email: [fiona@astonconsultants.co.nz](mailto:fiona@astonconsultants.co.nz)

**Counsel instructed:**  
David Caldwell, Barrister  
Bridgeside Chambers  
PO Box 3180  
Christchurch

Phone: 021 221 4113  
Email: [dcc@bridgeside.co.nz](mailto:dcc@bridgeside.co.nz)

## **MAY IT PLEASE THE PANEL**

1. This Memorandum is filed on behalf of Richard and Geoff Spark (the **Submitters**). It addresses matters in relation to the availability of the Submitters' urban design witness – Ms Nicole Lauenstein.
2. Counsel has been advised that Ms Lauenstein will be overseas from 2 July 2024 and will return to Christchurch on 12 August 2024. Counsel understands that Ms Lauenstein is not able to change her travel arrangements, which have been in place for some time.
3. Ms Lauenstein advises that she will be available, subject to finalising times and details, to attend remotely. She has also advised that she is available to provide written responses to any questions that the Panel may have.
4. Ms Lauenstein's evidence is comprehensive and, it is submitted, critical in informing the Panel as to the rezoning proposed, and to the Panel's understanding of the philosophy and rationale underpinning that.
5. It is critical that the Panel has the opportunity to hear from and question Ms Lauenstein in any manner which it considers appropriate. The options include that of appearance remotely, appearance at a later date, or responding to written questions.
6. Ms Lauenstein has advised that she will be available to participate in expert conferencing which she will endeavour to organise following receipt of the officer's report, and prior to her departure.
7. Counsel notes the Panel's preference is to hear from all hearing participants in person and directs that if that is not possible, the participant is to liaise with the hearings administrator to ensure that the virtual attendance can be organised via Microsoft Teams.
8. I note that Minute 1 directs that submitters are to provide at least 10 working days notice of virtual attendance, to be given to the hearings administrator. Counsel identifies that issue now, both as a matter of courtesy, and to ensure that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024



**D C Caldwell**

Counsel for Richard and Geoff Spark