

4 June 2026

Helen Willis
Lead Contact
Ministry for the Environment
By email: referral@fasttrack.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Helen,

Re: Waikato Thoroughbred Racing Greenfield Racing Hub Project (FTAA-2604-1215) – No Further Engagement Required

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on the referral application for the Waikato Thoroughbred Racing Greenfield Racing Hub project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

Raukawa Charitable Trust has completed an initial review of the information provided, including the referral application and supporting documentation.

Based on our review, the proposed development is located between Tamahere and Cambridge and sits largely outside the Raukawa takiwā. While a portion of the project area falls within the Raukawa Area of Association, the site is well removed from the core area of Raukawa mana whenua interests. Accordingly, Raukawa Charitable Trust does not consider that ongoing engagement with Raukawa is required for this project.

Our assessment has identified a recorded archaeological site (S15/573) within the project area. The site has been recorded as pre-1769 Māori horticultural activity comprising discontinuous Māori-made soils and borrow pits, some of which have been filled. We note that the applicant is seeking an archaeological authority under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2013.

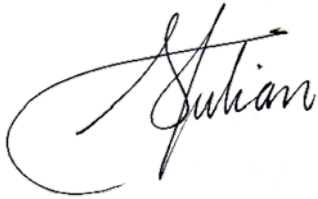
Given the project's location outside the Raukawa takiwā and the limited extent of known cultural values identified within the application material, Raukawa Charitable Trust does not consider there to be a sufficient basis for further involvement in the referral or subsequent approvals process.

We also note that mana whenua groups with direct interests in the locality are better placed to represent and articulate cultural values associated with the project area. Under the proviso that those groups are appropriately engaged and provided an opportunity to participate in the process, Raukawa Charitable Trust has no further comments on the proposal.



Please record this correspondence as confirmation that Raukawa Charitable Trust does not require further engagement in relation to the Waikato Thoroughbred Racing Greenfield Racing Hub project.

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julian', with a large, sweeping flourish on the left side.

Dr Andrea Julian

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