

22 December 2022

Honourable David Parker
Ministry for the Environment

By email : d.parker@ministers.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Hon. David Parker

Mātai Moana – Fast Track Application

It is under the Te Kahu o Te Raukura that the leaders of Taranaki Whānui seek from the Minister for the Environment approval to 'fast track' Mātaimoana Te Taumata o Te Motu Kairangi (Mātai Moana).

As mana whenua, the development of Mātai Moana, the former Mt Crawford Prison (the site) is a significant milestone for Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika (Taranaki Whānui).

The site along with the entire Crown landholding on the Miramar Peninsula (Motu Kairangi) formed a key part of the Taranaki Whānui Treaty of Waitangi Deed of Settlement with the Crown, settled in 2009.

Since this time, Taranaki Whānui have waited in anticipation for the opportunity of the whenua to be returned via the first right of refusal option within the Taranaki Whānui Deed of Settlement, noting of course that this opportunity does come with significant transfer cost of \$23.3m.

We have worked hard, and in partnership with Crown, including the Ministry of Housing Urban Development (MHUD) and other Crown agencies (including LINZ) to identify a pathway forward that will meet our cultural, social, commercial, and environmental objectives.

Whilst we have been moving at pace with this opportunity, we are committed to upholding a tupuna standard and being audacious in how we create the kāinga that incorporate our tikanga and kawa and ensures a reciprocating relationship between us and paptūānuku.

The development of Mātai Moana proposes to deliver between 650 – 700 new homes in what will be, Wellington's newest kāinga, which its design and development will be underpinned by our Taranaki Whānui principles:

- Our whenua – connect, revitalise, grow, teach, learn, sustain, utilise and acknowledge.
- Our moana – vitality, nurture, spiritual, peace, pure, respect.
- Our awa – tranquil, serene, joy, signs, sacred, power.
- Our uri – empower, unity, Iwi, Hapū, Whanau, marae, aroha.

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Mātai Moana will embody manaakitanga, providing opportunities to all, by doing what is best and helping all through a community-based response, to not only housing but, all of the community amenity that will be created in our kāinga.

It is proposed that Mātai Moana will be underpinned by a perpetual leasehold model – retaining the whenua in the ownership of Taranaki Whānui and applying the key design outcomes which are summarised below:

- To create a legacy to be admired, celebrated, and cultivated further for the prosperity of our future generations
- Setting goals and expectations which will ensure that we are driving towards new heights of growth and development in a way that intimately builds on our identity as Taranaki Whānui
- To ensure that Mātai Moana embraces the presence of Taranaki Whānui to maintain prominence, guardianship, culture, and identity of the surrounding whenua, awa and moana.

Most importantly we want to provide a housing future for our uri, the community and a tupuna legacy for our mokopuna who are yet to come and want to live within our takiwā (tribal area).

We have been bold in our aspirations for Mātai Moana, and this has required a step change in what would normally be delivered and to look to the future – from tomorrow to the next 100 years and beyond.

Mātai Moana is being delivered by our Taranaki Whānui commercial entity – Taranaki Whānui Limited in partnership with its developer partner The Wellington Company Limited and MHUD under its land for housing programme. This is a key partnering opportunity for Crown and Mana Whenua as we collectively respond to the housing crisis and challenges, we have for our own uri and others who reside in our takiwā.

We seek The Ministers support and referral of our application so we can get on with the mahi needed to create what will be a very special part of the urban fabric of Te Whanganui a Tara, and a catalyst for wider opportunities across Motu Kairangi and the Miramar Peninsula.

We would welcome any questions you may have as we begin our journey on this kaupapa.

Ngā mihi



Kara Puketapu-Dentice
Chair