

26 May 2022

Momentum Planning & Design,  
136 Willow St,  
Tauranga 3110

Attention: Mr Richard Coles

Dear Richard,

**Re: Kevin & Andrea Marsh Development, Pongakawa**

We write in support of the planned residential development at 1491 SH 2, Pongakawa.

The growth of the Kiwifruit Industry east of Te Puke and the commencement of the Rangiuru Business Park has elevated the need for new housing in the Te Puke region.

New Kiwifruit plantings of 250ha p.a. - Te Puke and East creates up to 500 new jobs each year. The Rangiuru Business Park has potential to create up to 4000 new jobs. Population growth projections indicate potential for an additional 7000 people over the next 15 years.

Over the last 3 years we have lobbied SmartGrowth to endorse the expansion and creation of new rural settlements as a critical success factor for economic growth. We have led several bus tours across the Te Puke region, including the Marsh property, with senior executives from Housing & Urban Development, Kainga Ora, Waka Kotahi - NZTA, The independent Chair of SmartGrowth and his technical advisers, The Tauranga City Commissioners, Western Bay District Councillors and senior staff. We have also met with local MP's and Cabinet Ministers and highlighted the need and the solutions. We have solid support from decision makers to encourage well thought out rural residential settlements that match economic development.

In the longer term, a new large eastern township is important for our future. This shouldn't be seen as a solution for immediate need. The Kiwifruit industry is an economic driver of national significance and Te Puke is at the epicentre of the industry and its growth. Growth in orchard management and post harvest volumes is happening now. This means more jobs and more housing needs. The Marsh development is an important part of a broader package of housing solutions.

This new development is superbly located. With walkways, a playground, cafe, general store, health hub and meeting room it will add considerable value to the Pongakawa community. These local facilities will be welcomed and meet every expectation of good placemaking. Localism is to be applauded.

The development builds on the existing settlement in Arawa Road. It is in close proximity to a high performance rural school. It is well serviced by a nearby fuel station and automotive repair shop. It is surrounded by a strong rural community and well developed social infrastructure. It has swift and easy access to the Te Puke town centre. It is in close proximity to jobs. It is very much in sync with economic development. It is central to beaches, recreation, sports facilities, service centres and 3 cities - Tauranga, Rotorua and Whakatane. It is minutes from the Tauranga Eastern Link 4 lane motorway.

We are hopeful that the process for consents and permits will be swift. If we can be of assistance please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Boyle', followed by a period.

Mark Boyle