

Chairperson and Community Board Members
PARAPARAUMU/RAUMATI COMMUNITY BOARD

14 MAY 2019

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

COMMEMORATIVE NAMING – THE VERY REV JOHN MURRAY

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 The purpose of this report is for the Paraparaumu-Raumati Community Board to consider the naming of a beach access way at Groves Road, Raumati Beach in memory of the late Very Reverend John Murray.

DELEGATION

- 2 The Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board (Community Board) has the delegated authority to consider this matter under 'Part D Community Boards' of the Governance Structure:
Accepting or rejecting officer recommendations in respect of names for local roads (excluding the former State Highway) and any reserves, structures and commemorative places, in accordance with existing council policy

BACKGROUND

- 3 The Very Reverend John Murray, ONZM, passed away at aged 87, on Friday 17 February 2017. He was an activist, a leader of the Presbyterian Church whose thinking was decades ahead of his time, fighting for the right of same-sex couples to marry, against All Blacks tours to South Africa separated by apartheid, campaigning for peace, and in later years, for the right for people suffering a terminal illness to die with dignity. Attached as Appendix 1 to this report (PS-19-736) is an acknowledgement, written by the Assembly Executive Secretary, Rev. Wayne Matheson, of the Very Reverend John Murray's life and the many contributions he made.
- 4 On 21 March 2017, Mrs Alida van der Velde requested the Community Board to consider a memorial for the late Very Reverend John Murray. Council officers were requested to investigate options for an appropriate area for the Council to acknowledge the contributions made by the late Very Reverend John Murray to the Raumati and Paraparaumu communities.
- 5 Four potential options were identified in September 2017 and the Community Board considered the beach access walkway between 56 and 58 The Esplanade Raumati South, to be the most appropriate.
- 6 In April 2018 the Reverend's family advised the Community Board that their preferred location was the beach accessway at Groves Road, as shown on the aerial map attached as Appendix 2 to this report (PS-19-736). Mainly, this is because this beach access way is the closest to the Very Reverend John Murray's home and is considered by the family to be the most appropriate location for the memorial.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy considerations

- 7 The Reserves, Structures and Commemorative Places naming policy provides a framework for commemorative places owned or managed by the Kāpiti Coast District Council. This policy states:

'An un-named reserve, new structure, newly acquired structure or a commemorative place can be named:

In recognition of an individual, family, hapū or iwi with strong historical links to the area or outstanding contributions to the District or New Zealand, and in those cases shall only have one name'

Legal considerations

- 8 There are no legal considerations arising from this report.

Financial considerations

- 9 Should the beach accessway be named after the Very Reverend John Murray a new sign will be erected at the Groves Road entrance. This would be at a cost of approximately \$900 and can be covered within existing budget.

Tāngata whenua considerations

- 10 By way of a letter, dated 5 April 2019, the Community Board received support from Ātiawa ki Whakarongatai Charitable Trust for Mrs Alida van der Velde's request for a Place of Remembrance for the Very Reverend John Murray, as detailed in this report.
- 11 The Community Board was further advised that the Ātiawa ki Whakarongatai Charitable Trust does not consider the Council to have followed a respectful and appropriate process of engagement with Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, thereby compromising their responsibility and integrity as mana whenua and their inherited role to express kaitiakitanga within this rohe.
- 12 Council Officers acknowledge the engagement process concerns raised by Ātiawa ki Whakarongatai and will ensure that these are considered as part of the review of the policy and process for naming reserves, structures and commemorative places.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

Significance policy

- 13 This matter has a low level of significance under the Council policy.

Publicity

- 14 Should the proposed naming of the beach access way be accepted by the Community Board, Officers will work with the family to organise an appropriate naming ceremony.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 15 The Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board notes that the Ātiawa ki Whakarongatai Charitable Trust supports Mrs Alida Mrs van der Velde's request for a Place of Remembrance for the Very Reverend John Murray as detailed in this report (PS-19-736).
- 16 That the Paraparaumu/Raumati Community Board agrees to the naming of a beach access way at Groves Road, Raumati Beach, as shown in Appendix 2 to this report (PS-19-736), in memory of the late Very Reverend John Murray.

Report prepared by

**Approved for
submission**

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submission**

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ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix 1 Sea of Faith Newsletter, March 2017 – a farewell to The Very Reverend John Murray
- Appendix 2 Aerial map of area to be named