

**Kia ora.** Ko Anna Kemble Welch aho.

Wellington has such an exciting opportunity to find the best places to build more homes.

**We want to support a plan for more housing. We want densification done well.** Newtown has been telling the council for 30 years that we believe in more housing, and the Suburban Centre in Newtown is where it should be built, along the main public transport route.

Now we have planned this out in detail to show how the Newtown Suburban Centre and adjacent 'brownfields' sites can easily provide opportunities **for at least 2000 sunny, accessible, comfortable new apartments. This far exceeds the targets set to meet future growth in our community – and the suburban centre and brownfields sites have a realisable potential for 6 times that required of Newtown.** This is different to the officers' advice but they haven't talked to us about this plan. **There's potential here for over 4500 new homes – and many of the property owners are keen and ready to go.**

**We know 12 owners of suburban centre properties who are interested in developing more housing and we know 6 owners who already have initial plans drawn!** It isn't a scattergun waiting for developers to come along. **This is real and waiting to happen!** If the zoning for 6 storeys is in the right place, the Suburban Centre – **Newtown would welcome being among the first for the infrastructure upgrade and many new homes would be built in the next 10 years.**

But not if last year's Draft Spatial Plan for 6+ storeys in most of our suburb goes ahead.

**As organisers of the Newtown Festival we are closely connected to a really wide and diverse community** of renters and home owners, current and future, and we speak on behalf of many. We are also Architects and urban designers who **really care about sustainability and the carbon zero goals.**

So many people went to an enormous effort to contribute to the consultation on the Draft Spatial Plan, by far the majority from Newtown were appalled by the 6+ storey blanket rezoning for most of the existing homes.

**The new Revised Spatial Plan does more closely reflect what the community want.** With some adjustments, Newtown would wholeheartedly support this through to the District Plan.

**The Newtown Residents Association have APPROVED this motion :**

"If Newtown's Spatial Plan mapping for 6 storeys was all focused within the suburban centre and Mansfield St escarpment area as in the concept plan developed by Red Design,

and **if** the residential areas not included in heritage character protection were zoned for in-scale up to 3 storey infill housing, **rather than enabling 6 or more storeys**, then the Newtown Residents' Association **would wholeheartedly support the WCC Spatial Plan.**

**We would totally support the prioritising of Newtown to be one of the first suburbs where densification is developed.** The Association members look forward to in-depth community consultation to identify even more areas suitable for intensification. "

**We want the whole community to work together,** Gen Zero, Renters United – we all agree, a city is for people, and we want more housing - and **in Newtown we have a plan where it can be done well, where higher buildings fit and add positively to the place.** This could be a template for a brilliant city with neighbourhoods and communities that welcome the changes, instead of the conflict and heartache that last year's Draft Spatial Plan caused.

Thank you.