Submission for Purangi Upgrade

*Ki te wāhi e tuwhera ana, ka whakamautia he* ***pūrangi*** *me te hīnaki, ānō nei hai kati i te huarahi wai ka haere ngā tuna mā reira ki te rere ana*

The literal meaning is to block the channel that the eels travelled up if they were running.

The Purangi has had both Maori and European significance rich in beauty and wildlife. It is a place to meet, play and gather to enjoy one of the highlights of Cooks Beach. Unfortunately, the amenities need an upgrade regarding parking, playground as they pale in significance to other areas along Mercury Bay Coastline.

**What is the Present situation?**

* A barbeque cooking area that is well utilized by both the Community and visitors but is situated closely to parking which poses a hygiene risk through dust. Foot traffic between parked vehicles and parents preoccupied with carrying beach **equipment** and supervising adds to the chaos between parked cars and campervans
* A very dated basic playground that has swings and a slide with a climbing frame. The Longreach Development has usurped the Purangi in its ability to attract children to play and enjoy the amenities. We would like to reinstate The Purangi as the destination playground that caters from toddlers to pre-teens as an area to play, create and enjoy.
* A haphazard Parking area without any real planning had developed in an ad Hoc response to a very popular place to gather and enjoy
* Commercial enterprises utilise the area and provide a range of activities to enjoy such as a ferry and Kayaking sevices.

**What we would like to see.**

* Several plans drawn up to include the following:
* Inclusive access requirements for people who have disabilities and provide the freedom of being able to enjoy access to the Purangi
* A creative playground that caters for pre-teens and toddlers. Allowing once more the Purangi as a facility that provides an extension of creativity and enjoyment.
* Reconfigured parking enabling the cooking amenity to not be clouded in dust whilst cooking and safe area for foot traffic
* The removal of some pines replaced by pohutukawas
* Facilities for showers and toilets in upgrade
* Marked area for business enterprises to operate and create a smaller footprint as possible.
* Signage to detail history both of Maori and European significance of the Purangi estuary
* Outdoor Gym to be built to add another amenity that caters for teens through to adults