

Porirua Development Progress Update

Autumn 2019

Porirua Development Update

Kia ora! Nau mai, haere mai! Warm Pacific greetings and welcome to all our nga hau e wha

The Porirua project was announced on 1 November 2018 to work alongside the community, Porirua City Council and Ngāti Toa to regenerate state housing,

local facilities and amenities. The Project will deliver 3500 new or upgraded state, affordable and market homes over the next 25 years.

Since the announcement we have been recruiting a project team and meeting with residents, groups and agencies that have an interest in this project. We are working closely with Porirua City Council and Ngāti Toa to understand present and future needs.

We will be talking to and involving the local community and key stakeholders over the next six months to develop a comprehensive masterplan that will guide the Project.

We will look at all aspects of how neighbourhoods might be better designed, to make it easier for people to come together, to get around and to do business. We will also help to create new employment, training and business opportunities for locals.

Preparation for the new state homes is now underway. If you would like to know more about the development and sign up to receive updates visit poriruadevelopment.co.nz

Foraging for blackberries harvests community spirit

More than 700 people came together for Bothamley Park's blackberry harvest event in February, an annual celebration that encourages locals to rediscover their local park and connect with their neighbours as they forage for blackberries.

The Community Blackberry Harvest is the brainchild of a group of Cannons Creek locals who saw an opportunity to breathe new life into a once-neglected park. Matt Crawshaw, one of the event organisers, says Bothamley Park had been poorly maintained and unsafe for some time.



Above: The Blackberry Harvest King is crowned

"Then Porirua City Council started a project to clean up the park and remove a lot of the overgrown weeds, and we asked for a plot of blackberry bushes to remain as it was a favourite foraging spot with locals," Matt explains.

The council cleared a pathway to make the patch more accessible, as well as improving

the walkways and safety of the park. Matt says a small group of residents saw an opportunity to bring families together to enjoy the patch.

"The harvest event is about bringing families together. There's such a diverse community here in Cannons Creek, including lots of migrant families, and this is a fun and family-friendly day."

Organised entirely at a grassroots level, the event includes foraging, entertainment and blackberry-themed food, as well as the crowning of a Blackberry Harvest King or Queen.

In a few short years the event has grown from 70 attendees to more than 700, and Matt says it shows the importance of shared connections through green spaces. "Parks like Bothamley Park are so good for wellbeing, and it's great to see the community coming together and having fun," he says.

Project Update

HLC is delivering the Eastern Porirua regeneration which will transform the suburbs of Ranui, Cannons Creek, Waitangirua and Ascot Park.



ESTIMATED DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

*Periods are indicative only

January to April 2019

Assembling the Porirua team

May to September 2019

Engagement with community and other key stakeholders in our Masterplanning

October to December 2019

Completion of Masterplan and preparation for first phase of housing redevelopment

Info centre coming soon

Our new Porirua Development Information Centre will be opening soon, situated at 26 Warspite Ave, Cannons Creek, at the end of the block of retail stores. You'll be able to find out more about what's happening in your neighbourhood, ask questions and provide feedback. In the mean time please do sign up to receive updates at poriruadevelopment.co.nz. You can also call our team on 0800 524 353.

What About Tenants of the Existing Homes?

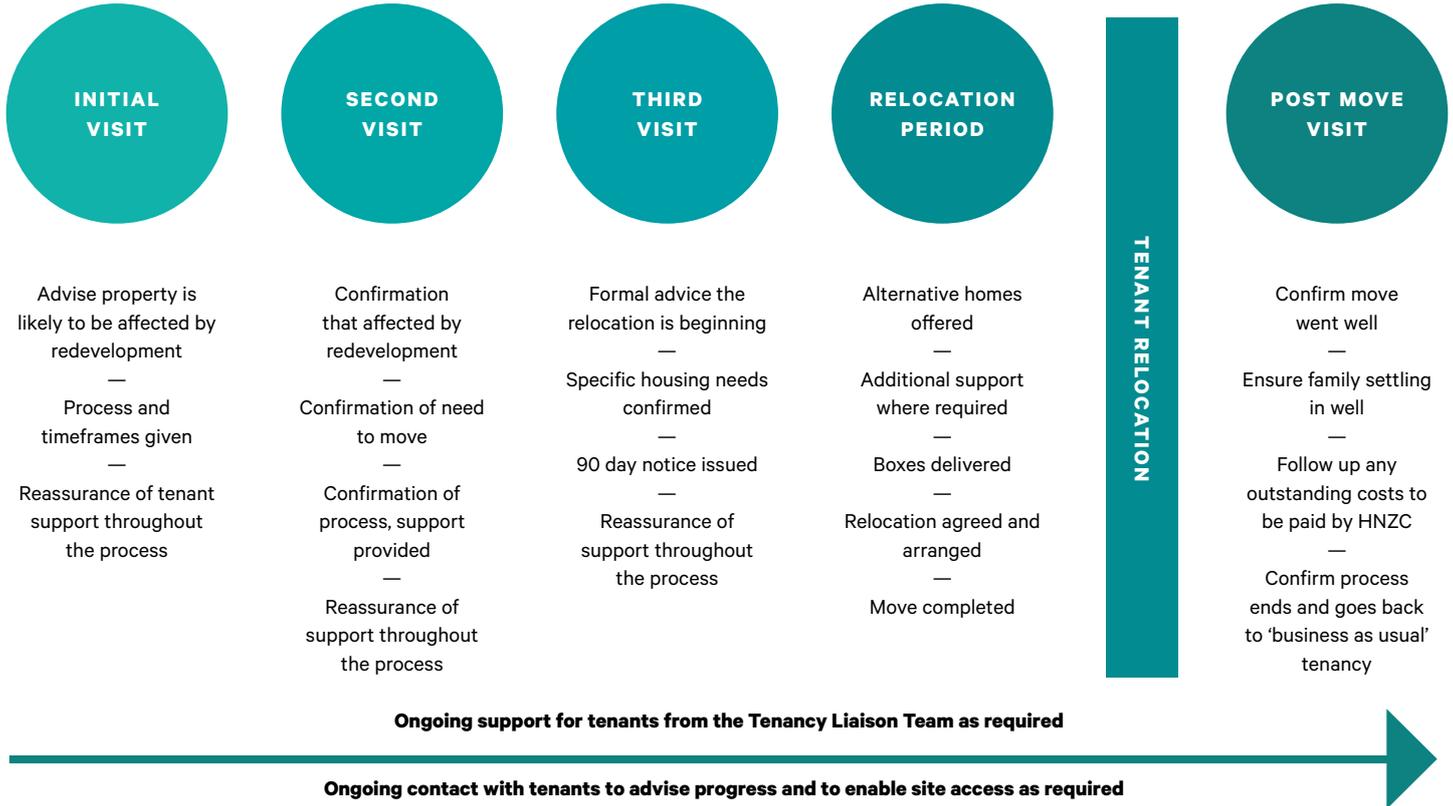
At the heart of everything we do are the people currently living in Porirua. The development work will require a number of households to relocate so that older Housing New Zealand homes can be replaced with new, warm, dry homes. Housing New Zealand has a Tenancy Liaison Team that

supports tenants. When tenants do need to relocate, the team supports them every step of the way, including finding them a suitable alternative home which takes into account their housing and school needs and community networks. Housing New Zealand also arranges the relocation and covers all

reasonable costs related to the move. If you have not been visited by our Tenancy Liaison Officer then you are not currently affected by a site we are working on at this stage.

Contact Housing New Zealand on:
Freephone: 0800 801 601
Email: enquiries@hnzc.co.nz

HOUSING NEW ZEALAND RELOCATION PROCESS



Blessing of Castor Loop

Work to begin building 53 new homes in Cannons Creek, Porirua, is now underway after the blessing of Housing New Zealand's (HNZ) Castor Loop site in February.

The new homes are an important step in helping to meet the increasing demand for homes in the city and are the first of many new state homes to be built in Porirua in the coming years.

Local iwi Ngāti Toa led the blessing which was attended by a number of local groups, agencies and community members.

Patrick Dougherty, HNZ General Manager Asset Development, says the homes will be a welcome addition to the area, providing quality warm, dry houses for people and families in need.

“This is one of HNZ’s largest building developments in Porirua for many years and it’s the start of increasing development activity in Porirua which will see up to 80 new homes built there over the next one to two years.”



From left: Adrian Rurawhe, MP for Te Tai Hauāuru; Taku Parāi, Ngāti Toa; Mike Tana, Mayor of Porirua; Patrick Dougherty, Housing NZ.

Meet the team



As progress on the Porirua Development gets underway, the HLC team based in Porirua continues to grow too. **From left:** Kerry Hunt, Team Coordinator, Rosie Callen, Community Development and Engagement Manager, and James Goodhue, Associate Project Director.

Meet the Locals

Local community taonga
Reverend Perema Leasi has been serving the Cannons Creek community since 2001 and is the minister at Christ the King Pacific Islands Presbyterian Church in Cannons Creek.

Rev. Leasi has been outspoken about the need for more housing for many years and considers housing the number one issue in



the community. He welcomes the Prime Minister's announcement in investing in warmer, drier and safer homes here in Eastern Porirua. "Family is a vital part of our ministry so everything begins at home. If families have a comfortable home, there will be less stress on the health system, less respiratory illnesses and eczema."

Eastern Porirua is a very social and multicultural community and Rev. Leasi says the love and warmth in the community is incredible. "When one person needs help, there is an outpouring of support around them."

Rev. Leasi says he would like to see Eastern Porirua as a place where young people reach their potential, enjoying life with exciting careers ahead of them. He also wants to see more done for elderly people to help them enjoy life.

When asked about the changes he has seen over his time here, Rev. Leasi says there are now fewer liquor stores, and he recalls the time when the community rose up to challenge another liquor store being opened up. "Te Akapuanga Hall was packed with all the community together, supporting each other for the betterment of children."

Looking back to move forward

Cannons Creek shop fronts and walls are set to receive a makeover thanks to a new community art project.

Ka Mua, Ka Muri and the Legacy of Champions aims to create new artwork on the Cannons Creek shops that reflect the ideas and aspirations of the young people of Cannons Creek, past, present and future, and is supported by local artists. The project is a collaboration between the Creeksiders, local artists, King of Hearts, Partners Porirua, local schools, Porirua City Council and HLC.

Ka Mua, Ka Muri, which translates to "walking (looking) backwards as we walk towards the future" hopes to engage children through art workshops, by drawing on the area's past and what is great about Cannons Creek, and in turn looking forward to building on these qualities.

The workshop content will go on to be interpreted by a number of artists doing murals in the Cannons Creek shopping centre. The paintings will be both on the roller doors, above shop canopies and in the smaller areas between shop fronts.

Ka Mua, Ka Muri will kick off in late April at the Cannons Creek shopping centre, and aims to harness the local community's creative energy to help inform the upcoming developments that are being planned for this area.

