

Hahei Ratepayers  
Due Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September  
Penne Clayton m: 021 554 442 / e: chair@haheiratepayers.co.nz

**Rekha Giri-Percival**  
**Candidate for Councillor Mercury Bay Ward.**

***Hahei Reticulated Sewage – What do you propose doing about it? It continually gets delayed. Are you happy for further development to occur in Hahei with no reticulated sewage system?***

As Chair of the Mercury Bay Community Board, I submitted on the last Long Term Plan. \$2.8 million was committed to Hahei wastewater (delivered over years 2023-2026). I fully understand the importance of this project to the Hahei community, and I remain committed to getting it completed in line with the Long Term Plan.

***Three Waters - If you don't support the proposed Three Waters reform, how do you propose Council pay for sewage and water in Hahei***

Three waters reform is complex. The parameters have changed from when it was initially announced, and I am sure there will be further changes. I am not supportive of Three Waters in its current form. My fear is that, as our resident rate payer base is small, the district will fall to the bottom of the priority list. Water assets and infrastructure are funded by the district, and I believe this should continue.

***Hahei Drinking Water – Approximately half Hahei properties are provided with non-potable water. Are you concerned? What do you propose to do about it.***

Yes, everyone should have access to potable water. As Chair of the Mercury Bay Community Board, I submitted on the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan. In that plan some \$3.4 million is included over years 2021-2027 for Hahei water supply. Bore investigation work is currently being carried out, with two potential sites identified.

***Hahei Village Development – many Hahei residents are concerned about expansion and development of Hahei. What is your position?***

Adequate infrastructure which meets the needs of residents and visitors is critical. I would propose a community discussion around a moratorium on expansion or development until suitable infrastructure was in place, or any expansion or development included agreed infrastructure investment.

***Expansion of te Whanganui a Hei Marine Reserve/SeaChange Initiative – Do you support the expansion of marine protected areas as proposed in the SeaChange Program?***

Marine reserves are not part of the remit of Council. While I am a supporter of marine reserves, I also believe that people should be able to fish from the shore/land, without needing a vessel. I see that the proposed extension to the Te Whanganui a Hei Marine Reserve allows for this. (ref: Department of Conservation and Fisheries New Zealand 2021: Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari Plan marine protected area (MPA) proposals May 2021)

***Climate Change/Coastal Degradation – We are concerned that properties in Hahei will become uninsurable due to climate change. What is your strategy to mitigate the effects of climate change and who pays?***

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Our council has invested heavily in the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP). The plan is now at the stage where it provides a framework for responding to coastal degradation and the effects of climate change. Next steps will be implementation of SMP's key priorities.

The Coast Care work, supported by Council, needs volunteers to continue work weeding and planting the dune networks which, as we know, are our first protection against coastal erosion.

Work is underway within Council's Sustainability & Resilience Group to develop a TCDC Emissions Reduction Plan.