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## EARLY DAYS FOR WHALESONG

With reference to today's media on the 'Whalesong' proposal...

Initial feedback from business people is mixed, says Kapiti Chamber of Commerce Chairman Mark Ternent, ranging between "it's a stupid idea" to "it's brilliant". More people seemed supportive when they understood that the money would not be coming from rates, which are needed for roading, water, storm water and other infrastructure projects to cater for the district's rapid population growth.

"It is an exciting concept, and one that could have significant benefits for the district economically and also be a focus of civic pride. Along with all our other attractions it will help bring people to visit the Coast, perhaps meeting up with friends or relatives who live here".

But it's early days for 'Whalesong' says Mr Ternent. "We don't want this to delay the Aquatic Centre, and will Kapiti Coasters identify with it and get behind the idea?"

The Kapiti Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to next week's presentation when we hope the business plan will be revealed. In the meantime we continue to call for the economic health of the District to be a priority. "If there were more businesses here, then there would be more people to ask to pay for projects such as this", finishes Mr Ternent.

### ENDS

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