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21 July 2026

The Auckland Prison Capacity Increase Expert Panel
Environmental Protection Authority
By email: substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz

RE: AUCKLAND PRISON CAPACITY INCREASE PROJECT – FTAA-2603-1179

Dear Panel Members,

On behalf of the Paremoremo Residents and Ratepayers Association (PRRA), in association with Sustainable Paremoremo, we submit these comments on the Department of Corrections application for the Auckland Prison Capacity Increase Project.

Our organisations acknowledge the national importance of a safe, humane and effective corrections system. This submission is not opposition to Auckland Prison or the proper provision of correctional capacity. It is a request that a project of this scale is not approved unless the surrounding community, its infrastructure and its environment are protected by evidence-based design, completed enabling works, enforceable conditions and enduring oversight.

Paremoremo has lived alongside Auckland Prison for generations. The community has accepted previous changes in reliance on engagement and assurances from the crown. The present proposal is different in scale duration and consequence. It would place additional demand on roads and services that are already vulnerable, introduce prolonged construction effects, alter the setting of the prison village and intensify visual, lighting, ecological and safety concerns.

Our independently commissioned survey recorded 183 responses with 84 percent of respondents living within 3 kilometres of the prison and 98 percent not employed by Corrections. The results demonstrate that concern is broad, local and strongly connected to infrastructure, safety, consultation and the future of the village.

We therefore ask the Panel to decline the application in its present form. If the Panel is not minded to decline it, approval should be deferred until the applicant provides the missing evidence and binding commitments identified in this submission. Any approval must be staged so that necessary road, infrastructure, emergency, environmental and community safeguards are demonstrably in place before additional capacity is commissioned.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and remain willing to participate constructively in a durable solution that serves both national correctional needs and the long term security of Paremoremo.

We request the opportunity to present our concerns in person to the Panel.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Riley
Chair
Paremoremo Residents and Ratepayers Association
In association with Sustainable Paremoremo

Chairman ANDY RILEY
Secretary MARTIN ALLEN
Treasurer MEGAN TAYLOR

  
[Redacted]
prra@gmail.com
355 Paremoremo Road
Auckland 0632