Guildford Timber Company

1 May 2024

Hon. Chris Bishop MP (Minister for Infrastructure)
Hon. Simeon Brown MP (Minister for Transport)
Hon. Shane Jones MP (Minister for Regional Development)

Fast Track Referral Panel

Dear Ministers and Fast Track Referral Panel

RE: Guildford Timber Company application for Fast Track – Silverstream Forest Housing Development.

1. The Board of Guildford Timber Company (GTC) is grateful of the opportunity to make an application for Fast Track Approvals. Please find **enclosed** an application for Fast Track for the Silverstream Forest, a housing development of 1500-2000 homes to create a new suburb in Upper Hutt, Wellington.

2. The Silverstream Forest development has been carefully planned with the District Council since 2007 and well socialised with the community to provide for Upper Hutt's future housing growth. It would be an excellent candidate for Fast Track Approval. It will include construction of infrastructure between $160-$170 million, provide a much needed boost to the regional economy with an estimated local spend of $344 - $383 million in the Wellington economy (spread over 15 year build out phase), creating over $1.3 billion worth of housing construction, create 200 new permanent full time construction jobs, in addition to use of local service firms, etc for the duration of the project. This would provide a significant contribution of housing to the Region and a much needed kickstart to addressing Wellington's and Upper Hutt's lack of affordable and quality homes.

3. GTC have undertaken a large amount of supporting assessments which are available on request should that assist the Panel's consideration, and of course the Board is available to answer any questions you may have. It is also important to note that GTC have worked closely with Upper Hutt City Council, who have provided their full support to GTC's Fast Track application.

4. Thank you in advance of your consideration of GTC's proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Craig Martell
Chair Guildford Timber Company Ltd.