

Date: Wednesday 16 April 2025
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Kumeū Meeting Room
296 Main Road, Kumeū

Rodney Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Petition to the Rodney Local Board regarding the raised pedestrian crossing outside Helensville Primary School on Rata Street, Helensville

Kia ora tatou,

On behalf of some of the members of the Helensville community I would like to present this petition to the Rodney Local Board in relation to the raised crossing outside Helensville Primary School located on Rata Street. It would be appreciated if this can be tabled at the meeting to be held on 16 April 2025.

The petition states:

"Helensville Primary School, nestled within our community, currently benefits from a vital safety provision: a raised speed bump on Rata Street. This simple yet effective traffic calming measure plays an instrumental role in safeguarding our children as they journey to and from school, reducing the risk of accidents and ensuring a secure environment. However, this crucial safety feature is at risk of removal when other options could be considered.

This concern is not trivial. According to the Transport Research Laboratory, "Speed humps result in a 60% drop in accidents" (TRL-1994). Furthermore, an American research study found that the "probability of a fatal injury for a pedestrian struck by a vehicle decreases rapidly as speed decreases from 50km/h to below 30km/h" (NHTSA-2013).

We maintain that our children's well-being should be given paramount importance and is of greater priority than the inconvenience caused to motorists. Therefore, we urge the local board, Auckland Transport and Auckland Council to look at all the alternatives to solve concerns with the raised crossing rather than complete removal. It is important to have traffic calming measures in place for safety reasons on Rata Street outside of Helensville Primary School."

The petition has collected 106 signatures in favour of keeping the raised crossing in some form on Rata Street so that the speed of traffic on this road is reduced and it provides a safer crossing for our tamariki. It is understood that there may be issues with the crossing when buses go over the bump and if so it would be appropriate for the Local Board along with Auckland Transport to look at rerouting the buses or alternative options rather than fully removing the raised crossing.

For your information the petition was run online and the attached signatures and comments have been downloaded directly from the Change Petition site. To view the full petition or to check accuracy please follow this [link](#). The petition was accessed mostly from the community facebook page where comments have also been left. If you would like a copy of the comments on the facebook page as well, please let me know and I can provide those for you.

I appreciate the time of the Local Board to consider this matter and look forward to any feedback and decisions made from the forthcoming meetings.

Yours sincerely,

Kristen Calder

Petition Link:

<https://chng.it/9DCDfRjCK>

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Maintain the raised crossing on Rata Street for Helensville Primary School Safety



Started

8 April 2025

Why this petition matters



Started by [Kristen Calder](#)

Helensville Primary School, nestled within our community, currently benefits from a vital safety provision: a raised speed bump on Rata Street. This simple yet effective traffic calming measure plays an instrumental role in safeguarding our children as they journey to and from school, reducing the risk of accidents and ensuring a secure environment. However, this crucial safety feature is at risk of removal when other options could be considered.

This concern is not trivial. According to the Transport Research Laboratory, "Speed humps result in a 60% drop in accidents" (TRL-1994). Furthermore, an American research study found that the "probability of a fatal injury for a pedestrian struck by a vehicle decreases rapidly as speed decreases from 50km/h to below 30km/h" (NHTSA-2013).

We maintain that our children's well-being should be given paramount importance and is of greater priority than the inconvenience caused to motorists. Therefore, we urge the local board, Auckland Transport and Auckland Council to look at all the alternatives to solve concerns with the raised crossing rather than complete removal. It is important to have traffic calming measures in place for safety reasons on Rata Street outside of Helensville Primary School.

Please, sign this petition and show your support for maintaining a safe and secure environment for our children.

106

Signatures

200

Next goal

5 people signed this week

Sign this petition

First name

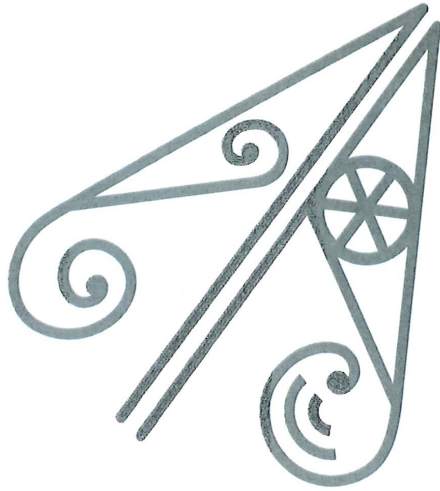
Last name

Email

Display my name and comment on this petition

Sign this petition

By signing, you accept Change.org's [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), and agree to receive occasional emails about campaigns on Change.org. You can unsubscribe at any time.



Ka mua, ka muri

Te Awaroa Museum
98 Mill Road, Helensville
info@museum.teawaroa.nz
09 420 7881

Leigh Bosch (President)

Megan Williams (Vice-President)
021 959 017

Item 8.4

Attachment A

Museum keen to take on historic homes

Te Awaroa Museum in Helensville has its sights set on taking ownership of one of the district's premier historic homes – Henley House at Kaukapakapa. And the museum is also keen to move one of the historic Hunter family cottages from Railway Street in Helensville to its Mill Road property.

Henley House, built in 1887 and situated on a 5ha block of land on Highway 16 just before the south entrance of Kaukapakapa, was 'white stickered' after being flooded on January 29, 2023 in the storm which preceded Cyclone Gabrielle. That meant that while still liveable, it received a Category 3 'Optional buyout' rating from Auckland Council.

Owner Ron Harland was faced with the prospect of being unable to insure the property and little chance of selling it on the open market, so he took up the Council's buyout offer and moved out in mid-February.

Now, the future of the fully restored historic three-storey kauri house, which has a Heritage New Zealand 'Historic Place Category 2' rating, is up in the air. Auckland Council usually either demolishes 'buyout' buildings or deconstructs them so their materials can be reused. But with its historic rating that may not be possible in this case.

"If they want to demolish it, we will protest," says Helensville & District Historical Society vice-president Megan Williams. She adds the museum would also be against the building being deconstructed. The council also has the option of gifting the building - and that's where Te Awaroa Museum comes in. They have put in an expression of interest to take over ownership of Henley House. Rodney Local Board member Mark Dennis is behind the proposal, and Rodney Councillor Greg Sayers is being kept in the loop. I'm fully supportive of what they are doing," says Mark. "I will be helping as much as I can."

The hope is to get the Council to agree to leave the building on its current site and for the museum to take over the ownership and maintenance and use it for open days and as a venue for functions such as picnics, car shows etc - something which would bring in much-needed income for the museum. "There is a lot of value in it staying on its current site. It's part of the village."

"To lose such an important part of West Rodney's history is an irreversible outcome, and whilst a huge ask of very limited resources it seems a failure of duty to not make every effort," says Megan. "It will be the coup of the century to pull this off, but 'if you don't ask, you don't get'."

Henley House, a monument to early colonialism, was built for Maurice Clark Henley in 1887 and became the family home for generations of the Henley family. Having arrived in New Zealand from England in 1862 with two of his brothers, Maurice settles in Kaukapakapa. An educated man with an MA from Wesley College in Sheffield, he was able to speak four languages and had a large collection of books; the house still features his library. After marrying Eliza Isabel Chaplin, the couple had four children, although daughter Eliza died aged 16. The family donated some of their land for a public hall, and also for the building of the Methodist Church and cemetery now known as 'All Saints' - providing a significant part of the nucleus of the Kaukapakapa village.

Home to subsequent Henley generations, Henley House passed from family ownership in 1974, with Ron and the late Yvonne Harland's family eventually taking possession in 1999. They made significant improvements while retaining the fundamental properties of the house. "We absolutely loved the house," says Ron, who adds he would be happy to help look after it if the museum is able to take over ownership from Auckland Council. He was very happy with the buyout offer from the council, pointing out that he wouldn't have been able to sell it any other way, with banks not prepared to lend on a flood-prone property and insurance off-limits as well.

As well as Henley House, Megan says the museum is keen to move one of the two cottages built for the Hunter sisters in Railway Street to Mill Road. The two almost identical cottages have both been red stickered and are uninhabitable. The museum is going through the same expression of interest with Auckland Council, hoping to be able to choose whichever of the two cottages is most original inside.

Item 8.4

Attachment A





Item 8.4

Attachment A





Item 8.4

Attachment A

Item 8.4

Attachment A





Item 8.4

Attachment A

