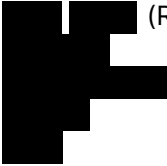


22/07/2025

 (Representing Hopper Developments)

Dear 

### **Referral Application: Hobbs Bay Marina**

Coastguard Tautiaki Moana is Aotearoa New Zealand's primary maritime search and rescue organisation. The purpose of this letter is to indicate our interest in the opportunity to identify a permanent home for Coastguard Hibiscus on the Whangaparaoa Peninsular within the proposed Hobbs Bay Marina and to describe the significant public benefit that will be achieved if the ability to locate the local unit in this strategic location can be secured.

### **About Coastguard**

Our mission is to save lives on the water and to help everyone enjoy our magnificent marine environment, no matter their waka.

We are a federated organisation that is enabled by staff and powered by volunteers. In 2024, our 2,000+ volunteers gave their time to help bring thousands of people home safely to dry land from oceans, rivers and lakes from Houhora to Bluff. We support all vessels, whether they are boats, jet skis, or kayaks, no matter the situation.

Our volunteers are based at 62 Coastguard units and communities around the country. We have 59 units crewing 101 rescue vessels and rescue craft (jet ski) positioned in strategic locations around the coast and on major lakes and rivers. In addition, we have two air patrol units based in Auckland and Northland and a dedicated Operations Centre in Auckland where highly trained volunteers and staff lead search and rescue incidents and routine breakdowns as well as take trip reports, broadcast weather conditions, and monitor various VHF channels across New Zealand.

### **Our needs**

The Hauraki Gulf is an extremely popular boating area, and we support people out on the water all year round from our six Coastguard bases that are strategically based around the Gulf. These six Units are some of our busiest, across the entire country, and over the past six years Coastguard Hibiscus has responded to nine hundred of the seven thousand total calls for assistance that have taken place.

Coastguard has been looking for opportunities to establish a permanent home for Coastguard Hibiscus in the northern Hauraki Gulf for several years. Hobbs Bay Marina provides a realistic prospect of achieving this requirement with a purpose-built facility that meets all of our functional needs as discussed below.

Ideally a Coastguard unit would have:

- Water access infrastructure that provides secure, all-tide access to Hauraki Gulf for quick launching and retrieval of rescue vessels:
  - Wharf/heavy duty pontoon/floating dock infrastructure for rescue vessels and sufficient capacity for short-term berthage of recovered vessels
  - High capacity boat ramp or slipway for all tide launch/recovery, with winch system for vessel recovery
  - Facilities for vessel washdown after operations to prevent contamination
- Parking in very close proximity to the Unit, for quick access by volunteers
- Operational spaces with dedicated areas for training, meetings, operations management, areas for PPE storage and drying, and secure lockers.
- Rescue vessel maintenance and storage areas with space for storing equipment used for repairs and upkeep
- Health and safety and security equipment and features

We have investigated options to establish a unit in existing northern Hauraki Gulf marinas and sites, but have not identified anywhere suitable.

### **Unit at Hobbs Bay Marina**

Hopper Developments and Coastguard have been discussing the opportunity to provide a Coastguard unit as part of Hobbs Bay Marina for approximately 8 months. Hoppers have provided for the unit's functional requirements (described above) in their concept plan.

Coastguard expects to establish a unit at Hobbs Bay Marina, if approval for this project is secured.

We closely collaborate with government-led search and rescue services like the Police, Surf Life Saving and the Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCCNZ). We work together on major marine rescues, to ensure a coordinated response. We anticipate the potential for co-location of other search and rescue services at Hobbs Bay Marina.

For those reasons, Coastguard sees significant benefit to establishing a marina at Hobbs Bay and strongly supports the proposal.

Regards



General Manager – Operations and Response  
Coastguard Tautiaki Moana