

27 February 2023

To Whom it may concern,

RE: Proposed Auckland Surf Park

I write in support of Aventuur's application for fast-track consent under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 for the Auckland Surf Park Community development.

I was heartened by the approach and vision Aventuur and its New Zealand partners, who include Sir John Kirwan. Sir John is heavily involved personally and sees this project as a future shining light for creating improved individual, community mental health and wellbeing through innovative recreational developments.

This will be a unique facility for the community, a gathering point for families, youth, and the older generation to enjoy each other, physical exercise, and the benefits of nature.

There is a strong emphasis on providing access to the local community including a commitment to free access "green spaces", outdoor recreation attractions and a farm-to-table enterprise. All of which I feel are important for families in fast-growing neighboring suburbs such as Milldale, Silverdale and Orewa.

As patron of the Orewa Surf Lifesaving Club and as an active surfer in my youth, I was pleased to learn both Surf Lifesaving New Zealand and Surfing New Zealand have written letters of support for the project and there is a strong commitment to water safety education and drowning prevention programs.

While the project has an emphasis on the surf park element, I also see the integration of the Data Centre and Solar Farm as being key sustainability initiatives which will highlight New Zealand's innovation and represent a world first.

From a tourism perspective the project will become a huge attraction. The proposed site is just kilometers from the successful "Snow Planet" skiing facility and the advent of the surf park will only heighten the area's appeal as a safe "adventure" precinct.

I also note the significant employment opportunities this park will bring to the local community in construction and operations once complete.

Parliament

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I am happy to support the advancement of the Auckland Surf Park Community development. I want to highlight the fact as discussed with the developers, that thorough consultation with local residents needs to take place so any concerns can be addressed.

Yours sincerely

Hon Mark Mitchell

MP for Whangaparaoa

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