

LUKE PEACOCK WAIRAU DEVELOUPMENT HEARING SPEECH

I'm Matt Peacock and will be reading Luke Peacock's statement on his behalf.

WHY

Do we need an extra 400 houses? Do we have a housing shortage / crisis in Oakura?

WHY

Are the powers to be even considering this highly dense over populated development?

WHY

~~It appears that money and greed~~ is coming first before community and family?

WHY

Are the voices of the Oakura's community not being heard? You ask any parent and they could tell an extremely qualified doctor what is wrong with their sick spouse. This is the same with Oakura, Ask the people that live and breathe Oakura, and they the people could tell you as a collective what is in the best interest of their community.

WHY

Are we even thinking about putting more load on an already dangerous traffic problem around the village? I live close to the main road in and out of Oakura. Every day I walk my oldest daughter to school and the youngest to Kindy and the amount of vehicles I see are forever increasing. Tie that into schoolkids walking this route and the pure volume and vehicles speeding, it's a recipe for a major incident to occur. Add 400 houses, 400-800 more vehicle and 1200 more people to this equation and the maths and safety do not add up.

WHY

Is it that one ~~greedy~~ individual has the power to think that what they are doing is right for the Oakura community when this individual doesn't even live in Oakura?

4 years ago we started talking about maybe moving back to New Zealand from Perth, it wasn't a hard decision to make. We both wanted to give our two daughters the same "kiwi" upbringing that we both had.

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In deciding, where in New Zealand to do that was easy. Where else but a small beachside village called Oakura...with the added bonus of a grandparent, and two sets of aunts, uncles and cousins who had decided to call Oakura home.

We are now looking at having the dream of a small village upbringing for our family shattered with the impending possibility of "Wairau estate" being built.

This is not what we had in mind for a quiet place to live when moving to Oakura.....what concerns us is the increased traffic that will travel thru the village, there is already far too many cars that speed thru ignoring the 50km speed limit, and neglecting to take notice of people waiting at the zebra crossing, especially children.

It's easy for these big developers to say that our school can handle 1000 students when they are not living here....where are they meant to go ?, presumably more buildings will have to be built, thus taking away outside play areas and locally run community services. One of the things we loved most about Oakura School was the big outside areas for the students to play and explore.

It will be very sad to see our little village become another over populated Auckland smallville.

I was once told that it is always good to end with a quote, so here it is,

"When the last tree is cut down, the last fish eaten and the last stream poisoned, you will realize that you cannot eat money"

Thank you