

- Oakura Primary School is directly off State Highway 45, making access for our children, whether in cars, walking or biking already dangerous. Our children need to be extremely vigilant when crossing Donnelly Street. The influx of traffic would escalate the dangers surrounding this crossing. The current level of car use by parents/caregivers dropping of children before and after school, primarily between 8:30 to 9:15am and 2:45 to 3:15pm takes up all available on-street parking. Thus, parking would also be adversely affected. If this subdivision was to go ahead, the added influx of people, which will cause a surge in traffic and pedestrians, will have severe implications for the safety of our children.
- Also of major concern is the specific zoning rules that the developer is requesting to be applied to this development. I.e. 300 square metre sections, an increase to the area of the site that can be covered by a building to 55%. This will surely set a precedent for all future developers throughout Taranaki. If we wanted to live in a city, we would have! You will have a lot of explaining to do in the future if I seek to sub-divide my property into 400 or 500 square metre sections and am told I cannot after you have given this developer special permission!
- The current school will not be able to cope with the influx of new students. We all know the Ministry of Education has no money so will the developer be contributing to building and resourcing a new school to accommodate these extra children?
- With this particular developer's previous development, i.e. The Paddocks, did this developer promise to provide something towards the infrastructure of the Oakura Community and if so, did he deliver on these promises?
- Growth is a natural part of any community and I am not opposed to it. With a strong council, that has the interests of its community at heart, this growth usually occurs in a well-managed, structured way. I was under the impression that the Council wanted to "advocate for a co-ordinated approach to the growth of the village". The proposed development is far from what could be defined as a "co-ordinated approach."
- I have concern that the proposed development would encroach on the National Park and would be detrimental to its ecosystems. I have watched our community embrace the Restore Kaitake project, the proposed plan change seems to negate this whole initiative.