Te Uruhi – what’s next?

Enhancing the Maclean Park experience for everyone while strengthening the protection of our toanga – Kāpiti Island.

The concept of Te Uruhi has been discussed for decades and it’s finally coming to fruition after Kāpiti Coast District Councillors voted in February to proceed with the district’s new visitor and biosecurity facility in Maclean Park.

Te Uruhi will highlight the Kāpiti Island conservation story, celebrate our district’s deep cultural history, and better connect the mainland with the Island. It’ll help foster a strong sense of identity and place for our community.

The ecological restoration of the Tikotu Stream is a significant part of the project. A plan to restore and re-naturalise the stream banks with new retaining walls and plantings of native species has been developed in collaboration with local iwi and others. A wider and more accessible bridge across the stream will improve Te Uruhi’s connection to the beach with easier and more attractive access.

We’re currently in the process of developing a project plan to deliver Te Uruhi. It won’t be long until we’re able to give more detailed information about project timelines and milestones which include; gaining resource and building consents, and determining the best mix of use for the facility (ie, whether to include a display and exhibition space for local artists and/or a gift shop and/or an office space and/or a daytime café and night-time café/bar).

Restoring the beach end of the Tikotu Stream is a key part of the development.

The name Te Uruhi reflects the area’s past use as a former Pā (fortified settlement) site.

▶ We’re keen to keep our community up-to-date with progress, and to let interested people know how and when they can have a say on various parts of the project.

Email us at teuruhi@kapiticoast.govt.nz to join our mailing list or look out for other ways to be involved.

Until then, keep an eye on our website: kapiticoast.govt.nz/kapiti-gateway-centre

Kāpiti Update
April 2021