

I206. Karangahape Road Precinct

I206.1. Precinct description

The Karangahape Road Precinct seeks to maintain and enhance the area's distinctive built form and streetscape character. This distinctive character is derived from its:

- ridge top location, orientation and aspect;
- concentration of historic heritage and special character buildings and features; and
- diverse and multi-cultural mix of activities.

Built form and the street frontages of buildings are significant components of the precinct's character. While there is disparity in the age and detail of the frontages, there is an overall coherence. The design and appearance of building frontages is controlled to require new and altered buildings to be sympathetic to the existing qualities and character of the area.

Building form and scale in the precinct is controlled to maintain the spatial integrity of the street and the quality of street-level amenity where the east-west orientation of Karangahape Road enables good standards of sunlight penetration and contributes to the amenity of the area. These attributes are maintained by the frontage control applied to specific sites identified within the precinct and by the maximum height controls applied within and adjacent to the precinct through the general standards

The land in the Karangahape Road Precinct is zoned Business – City Centre Zone.

I206.2. Objectives

- (1) The distinctive built form and streetscape character of the Karangahape Road Precinct is maintained and enhanced.

The overlay, Auckland-wide and Business – City Centre Zone objectives apply in this precinct in addition to those specified above.

I206.3. Policies

- (1) Require building design to respect the form, scale and architecture of scheduled historic heritage places and special character buildings in the Karangahape Road Precinct.
- (2) Maintain the precinct's character and architectural style by requiring new buildings to be compatible in style, including scale, material, colour and detailing.
- (3) Require proposals for new buildings or additions to existing buildings adjoining or adjacent to scheduled historic heritage places or special character buildings to be sympathetic and provide contemporary and high-quality design which enhances the precinct's built form and streetscape character.
- (4) Require new buildings to be built to the street and manage height and building setbacks above street frontages in a manner that:

- (a) respects the general scale and form of existing buildings and avoids adverse dominance effects;
- (b) enhances the street environment for pedestrians by reducing down-drafts and wind tunnel effects, and maintains sunlight and daylight access to the street; and
- (c) contributes to the continuity of pedestrian interest and vitality.

The overlay, Auckland-wide and Business – City Centre Zone policies apply in this precinct in addition to those specified above.

I206.4. Activity table

The provisions in any relevant overlays, zone and the Auckland-wide apply in this precinct unless otherwise specified below.

Table I206.4.1 Activity table specifies the activity status of development activities in the Karangahape Road Precinct pursuant to section 9(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Table I206.4.1. Activity table

Activity		Activity status
Development		
(A1)	Minor cosmetic alterations to a building that does not change its external design and appearance	P
(A2)	New buildings, and alterations and additions to buildings not otherwise provided for	RD
(A3)	Development that does not comply with Standard I206.6.1 Frontage height and setback	NC

I206.5. Notification

- (1) Any application for resource consent for an activity listed in Table I206.4.1 Activity table above will be subject to the normal tests for notification under the relevant sections of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- (2) When deciding who is an affected person in relation to any activity for the purposes of section 95E of the Resource Management Act 1991 the Council will give specific consideration to those persons listed in [Rule C1.13\(4\)](#).

I206.6. Standards

The overlay, zone and Auckland-wide standards apply in this precinct unless otherwise specified below.

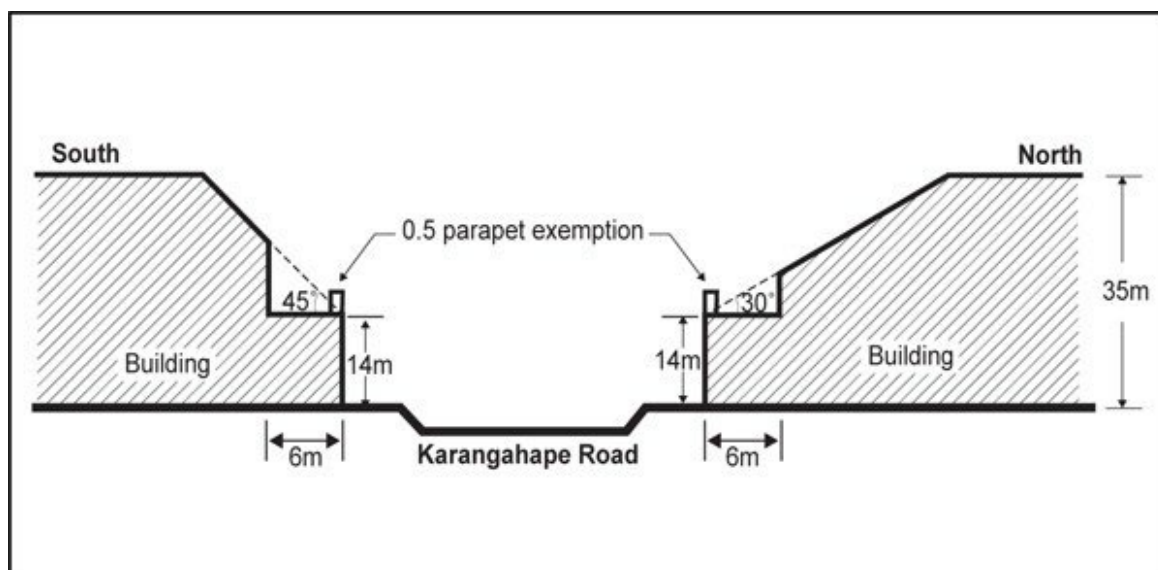
All permitted and restricted discretionary activities listed in Table I206.4.1 Activity table must comply with the following standards.

I206.6.1. Frontage height and setback

Purpose: manage the scale of development to maintain and enhance pedestrian amenity, and to avoid buildings dominating public open space.

- (1) For frontages shown in Precinct plan 1 - Frontage height and setback, buildings must:
 - (a) adjoin the site frontage for its entire length excluding vehicle and pedestrian access areas;
 - (b) not have a building frontage that exceeds 14m in height above mean street level; and:
 - (i) where the building is located on the southern side of Karangahape Road, not project beyond a 45 degree recession plane measured at all points along the site frontage from 14 metres above mean street level; or
 - (ii) where the building is located on the northern side of Karangahape Road, not project beyond a 30 degree recession plane measured at all points along the site frontage from 14 metres above mean street level.
- (2) I206.6.1(1) above does not apply to towers, turrets or similar structures located on a corner site at the intersection of Karangahape Road and the following roads: Queen Street, Upper Queen Street, Pitt Street, Mercury Lane, East Street, and West Terrace.
- (3) Towers, turrets or similar structures located on a corner site at the intersection of Karangahape Road and the following roads: Queen Street, Upper Queen Street, Pitt Street, Mercury Lane, East Street, and West Terrace must not:
 - (a) exceed the maximum height by more than 5 metres;
 - (b) exceed an area of 18m²;
 - (c) exceed a horizontal dimension of 4 metres measured along the site frontage; and
 - (d) contain signs at a height greater than 12.5 metres above mean street level.

Figure I206.6.1.1 Karangahape Road frontage height and setback



I206.7. Assessment – controlled activities

There are no controlled activities in this precinct.

I206.8. Assessment – restricted discretionary activities

I206.8.1. Matters of discretion

The Council will restrict its discretion to all of the following matters when assessing a restricted discretionary activity resource consent application, in addition to the matters specified for the relevant restricted discretionary activities in the overlay, Auckland wide or zone provisions:

- (1) new buildings, and alterations and additions to buildings not otherwise provided for:
 - (a) building design and external appearance.

I206.8.2. Assessment criteria

The Council will consider the relevant assessment criteria below for restricted discretionary activities, in addition to the assessment criteria specified for the relevant restricted discretionary activities in the overlay, Auckland wide or zone provisions:

- (1) new buildings, and alterations and additions to buildings not otherwise provided for:
 - (a) building design and external appearance - creating a positive frontage:
 - (i) whether buildings are designed to address and align to the street boundary. Minor modulation and variance of the frontage such as recessed pedestrian entrances is encouraged to avoid architectural monotony;

(b) building design and external appearance - variation in building form/visual interest:

(i) whether building levels incorporate design elements which acknowledge the existing human scale and character of the precinct.

In particular:

- whether frontage height and design have regard to existing buildings in the vicinity and to maintain a consistent scale. This does not mean a rigid adherence to a single height but it does mean a respect for the general scale of the surrounding buildings to avoid dominance;
- whether the design of building frontages include vertical and horizontal details that avoid dominance of frontage design elements larger than historically present. Where existing sites are amalgamated, whether the frontage design has regard to the existing grain of development and convey a residual sense of the original subdivision pattern;
- whether the consistency of the existing character in a cohesive streetscape is maintained with the design of new buildings acknowledging the scale, sense of proportion and level of intricacy of detail on neighbouring buildings in the precinct;
- whether the design of the ground level contributes to the continuity of pedestrian interest and vitality. However, frontages entirely of glass (curtain walling or continuous shopfront glazing) or of solid materials (including roller shutter doors of any size), should not be used at street level as they detract from the streetscape. Where feasible, restoration of original ground level detail should be included in plans for buildings adjoining historic heritage buildings or for alterations to historic heritage buildings;
- at upper levels, whether large expanses of glass or blank walls are avoided. This will tend to favour solid walls penetrated by a pattern of windows above verandah level, articulation of floor levels and an appropriate treatment of the parapet level;

(ii) whether the design of upper setback levels relate naturally to the lower frontage height levels in an acceptable architectural manner such as continuation of an elevational rhythm or recognisable visual theme or proportions;

(iii) whether the design of buildings on corner sites and at the terminus of significant axial views use special features to accentuate focus and should have a landmark quality which can be easily identified from many directions, creating a sense of place;

- (iv) whether signs and logos on frontages and fasciae are carefully integrated and visually clear so that they are unobtrusive and sympathetic with the architectural pattern of the buildings;
- (c) building design and external appearance - materials and finishes:
 - (i) whether materials, decoration and colour used for the exterior of new buildings or for alterations to the frontage of existing buildings have regard to existing buildings. New and contemporary interpretations in form and details may be used; and
 - (ii) whether frontage colour integrates with the existing vibrant streetscape, with colour considered as a whole, integrating under-verandah shop fronts with the frontage above. A frontage may be unified through the use of subdued colours or be given a sense of individuality by emphasising architectural features in contrasting colour.

I206.9. Special information requirements

There are no special information requirements in this precinct.

I206.10. Precinct plans

I206.10.1. Karangahape Road: Precinct plan 1 - Frontage height and setback

