

Dear Fr Mark,

Thank you for a copy of your October letter.

The concept plan for the long term development of the Pyes Pa site looks great.

Unfortunately I will be overseas on the 19th of October.

I favour an amalgam of Option 1 and 4.

- Tauranga is destined to continue to grow vigorously. The likely establishment of a 2nd Parish or major mass centre should be part of our thinking. Option 1 preserves that optionality.
- We do not have the resources to purchase part of the land at Pyes Pa from the Diocese and develop both sites however Option 4 should be considered in the redevelopment of the Elizabeth St site.
- Option 3 does not provide sufficiently for future growth or the presence we need.

I do not favour option 2 because:

- Having a bold presence in the centre of the City aids evangelisation. St Patricks Auckland was not sold to get a zillion. It was renovated. The relocation to Pyes Pa to me would represent a turning away from our roots and wider community.
- Option 2 provides limited options for long term growth given the proposed development there.

Much has been made of the deficiencies of the Thorn plan. The plan is only a representation of the brief that was provided. A plan can be developed to meet the requirements the Parish decides.

I don't think parking is the issue some make. Sunday is fine and there is adequate parking during the week in the carparking building less than 100m away. Evidence is developing that it is shortsighted to be making long term decisions based around carparking availability. There are predictions that we will be a society where car ownership will be a thing of the past as early as in the next 10yrs.

The Elizabeth site will have the added advantage of being at the centre of the transportation links as they are developed

Hope the meeting goes well.

Michael Cooney

