

## **Hahei Walkway Stakeholders Group**

27 February 2015

Thames Coromandel District Council  
515 Mackay Street,  
Thames

Attention: Garry Towler

Subject: Proposed Cathedral Coast Walkway

Dear Garry,

As Chair of the above group I can confirm that following a public meeting in Hahei on the 29th November 2014 at which the Cathedral Coast Walks project was presented and discussed, a Stakeholders Group was formed on the 11th December.

The membership of this group (attached) represents a wide and encompassing range of interests, professions, residential and non-residential.

The Stakeholders Group has a mandate from the Hahei Community to discuss and address concerns raised at the Public Meeting in relation to the Great Walks and in particular the Cathedral Coast Walk (the "Walk").

Based on preliminary feedback from the community, the Stakeholders Group supports the concept of a the Walk but has great concerns over the ability of existing infrastructure to deal with the not only the existing visitor numbers but also forecast increase in visitors due to the Proposed Walkway. .

As minimum these concerns are

- Hahei is a quiet Coromandel village, not a tourist destination, and residents strongly feel this should be preserved.
- Before any work commences on the Proposed Walkway, the current problems relating to management of traffic and provision of suitable parking must be resolved
- The ability of Hahei/Lees Rd area to deal with additional visitor capacity,
- Additional pressure on Cathedral Cove, one of New Zealand's iconic tourist destinations.
- The original concept of the Proposed Walk was a coastal walk going from Whitianga to Hot Water Beach with Hahei and Cathedral Cove as stopovers. For various reasons, it seems that it is not possible to build the complete walk and it proposed that it will be built in stages. The Stakeholders group supports in principle the complete Walk and will require the Walk developer to implement a strategy to complete the entire Walk.

The Group has met with and will continue to meet with representatives from Thames Coromandel District Council (TCDC), Department of Conservation (DoC), Iwi and other relevant Parties on a regular basis for as long as necessary to contribute ideas and solutions toward mitigating as many community concerns as possible through a Community Plan. The Group's understanding is that TCDC is prepared to invest in our area to mitigate any issues that may be caused by the Walk before any construction of the Walk will occur.

The Stakeholders Group's continued support of the Walk in principle is conditional on:

1. TCDC, DoC and relevant Parties continued agreement to implement mitigation strategies specified in our Community Plan.
2. Representation on the Walkway Governance Body.

Yours faithfully



William J Stead  
Chairman of Hahei Walkway Stakeholders Group

#### List of Members of Hahei Walkway Stakeholders Group

Person	Representing
Phil Costello	Coastal Walkways Trust.
Peter Hawley	Coastal Walkways Trust.
Graham Harsant	Hahei Rural Landowners.
Ian Chalmers	Absentee ratepayers.
Peter Harrison	Hahei Business Association
Shane Harnett	Hahei Business Association
Brian Keucke	Hahei Beach Resident and Ratepayers Association.
Wendy Lawrence	Hahei Beach Resident and Ratepayers Association.
Alastair Sims	Lees Rd residents
Michael Wilkinson	Lees Rd residents
John Dallimore	Lees Rd residents
Jeremy Lomas	Pa Rd residents.
Bill Stead	Grange Rd residents
Shelley Osborne	Grange Rd residents
Brian Green	Coastal Walkways Trust.
Karen Blair	Reserves and Parks
Kirsten Russell	Hahei