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This submission is made on behalf of Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara representing the wider interests of the five Marae of Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara and each of their whanau communities. Our submission will be spoken to in person.

INTRODUCTION:

Since the boundaries were last adjusted in 2014, we acknowledge the populations of all electorates within the Ngati Whatua tribal area has grown. Of special mention are the Rodney and Helensville electorates.

The Representation Commission launched this project in September 2019 and the single allotted calendar month of October to review the +/- population shifts and propose names for new electorates nationwide for November 2019. While it is recognised this is a body of work for the 2020 and 2023 general elections, it needs to be said that the limited timeline inclusive of consultation and comprehension of the Representation Commission rationale confines full public, hapu, iwi engagement.

Therefore, as discussed at our recent Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust meeting held 17.12.2019, we are not supportive of the proposed name from the Electoral Representation Commission and give an alternative. We consider the following name '**Kaipara ki Mahurangi**' electorate as being more appropriate and inclusive to replace Rodney. Our reasons are given in the following sections.



CONTEXT:

As history recalls, Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara continues to welcome people living amongst them upholding our manaakitanga approach to, “work together to develop, according to our tikanga (customs), the land we share so that we may all benefit and provide a future for all our generations to come.”

In saying this, Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara is extremely aware of the changing landscape especially relative to increased populations, housing, roading and utility infrastructure linking communities. We are also aware of the projected variations in electoral populations over the next 5 years that influence local government direction and future central government policy.

For the purposes of this submission and as a partner to the Crown through our post-settlement entity, Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust, we acknowledge the North Island population quota of 61,834 to ensure each electorate is approximately the same size with the allowable 5 percent variance¹.

We maintain a partnering expectation that any name considered by the Electoral Representation Commission recognise the core values, the intrinsic historic, traditional, cultural, and spiritual relationship of Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara as part of the decision process to name an electorate area within its tribal area.

A summary of our reasons are given below:

- a. Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara has a cultural connection with the land and waters and all taonga therein. In this, we seek to uphold its kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and manaakitanga (hospitality) within our tribal area relative to the Electoral Representation Commission and the representational issues of changed electorates.
- b. The proposed Whangaparāoa electorate from the Electoral Representation Commission includes the peninsula, Orewa and Silverdale on the coastal side of State Highway 1. On the western side of the Highway it includes Dairy Flat, Coatesville and Paremoremo. The necessity in proposing to change the name to Whangaparāoa to better reflect the geographic area of the electorate simply because Cape Rodney is now excluded lacks foresight and proposing Whangaparāoa due to a single “dominant feature of the electorate” namely the peninsula is narrow by nature and not all-encompassing of the other areas that will make up the electorate.

¹ (2986) above or below the quote



- c. For Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, we have considered the topographic features of the mountains, harbours, estuaries and rivers that remain as linkage pathways of the human footprint traversing both coasts. Using the roading network, people travel from the Kaipara Harbour on the west coast through to Mahurangi Harbour on the east coast.
- d. Our primary rationale of recommending 'Kaipara ki Mahurangi' is that as a topographic feature, they have a permanency and are inclusive of both semi-rural and expanding urban communities. We have also considered the ease of language pronunciation, the current populous engagement, media print awareness and geographic renowned locations for various reasons of water body, adjacent lands, infrastructure roading giving an ease of people movement.
- e. The proposed geographic size of what will constitute the new electorate boundary of Rodney as noted in the review summary simply because change is required to Northland's southern boundary, which loses population of 5,000 including Wellsford to Helensville has a 'ripple in the pool' effect. Whangarei (at +8.1% above quota) must shed population to adjacent Northland (originally at +7.5%), which in turn must be moved into Helensville. Rodney (at +14%) and Upper Harbour (at +8.4%) must lose population, which is also transferred to Helensville.
- f. To that effect, the projected population of 65,513 +/- and variations in electoral populations will also have a growing impact on the projections² for Ngati Whātua o Kaipara and indeed many business and community entities going into the next 5 years. It is hoped the decision-making of local and central government will not unduly cause a separation of the two coasts and different type of communities as raised by previous 2014 objections.

Should there be any queries, please feel free to contact the Trust administration office who will direct your query accordingly.

However, given the time of year and as the delegated Trustee, please also feel free to contact me jane@kaiparamoana.com.

² Similarly also for the Helensville Electorate.



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