

Notice of Motion

For the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Meeting to be held on Thursday the 15th of December 2016

Background

It has recently been drawn to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board's members that resulting from a decision of the Maunga Authority vehicle access to Takarunga/ Mt Victoria will to all practical purposes not be permitted.

While acknowledging the importance of the maunga to Maori it is an integral part of the Devonport Village. Its commanding position dominates the Devonport Peninsula providing a focal point for all as well as an anchor for the village.

Issues over safety were also given as a reason to prevent vehicles being driven on the mount. The only serious incident that I can recollect over 20 years involved a cyclist who badly injured a pedestrian. As a result the Devonport Community Board erected traffic signs to inform all to reduce speed especially for cyclists. Re-enforcing that way up/down is shared space whether it is for pedestrians, vehicles or cycles.

Given the decision is our Local Board to be concerned that in future our emergency water reservoir embedded on top of Takarunga/ Mt Victoria will be de-constructed making our area more vulnerable in a civic emergency.

A liaison committee was set up in the last term in order that Local Boards could feed into the Maunga Authority ideas, issues and concerns from their local communities. To the best of my knowledge this liaison committee was marginalised and basically inoperative.

Further Council Representatives on the Maunga Authority seems to have failed to work with the Local Boards when the interests of the Board were being significantly impacted

Recommendation

That the Devonport –Takapuna Local Board:

1. Opposes the Maunga Authority's decision to have a vehicle ban on Takarunga/Mt Victoria
2. Encourages the Maunga Authority to connect with the local community and visitors as to why the Maunga is important to Maori and the need to progress opportunities together to better inform and educate the public in innovative meaningful ways.
3. Requests that Council staff to report back to the Board as to the status, effectiveness of and frequency of meetings of the Local Board Liaison committee to the Maunga Authority in the last term.
4. Requests that Council staff to report back to the Board as to how our Local Board can more effectively inter-act with the Maunga Authority especially when the interests of our area are at stake.



Mike Cohen

