

Press Release

Published Kapiti Observer, 14 July 2008

Perhaps by now we should be use to some of our councillor's unusual views on democracy. However, Councillor McIntyre's comments (Observer 3 July) "there should be a community debate about how big Kapiti should be allowed to grow..." does surprise and dismay.

Just how does Councillor McIntyre intend to determine who should be allowed to live in Kapiti? Once again the facts seem to be missing from the discussion. What the statistics show is that the Kapiti region continues to be one of the fastest growing areas south of Auckland. Data indicates this is going to continue. (BERL quarterly update March 08)

What is needed then is not debate on how big Kapiti should be allowed to grow but how this expected growth can be supported, by having the appropriate infrastructure in place. Instead of being opposed to any form of development in the region, it would be more productive to put energies into having positive and productive discussions on how we best manage the expected growth. Growth that fits within the environment we want to retain for Kapiti. Positive work by our Council in actioning roading improvements through progression on the Western Link road; ensuring new housing precincts incorporate alternative, secondary water supplies and supporting and encouraging sustainable business development, are all positives which all councillors and the community should embrace and encourage.

Wendy Huston
Chairperson
Kapiti Chamber of Commerce