NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
Level 1
8 Māhuhu Crescent
Auckland 1010

10 November 2026

Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland

Level 8,49 Symonds Street

Auckland 1010

Attn: Simon Neale, Chief Property Officer

Via email: [redacted]

Tēnā koe,

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei is pleased to provide its formal support for the proposed Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland Student Centre and Library Project ("Project"), including the related approvals sought through the Fast-track Approvals Act process.

The Project will provide modern, inclusive, and accessible spaces that better reflect the needs and expectations of current and future students. The design of the new Student Centre and Library and Tē Tūātea has been informed by engagement with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, with the cultural narrative, developed in partnership with Haumi, integrated into the design and physical elements of the development. The Project will not only create a vibrant heart for campus life and significantly enhance the student experience, but we consider it will also contribute to a campus environment that reflects and celebrates the cultural identity and significance of the place.

We believe the Project will provide substantial and enduring benefits for Tāmaki Makaurau, its communities, and future generations of tauira.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are the tangata whenua of Tāmaki. Our mana over the land and sea is underpinned by take tupuna (ancestral relationships), take raupatu (taking of the land and sea by traditional warfare), ahi kā (unbroken occupation) and tuku whenua (traditional gifting of land).

Our rohe extends from Pipimea (Mission Bay South) northwest up the inner Waitematā as far as Tauhinu Pā near Riverhead. We acknowledge shared interest with our close relations Te Kawerau a Maki around One Kiritea (Hobsonville), Mānu Te Whau (Massey) and Orangihina (Te Atatū Peninsula). Our southern boundary extends from Pipimea south west to Kāretu or Anne's Creek at Penrose along the Māngere Inlet to Onehunga thence to Karaka the western waka portage at New Lynn. We acknowledge the tangata whenua status of our Waiohua relations to the south. At Te Whau the river in the west our boundary skirts up the Ōrukuwai Peninsula to Pītoitoi at Riverhead and Tauhinu mentioned above before heading south back to Te Onewa Pā the headland the northern Harbour Bridge lands upon before crossing back to Pipimea. To the east of these places we recognise our neighbours Ngāti Pāoa and their tangata whenua status.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei comprises three distinct hapū being Ngā Oho, Te Uringutu, and Te Taoū ki Tāmaki. Our respective lineages stem from the original inhabitants of the Tāmaki isthmus and

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connect to the autonomous iwi and hapū of Kaipara, Maunganui, and Muriwhenua, the original homeland.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei has approximately 7,500 registered members throughout Aotearoa and globally, all of whom celebrate our direct blood lineage from our common tupuna (ancestor) Tuperiri. The collective affairs of our hapū are overseen by the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Trust.

The Kōtuitanga partnership with Waipapa Tuamata Rau, University of Auckland

Waipapa Taumata Rau sits in the heart of central Tāmaki Makaurau. The relationship between the University and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei is recognised through the Kōtuitanga partnership agreement.

The Kōtuitanga was signed in March 2022, and builds on the 2003 partnership established by the then Vice-Chancellor John Hood and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei rangatira Sir Hugh Kāwharu. This agreement represents the unique, active relationship and association between the parties.

The Kōtuitanga embodies the idea of working collaboratively towards common goals. It emphasises the importance of cooperation, mutual support and shared responsibility within the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei hapori (community) and the central Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland) area resided on by the University.

Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland Student Centre and Library: Taumata Rangipuke

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei has been actively involved with the team leading the Waipapa Taumata Rau Student Centre and Library Project, including participation in the architectural and landscape design process and the development of a cultural narrative in partnership with Haumi.

This collaboration has been underpinned by meaningful engagement, and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei acknowledges the constructive and fruitful good-faith discussions that have taken place to date.

Having worked closely with the University throughout the planning and development of the Project, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei is satisfied that the new Student Centre and Library will provide substantial and enduring benefits for current and future generations of students. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei considers that the cultural narrative is expressed through the organisation and design of the building and Te Tūātea and integrated through physical elements across the development.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei confirms our support for the Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland Student Centre and Library: Taumata Rangipuke application. We look forward to ongoing collaboration to ensure that this important development is created and, once open, operates in way that is respectful and culturally appropriate to benefit this whenua and all of those who will utilise this building in their pursuit of knowledge.

We acknowledge that the Project application also seeks approval for an archaeological authority described in section 44(a) and (b) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 ("HNZPT"), as set out in the Archaeological Assessment prepared by Clough & Associates. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, as tangata whenua, supports the application for the archaeological authority in relation to Māori cultural values.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei appreciates the Panel's consideration of this application and strongly supports the granting of the approvals sought, including resource consent and the associated archaeological

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authority. We consider the Project to be consistent with the values and aspirations reflected through our partnership with the University and believe it will provide substantial and enduring benefits for Tāmaki Makaurau, its communities, and future generations of tauira.

Ngā mihi,

Claire Rorke
Chief Strategy Officer - Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei