



SmartGrowth Combined Tangata Whenua Forum Position Paper July 2016

1. Purpose

To present the position statement of the SmartGrowth Combined Tangata Whenua Forum (CTWF) regarding the sector requirements when considering accommodating growth within the western Bay of Plenty sub-region

2. Background

The rights and interests of Maori are preserved by the Treaty of Waitangi. Principles of partnership, active protection, good faith, self-determination and consultation are foundational to the relationship between Maori and non-Maori. The SmartGrowth partnership is unique in that it recognises the role of tangata whenua in the sub-region and provides opportunities for active engagement and participation at the governance and management and operational levels of the partnership.

The Aspirational Plan 2012 prepared by the CTWF provides a useful context and background when considering a position on the Settlement Pattern Review. The Plan was prepared to assist tangata whenua to respond in a meaningful and consistent manner to a range of proposals, activities, policy directions and strategies and plans in the western Bay of Plenty. The Plan articulates broad cultural, social, environmental, economic and political aspirations of tangata whenua. The aspirations are underpinned by the Treaty of Waitangi and informed by principles of mana, whanaungatanga, ahi kaa, and kaitiakitanga. The Plan notes among others the following aspirations:

- exercise of customary and traditional practices,
- recognise diversity and shared identity,
- embrace new arrivals,
- awareness of tangata whenua identity,
- protection of ancestral places,
- fairness, equality and justice,
- access to social and community services,
- te reo is spoken,
- housing options to meet lifestyle and lifecycle need,
- development of a museum,
- retention and improved utilisation of Maori land,
- co-governance and co-management of resources,
- protection of kaimoana resources,
- use of matauranga Maori in environmental management,
- develop improved solutions for wastewater and stormwater,
- completion of Treaty Settlements,
- full employment,

- retention and utilisation of Maori land and resources,
- equal representation on local authorities,
- strong leadership,
- communities are informed,
- access to infrastructure,
- developing partnerships with local government and Crown agencies.

The overwhelming view of the CTWF is that:

“tangata whenua want to see ourselves reflected in the built environment.”

3. Critical factors for consideration for the settlement pattern review

The following critical CTWF factors for considerations are grouped under broad principles of Rangatiratanga and Mana, Whanaungatanga, Tipuranga, and Kaitiakitanga. Many of the elements promoted by the CTWF are encouraged and while they instil a sense of place, connectedness, cohesion, context, character and custodianship from a Maori perspective they will inevitably echo some of the same sentiments of the other partnership forums.

Rangatiratanga/Mana – leadership, power, authority, control, recognition and self-determination

- Local authorities to show leadership by providing engagement opportunities for tangata whenua to ensure local cultural values and site specific perspectives are reflected in the development and design of new and re-developed civic/community spaces
- Ensure the protection of cultural sites and areas of significant cultural value. Where appropriate, celebrate and memorialise those areas to ensure we don't forget events, activities or narratives associated with places
- Ensure community and /or street names reflect traditional names of areas to assist with the retention and maintenance of traditional narratives, events, ancestors
- Secured access to cultural sites and areas of significant cultural value on public lands to enable connections and relationships to be maintained
- Provision and protection of view shafts from public spaces. View shafts provide opportunities to make landscape connections to important iconic features – maunga, awa, moana
- Ensure Te Reo Maori is recognised and visible in the urban fabric of our communities
- Local authorities must show leadership in the use and visibility of Te Reo Maori within our communities, particularly around public and civic spaces
- Extend opportunity to share Maori values and aspirations with wider community

Whanaungatanga – social connections and networks

- Provide opportunities for community gatherings, civic and public spaces where people can connect, recreate and relate
- Consider community civic centre/marae for events and/or community or private functions
- Provision of affordable housing through varied housing sizes and typologies, such as those offered through the development of papakainga?
- Provide for mixed housing typologies to cater for lifestyle and lifecycle – young families to the elderly
- Mixed use in commercial centres that create vibrant community centres
- Provisions for inter-generational housing that accommodate families with grandparents
- Encourage mixed community types, from young families, families with teens, empty nesters, to retired and elderly
- Design communities in a way that facilitate community interaction and connections
- Communal areas for interactions and connections

- CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles integrated into the design of urban spaces to improve community safety and connectedness
- Connect urban and natural spaces for amenity and recreation
- Consider educational choice for the community, particularly kohanga reo, rumaki reo and wharekura (based on demand)
- Encourage walking, cycling and public transport patronage within communities rather than the use of private vehicles
- Create walkable communities with good access to commercial areas, amenities, social and cultural spaces
- Provide for active recreational spaces for traditional sporting activities – waka ama, kiorahi, rugby, soccer, netball, basketball, swimming, skating

Tipuranga – development

- Consider Maori land as an opportunity rather than a risk or imposition to development
- Consideration of Maori land as an opportunity for potential growth area
- Consider alternative land tenure arrangements on Maori land that seek to maximise the development opportunities
- Opportunities for free wifi access within the community and public spaces
- Partner with local government to access new infrastructure fund to develop on Maori land, or investigate opportunities to develop a separate infrastructure fund to assist with the development of infrastructure on Maori land
- Investigate and develop innovate tools to assist with the development of Maori land that meet the aspirations of both the Maori landowner and prospective owner/tenant/partners – e.g. development around Welcome Bay and Matapihi
- Align iwi partnership opportunities that already exist between iwi/Maori landowners; and local and central government as well as the development community
- Development and financial contribution need to take into account the contribution iwi, hapu and whanau communities have made to the development of public infrastructure – land for roads, landfills, wastewater, water supply, reclamations, reserves, community halls etc.

Kaitiakitanga – stewardship and guardianship

- Provide linkages and connections between natural spaces and urban spaces
- Encourage the creation of native spaces – the use of native plant species in public spaces rather than exotic, native will create ecological corridors into the hinterland
- Also consider where appropriate in public spaces, fruit trees or produce trees to encourage active use of passive recreational spaces, community and communal garden space
- Consider the restoration of coastal and/or waterway margins to improve native ecology and biodiversity
- Protect and provide access for cultural harvesting in coastal and waterway areas
- Continually seek and promote where appropriate innovative solutions both new and alternative technology to wastewater and stormwater collection, treatment and disposal
- Encourage recycle and reuse options for rainwater

4. Specific outcomes the Combined Tangata Whenua are seeking:

Ko te whenua ko au, ko au ko te whenua – I am the land and the land is me

- SmartGrowth to prepare cultural urban design guidelines to be used by both the local authorities and developers to encourage the integration of cultural design elements into our urban environments, both green and brown fields
- Promote and encourage the use of the Te Aranga Urban Design Principles – Auckland Council, as a means of capturing the underlying cultural values and principles associated

