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Kia Ora Hon Eugenie Sage

MAUNGAUIKA / NORTH HEAD MANAGEMENT

As you will be aware, Maungauika / North Head was transferred to mana whenua following a Treaty of Waitangi settlement with Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau in 2012.

Under the settlement legislation, the Department of Conservation (DoC) remains the administering body of Maungauika until Auckland Council agrees to responsibility for routine management (as with other Tūpuna Maunga, with the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority as the administering body).

I have previously served a term as an Auckland Council appointee to the Tūpuna Maunga o Tāmaki Makaurau Authority (Authority) and often reflect on this as one of the most productive and enjoyable appointments I have had as an elected member. I value the special voice that the Authority brings to management as a co-governance entity and would like to see integrated management of all Tūpuna Maunga in Auckland.

The Authority's Integrated Management Plan supports the progress of a bid for World Heritage inscription for the Tūpuna Maunga. For this outcome to be achieved, Maungauika must be included under the Authority's management.

To date, discussions on Maungauika between DoC and Auckland Council have been protracted, and have stalled over time.

Your appointment as Minister of Conservation provides an ideal opportunity to reinvigorate this conversation and resolve the impasse that discussions have reached. Doing so will facilitate early achievement of the outcomes desired by your office and my council. While the gaps in negotiations are not considerable, the benefits to all of Auckland are.

Ngā mihi mahana,



Chris Darby
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