

**Received by:** Email

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**Submission number** 85

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**Name** Val Helmbright

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**Support or oppose** Oppose

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**Reasons for support** To Whom It may concern.

**or oppose**

My Name is Val Helmbright. I have 2 horses that I keep in Town at two separate properties. 148-150 St John Street that my husband and I have owned for the past 26 years or so. That is a fully fenced 1 acre section.

I also lease 3 acres at the west end of Wellington Street.

I am writing with great concern in regards to the horses being banned from within town, as I feel that;

We have owned property/ land in this town for many years and in this case I wish to continue grazing my horses here. We pay our rates, my horses are well cared for, they are not and have never been a hindrance to anyone.

The land I lease down Wellington Street,

I have leased this land for almost a year and wish to continue with this.

My horses are behind good fences. I also run a hot wire along the fence line to keep my horses off boundary fences, which also keeps the existing fences in good order.

I am very lucky to have this opportunity and have a great relationship with the person/ persons that I lease the property from.

I am not the only person that benefits my horses grazing these areas. We make hay and keep this area topped and spray off any weeds. Any other livestock would be prone to theft and without animals this block would turn to weeds.

There has been many a chat and the odd pat while attending to my animals by young and old.

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I understand that not everyone is in a position of being able to lease land to graze there horse/ horses, as I was traveling up to 3 hours away to Te Araroa every week prior to requiring this block.

There is some amazing horse people in Opotiki and surrounds.

Damage to the Stock Banks.

There are a lot of motor bikes and vehicles that use the stock bank and sideling both night and day some time at some speed, that cause damage. We live right next to the stock bank and see this on a daily basis.

Horses are on theses areas as well, they also keep large areas of grass down.

Horses have been a part of our town and a part of our history.

Horses are not the problem.

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**Wants to Speak to  
submission/feedback**

No

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