

8 December 2022

Tory Whanau  
Mayor  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
**Wellington 6140**

By email : [mayor@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:mayor@wcc.govt.nz)

E te Whaea Matua, tēnā koe,

#### **MĀTAI MOANA – FAST TRACK APPLICATION**

Congratulations on your recent election as Mayor of our city.

Deeply, we are proud that an uri of Taranaki Mounga has been elected as Mayor of our capital city. It was an honour to be at your inauguration and to see the Raukura being placed in your hair.

As you would be fully aware, the Raukura represents a symbol of peace, honour and goodwill to all people.

It is under Te Kahu o Te Raukura that the leaders of Taranaki Whānui will seek from the Environment Minister an approval to a 'fast track' consenting process to enable us to build kāinga on the former Mt Crawford prison site.

We have spent several years trying to secure the land after it became surplus to Corrections' requirements.

As you would be aware, under our Treaty settlement, we have a right of first refusal over the land. Our proposal, alongside our development partner, The Wellington Company, is a housing solution that achieves multiple social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits for our people and all people of our city.

We are committed to upholding a tupuna standard and being audacious in how we create kāinga that incorporate our tikanga and kawa and ensures a reciprocating relationship between us and papatūānuku.

The planned proposal will see iwi and our development partner design and build a number of kāinga and explore a leasehold model with the iwi retaining the freehold title in the properties.

The iwi alongside our development partner, are moving with purpose and pace to lock in the opportunities, which may not present themselves again - and we are seeking your support by way of letter to the Minister endorsing our application, to be lodged on the week beginning 19 December 2022.

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I am currently in Korea and return to New Zealand (Auckland) on the 14th and wonder if we could organise a zoom call, at any time available to you on either the 15th or 16th of December 2022, to further talk through this kaupapa with the purpose of obtaining your written endorsement of our proposal to accompany the documents we will lodge with the Minister on the week following.

Now is the time to work together under Te Kahu o Te Raukura for the benefit of our city, our culture, our environment and all our people - of whom we collectively hold a shared responsibility to manaaki.

We are seeking to create a movement, a change in how we 'do housing' - we are weaving the threads of old with the new in an attempt to create something that will leave a tupuna legacy for our mokopuna who are yet to come. We look forward to being able to sit down and advance the korero.

Ngā Mihi



Kara Puketapu-Dentice  
**Chair**

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