



Mt Titirangi – Puhi Kai Iti Connection Project

Executive summary

The Tairāwhiti region is working towards putting in place the infrastructure needed to ensure the success of upcoming events, including the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook's landing in New Zealand ('Tuia – First Encounters 250' event). Up to \$6,067,000 in funding from the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) has been sought for the Mt Titirangi – Puhi Kai Iti Connection Project

The project has strong local support, including Iwi, and is a priority project linked to outcomes in the Tairāwhiti Economic Action Plan. Although it is being developed for the 'Tuia – First Encounters 250' event in 2019, it is anticipated to have ongoing economic benefits by creating sustainable employment opportunities through tourism development.

Recommendation

Project description & benefits	Risks	Total cost of project	Appropriation and amount to be approved	Recommendation
Mt Tirangi – Puhi Kai Iti Connection – <i>Tuia – First Encounters</i> project with ongoing legacy tourism benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build not complete in time for 2019 event 	\$ Commercial Information	Up to \$6,067,000	Approve

Project overview

21. This is the second PGF application for the wider Mt Titirangi development, and follows the restoration project for Cook's Landing (\$1.63m).
22. The project is a joint application from Gisborne District Council (GDC), Ngati Oneone and the Department of Conservation (DOC). It is part of the overarching Tairāwhiti Navigation Project telling the story of Māori and Pākehā's voyage, arrival and settlement in Tairāwhiti spanning almost 1000 years. The projects will provide a world class site of unique cultural heritage, improve visitor access and circulation, and help diversify the region's tourism offering.
23. The project involves two parts:
 - a. Titirangi Summit Upgrade – a multi-use Wānanga and panoramic viewing facility
 - b. Development of Ruatanuika site – located between the Summit and Puha Kai Iti (Cook Landing Site), plans for the site includes a new lookout, interpretive signage, public furniture and significant sculpture to acknowledge Te Maro, killed following Captain Cook's landing.

Regions covered by proposal

24. The project is in the Tairāwhiti/Gisborne region.

Local support for proposal

25. The proposal is supported by Iwi, Activate Tairāwhiti, Eastland Community Trust, Eastland Group and Eastland Port and the Tairāwhiti Navigations Governance Group.



Key milestones and outputs

26. Key indicative milestones for both parts of the project are as follows:
- Titirangi Summit* - Following engagement with a contractor, development of the design and granting of resource and building consents, construction is due to commence [redacted] with a completion date of [redacted] (indicative).
 - Ruatanuika* – Tender awarded 19 October 2018 with completion of build in May 2019.

Management and governance

27. The Project team and Project Governance Group will guide and deliver the project with the support of a Programme Manager. An overarching Tairāwhiti Navigations Governance Group also provides cohesiveness across all the projects. The works will be managed and overseen by GDC and DOC.

Cost and funding sources

28. The Mt Titirangi – Puhi Kai Iti Connection project has an estimated a total cost of \$ [redacted]. The Provincial Growth Fund has been requested to provide up to \$6,067,000.
29. The Other funding commitments have been obtained from:
- [redacted] Commercial Information (\$ [redacted])
 - [redacted] Commercial Information (\$ [redacted])
 - [redacted] Commercial Information (\$ [redacted])
 - [redacted] Commercial Information (up to \$ [redacted])
 - [redacted] Commercial Information (\$ [redacted])



Assessment against the PGF criteria

Criteria	✓	Comment
Sustainable regional economic development	✓	The project is a part of a wider Tairāwhiti Navigations Programme that will develop the regions' growing tourism sector, create new opportunities for businesses, and create ongoing jobs.
Productivity and innovation	✓	The Mt Titirangi development project is part of a wider inner harbour and Gisborne development package, Cook's Landing, Gisborne Airport, Gisborne i-Site, Inner Harbour Navigations Trail and Mt Titirangi.
Increased employment, training or work readiness for the sectors workforce	✓	This project will create employment opportunities through tourism development. The overall economic impact anticipated for the wider Tairāwhiti Navigations Programme is projected to be \$ ^{Commercial Information} in year 7 of the project. This would equate to approximately ^{Comme} full time equivalent positions for the region.
NZ's ability to meet climate change commitments		N/A
Maori aspirations for utilising land and other resources and achieving cultural objectives	✓	The new wananga and upgraded facilities will increase the value of the assets at the site. The ten year goal is to return Mt Titiranagi's ownership to Ngati Oneone.
Additionality	✓	The development of the wananga space at the summit is new. However, a number of project components are upgrading/expanding existing facilities.
Connections and alignment with regional priorities	✓	This proposal is linked to the priority outcomes described in the Tairāwhiti Economic Action Plan.
Environmental sustainability and/or productivity of natural assets		N/A

Benefits



30. *Boosting productivity and economic growth* - This proposal will boost productivity and economic growth in the region by delivering a significant regional tourism project that showcases and celebrates the unique culture and navigational heritage of the district.
31. *Unlocking tourism and other benefits* - Approximately 20% of all international visitors to NZ will visit a Māori tourism attraction. Cruise New Zealand has just confirmed that Gisborne will host at least 18 cruises in the 2018/19 season – a 32% increase - bringing at least 40,000 additional visitors to the region. Gisborne is now classed as an 'Emerging Cruise Destination' port and is expecting to increase its cruise market over the next decade with the impetus provided by the 2019 commemoration. When this is combined with the ^{Commercial Information} and the planned NZTA upgrades to the Pacific Coast Highway making road travel to the district easier, the visitation rate is set to increase to two million visitors.
32. More work is required, however, to demonstrate how this, and related projects in Gisborne, will deliver a 'bookable product'. There are opportunities to capitalise on these initiatives further through an increased focus on developing tourism products and experiences that are aimed at generating significant revenue for the community.
33. *Social inclusion and participation* - At present there is nothing that signifies the importance of the tihi (Summit) to Ngati Oneone, its cultural rites or its previous history as a place of wananga. Elevating this place to encompass both these traditional uses, and facilitate korero about our future as a region will benefit everyone who visits.

Risks

34. The following risks and mitigations have been identified:

Risk	Mitigation
Build not complete by ^{Commercial Information}	This is an acknowledged risk. However, the assets life extends well beyond the 'Tuia – First Encounters 250' event
Compliance and health and safety during the Mt Titirangi development	A full construction risk management plan will be developed by GDC and contractors.

Next steps

35. Subject to Ministers agreement to the Mt Titirangi – Puhi Kai Iti Connection project, the next steps are as follows:
- PDU working with the applicant to finalise the project's costs. Clarification is also required as to possible cross funding issues with the Tourism Infrastructure Fund. The applicant has provided some material but the PDU will work further with the applicant to fully understand the costs associated with this application. As such, the recommendation is to approve, up to \$6,067,000
 - Due diligence on any businesses contracted to build elements of the project
 - PDU will work with the applicant to ensure that all relevant Maori support for this project is in place.