



DISTRICT-WIDE MATTERS

Signs

General Overview

We are reviewing and updating our current District Plan – looking ahead to the next 10 to 15 years. The Kaipara District Plan is essentially the ‘rule book’, which is applied to manage development, activities and the environment within the district.

The District Plan influences the future shape and feel of our district, which is why it’s important for Kaipara communities to be informed and get involved. Its purpose is to protect our environment, historic locations and cultural tāonga for future generations, through sustainable management of our resources, while supporting our communities to develop and grow.

We’re seeking input on the Proposed District Plan from Monday 28 April to Monday 30 June 2025.

Signs are important communication tools. They advertise goods and services, provide notice of forthcoming events, warn of hazards, identify premises, direct and control traffic and pedestrians.

Signs enable businesses, community groups and other organisations to support the social, economic, and cultural wellbeing of the district.

The number, size, location, and visual prominence of signs needs to be balanced against the potential impact they can have on health and safety and visual amenity.

What are we proposing?

All the Proposed District Plan (PDP) policies and rules about signs on private land, regardless of the zone, can be found in the Signs Chapter. Separately, Council bylaws manage signs located on Council owned road reserves, road corridors and public places.

Like the Operative Kaipara District Plan, the Proposed District Plan aims to ensure that signs are compatible with the role, function, and character of the zone they are located in. So, the

PDP enables a wide range of signage in commercial and industrial zones where these are usually expected. Fewer and smaller signs are proposed in other areas, like residential and open space zones.

Separate from Council plans and bylaws, other agencies may regulate signs. NZ Transport Agency/Waka Kotahi (NZTA) administers signs located on state highways separately under its own bylaw. Health and safety legislation also dictates the use of signage in some situations.

How much is changing?



Signs

Key FAQs

What is the difference between the rules in the Proposed District Plan, KDC bylaws and the State Highway Bylaw 2010?

The District Plan rules apply only to permanent and temporary signs on private land.

Council's bylaws manage and control signs located on Council owned road reserves and public places.

The State Highways Bylaw 2010 is administered by NZTA and controls signs located on state highways for roads 70km/h and above.

Is a sign on a shop veranda above the footpath subject to the District Plan or the bylaw?

Permanent veranda signs above footpaths are controlled under the District Plan. Rules aim to ensure adequate clearance above the footpath and from vehicles on the street (for comparison, portable board or flag signs placed on a footpath are subject to the bylaw.).

Can I hang a sign on my property to promote my home business?

Generally, these types of signs are a permitted activity, providing it meets the relevant standards for size and other matters, for example it must not mimic a traffic sign.

Do I need a resource consent to place my sign on the road reserve to advertise a community event?

No. However, you will need to comply with relevant Council bylaws, and NZTA requirements if the sign can be seen from a state highway.

Summary

- There are no significant changes to the sign rules from the current Operative Kaipara District Plan 2013.
- It is important to control signs in more sensitive areas to appropriately manage amenity values.



**We'd love to hear
your views:**

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