



NGĀ MĀNUKANUKA O TE IWI (MĀORI COMMITTEE)

Open Minutes Attachments

Meeting Date: Friday 20 May 2022

Time: 9.00am

Venue: Large Exhibition Hall
Napier War Memorial Centre
Marine Parade
Napier

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Proposal for New Waka Pontoon in Ahuriri Harbour

10 May 2022

Background

Te Matau a Māui was 1 of 7 canoes built by Salthouse Boat builders in Greenhithe, Auckland in 2009 for Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Inc (NKII). Since then it has sailed throughout the Pacific on many voyages as far as Hawai'i, the waka returned back to Ahuriri in Dec 2012 and has been berthed at West Quay in the allocated Napier City Council waka berth.

The waka is 22.16 meters in length and 6.5 meters in width and is constructed in fiberglass with laminated hardwood cross beams. It is solar powered with 2 electric motors.

During the past 8 years the waka has been at the heart of community events in the Napier and Kahungunu areas, being involved in the Napier Art Deco weekends, ANZAC day parade at the sound shell and Te Matatini to name a few. The waka has also been responsible for delivering education programmes to the majority of all primary and secondary schools in Napier and others in Hawkes Bay, helping to educate our rangatahi and tamariki.

The waka has been involved with delivering community and tourism group experiences and sails to many visitors to the Napier area.

The waka is owned by NKII and is operated by the experienced crew of traditional navigators, skippers and sailors that volunteer their time from the Ātea a Rangi Educational Trust (Ātea Trust).

Current Waka Berth

As a temporary measure eight years ago the waka has been berthed at West Quay, there have always been general issues with security and vandalism, however in the past 2 ½ years there has been an increased amount of regular incidents in terms of vandalism and abuse towards crew members. This has included people defecating on the deck, ripping down a variety of flags, letting the mooring lines free, throwing bottles, ripping handrails down and cutting open of life rafts and safety nets. We have seen things escalate from overnight (probable drunken) escapades to groups of people both intoxicated on alcohol or methamphetamine during the day verbally abusing waka crew members when asked to leave.

This has become a Health and Safety issue for the waka crew, and potentially for the waka's clientele.

NKII are already assisting with funding for general operations and maintenance (80k per year), and alongside DIA will be funding the upgrade of our solar and electric motors (250k).

With the traditional waka reserve over the over the road from Westshore not being in use for decades we believe that NCC has an obligation for waka to be in a safe environment.

Proposed Solution

The Ātea Trust has recently supported NCC in an application to MBIE for the Tourism Infrastructure Fund which focuses on the Iron Pot Development and new 'Waka Hub' area. Given that the Iron Pot development could be some time away from completing, we would like to look at possible options for a secure and floating berth where the current waka location is today. There are options to either move this floating pontoon to be used as part of the new Iron Pot Development as and when that project is underway, or keep it in place as infrastructure for NCC to be able to lease out as a secure berth in the future.

Both the Ātea Trust and NKII can assist in a collaborated solution by supplying professional resources in the area of any marine or environmental surveying underwater and project management.

The approximate costings for a new floatable pontoon in the current location of the Waka, with security gate and gangway has been estimated by Total Marine Services Ltd in Auckland at 260K, this does not include any pile work, checking of sea bed conditions or consent costs. The additional costs for this work gives a total estimate at approx. 300-350K for the new floating and secure pontoon.

The Ātea Trust is committed to working with NKII and NCC to find a safe solution for our waka.

Ngā mihi



Piripi Smith

Kaiwhakatore Waka, Traditional Navigator of Te Matau a Māui waka and Chair of Ātea a Rangi Educational Trust