
Drury quarry expansion - sutton block comments

From [REDACTED]
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To FastTrack Substantive <substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz>

Rob McGehan
[REDACTED]

We have a few key points and insights from living near the quarry for your consideration.

1. There are no walking tracks/parks or playgrounds that have been placed in the area since all of the development has happened. The quarry originally subdivided all the land up around then sold on to fulton hogan (the quarry only) so essentially the whole Drury south project is linked to the quarry. In the master plan the council should have made more of a point of creating some sort of spaces for the neighbourhood families to ride bikes and walk around as everything else is now becoming too dangerous with more trucks and high density industrial land. There is a short loop track around a manmade lake but no real public spaces. We would like to see pressure applied by council to create some facilities for us locals closer to the quarry that have had to put up with everything over the years it really is the very least they could do. We should not have to wait until kiwi property develops the land near the train station, this is quite far away also not walking distance.
2. A couple of ideas for public spaces: Develop the Macwhinney reserve for walking tracks, and a loop up around the waihoihoi stream bordering the quarry. Or some sort of facility around the corner Fitzgerald/Drury hills road area where they have planted out, whether it just be a simple park/playground or a walking/bike track. The brand new hunua views subdivision does not have a kids playground, there is nothing in the area at all and it is all linked to the quarry subdivision originally.
3. On 16 occasions we have felt compelled to make direct contact with the quarry after earthquake like shaking in our house. In these instances, pictures/lights and everything shakes. This has only been in the last 5 or so years since the expansion has been in planning, and they have been doing explorative blasting in that area. These have been officially reviewed that all ground movement tests are below the RC guidelines each time. This is concerning as we are quite far from the quarry and there will no doubt be hidden effects on the houses in the area with that level of shaking. There are also tomo holes that are around the paddocks from the blasting only recently since they had moved the blasting location. We feel the new block is getting too close to the existing houses. We are not against the expansion but they may need to adjust the blasting parameters to suit.
4. Along the quarry boundary is a very large plantation of invasive privet that has not been cared for over the years. This self seeds the whole area, we constantly have to dig out new growth. Also plays havoc with health issues. We feel they should look after this better and eradicate the privet in their boundary.
5. We have no problem with the increased truck traffic, as long as they can keep the roads clear and clean. Historically they have been filthy directly out of quarry causing dust nuisance with cars and often aggregates left around the roads from spillages etc.