

## **Deputation**

**To:** **Planning & Strategy Committee**

**Meeting Date:** **4th September 2017**

**Title :** **Deputation - Te Aroha Noa Community Services**

**Attachments:** Draft Drawings  
Preliminary Project Cost Estimate  
Memorandum of Understanding - Te Aroha Noa Community Services  
& City Networks Unit of PNCC

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### **Summary**

Bruce Maden & Renē Aish will make a deputation to the Committee regarding the need for the development of the buildings at Te Aroha Noa Community Services and a more welcoming connection with Farnham Park to continue to build a more connected community in Highbury.

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### **Who are we and what do we want?**

Te Aroha Noa Community Services is a community development agency which has been providing an increasingly extensive range of family/whanau, early childhood, health, education and youth development services over three decades. All of these services, programmes and activities have a strongly intentional transformative theory of change and underpinning core kaupapa of collaborative community development. With the exponential increase of TANCS services promoting family/whanau and community well being (He Ngākau Ora) TANCS has recognised over the last three years that there is a need for a community hub or nourishing space that provides a place of community connectedness and development (To Turangawaewae- a safe place to belong, a place of aroha, hope, possibility thinking, more and where people endeavour to see your strengths and potential).

Te Aroha Noa is the whanau that doesn't go away (the enduring presence). We propose to create a space that models health and wellbeing and acts as a portal or doorway that allows both people to participate in a wide range of services that enhance whanau wellbeing and also allows those same skills to flow out and build a strong resilient community which has a vibrant and positive identity. This nourishing space (which includes a community kitchen, connecting space, training, health centre and administrative rooms) will be a community space that doesn't require any identified need to be expressed.

### **Is there a Need?**

TANCS through all its services and community engagement remains very concerned at the level of emotional and mental unwellness, whanau violence, substance abuse, lack of positive relational connection and youth disengagement from educational services. We are also concerned about the inequity and lack of accessibility of health service provision. We want to provide a space where both primary and secondary level health services can be provided both in community and in ways that ensure community participation and uptake. We want to work with community to enhance its strengths, builds the capacity of its leaders and ensure a vibrant resilient, and sustainable community that ultimately not only heals and transforms itself but nationally models alternative approaches to enhancing family and community wellbeing . We want to provide a positive connecting space that embodies life and wellness -He Ngākau Ora.

### **How will you address the need?**

By creating a community portal and hub that provide space for:

- A. Community connectedness-The Kitchen Table where healthy food is provided by community members and trainees
- B. Training programmes in food preparation, parenting, education, health and well being
- C. Health Centre and Consultancy rooms for the provision of primary and secondary level health services
- D. Administrative and support spaces for the staff that enhance family and community wellness

Te Aroha Noa already has the basic multi-disciplinary staffing infrastructure to provide many of these services. However with the continued growth of allied partnerships with health professionals who are seeking to be based in disadvantaged community spaces and the need for a non service oriented hub to connect and give a living embodiment of the need for a community lounge and activity space significant further building space is required.

### **What are the expected benefits & outcomes?**

- A. Enhanced community connectedness
- B. Enhanced emotional, mental and spiritual well being-whakawhanaungatanga and wairuatanga
- C. Strengthened community identity
- D. Provision of health, educational and physical activity services within the community thus enhancing accessibility and service use
- E. A vibrant sustainable and resilient community
- F. Community leadership development
- G. To Turangawaewae -A Place to Belong
- H. Enhanced mana and rangitiratanga of community participants

I. Transformative community change through collective impact of diverse collaborative partnerships working together on a common vision.

J. Modelling and influencing national policy and practice with respect to disadvantaged community

### **Why us?**

Te Aroha Noa has a 28 year history of developing services arising from community need and involving community in the co-design and implementation. We have held and continue to hold community hui in an intentional co design process and are currently seeking funding to employ a Community Engagement Facilitator to engage large sections of the community to continue to build a more connected community in Highbury and the Western Suburbs.

### **What do we want from the council?**

- **Planning Assistance** - we would like to receive support as we go through the process with the changes to the roading on Brentwood Avenue and landscaping the area of Farnham Park that will connect with our building.
- **Letter of Support** - we would appreciate a letter of support from the Mayor for funding purposes
- **Support from Councillors** - we would appreciate a willingness of councillors to advocate for us and with us to major funders.
- **Operational Monies** - future consideration of increased Fee for Service operational funding to be provided in the next three year contracting round.
- **Capital Grant** - A capital grant of \$75,000 to support the project.

### **Collaborative Team:**

We are in a fortunate position to be able to work with many influential people who are and continue to endeavour to put people and community at the heart of their own fields of work. Some of these we have listed below.

- Professor Robyn Munford - Massey University, School of Social Work
- Ms Barb Bradnock - Senior Portfolio Manager, Children, Youth & Intersectoral Partnerships Strategy, Planning & Performance MidCentral DHB
- Ms Monica Miranda - Site Manager at Ora Tamariki, Palmerston North
- Ms Di Thomas - Incredible Years Coordinator, Ministry of Education
- Gavin Rooney - Service Manager, Child & Family Services, Barnardos
- Anj Butler - Manager, Highbury Whanau Centre
- Laurence Zwimpfer, National Operations & Development Manager, 2020 Trust

We also have a close connection with our local schools, early childhood centres and other community organisations in the Western Suburbs. We often connect with these services by running large events which showcase Highbury to the rest of Palmerston North such as: Dad's Day Out, Children's Day and Aqua Day.



One example of our collaborative partnership is with the Palmerston North City Council Parks and Recreation team which over several years has grown to the point of us developing a MOU (see attached) where the team support us with the tools and equipment we need to get out and take care of the park. We do this by getting out and cleaning up the park fortnightly and hosting regular events in Farnham Park throughout the year. The investment of an electrical box, water fountain, exercise stations, rubbish & recycling bins, BBQ and permanent gazebo over the past 10 years has enabled us to use the park for our events, regular zumba classes and ongoing community development activities. This greater connection with the park enables a natural occurrence of more health and wellbeing.

