

OUR NARRATIVE

THE STORY BEHIND THE NAME

In the late 1600s, Keteiwi of Ngāti Tamainupō (Waikato) was chief of Pukeiāhua Pā.

His eldest son was meant to marry Heke-i-te-rangi, who was the daughter of a Ngāti Maniapoto chief called Maniauruahu. However, she fell in love with his younger son, Ngaere, instead.

The couple disobeyed their fathers' wishes and returned to Pukeiāhua. When their son was born, Heke-i-te-rangi invited her father to visit with them.

Maniauruahu accepted the invitation. During the journey, he was met with great hospitality from pā along the Waipā River. All the villagers said that Ngaere was their chief and Maniauruahu was impressed.

At Pukeiāhua, Keteiwi performed the naming ceremony. The child was called 'Te mana o te rangi' (the greatness of the day) because Ngāti Maniapoto had honoured Waikato by joining them.

Mounds of uncooked delicacies stretched from Ngā Huingā (the Point) to Pukeiāhua, resembling the hills behind the pā.

For this reason, the mountain range was named Hākarimata (Hākari = feast and mata = preserved food). To announce the feast, Ngaere shouted 'Wāhia ngā rua' 'open the food pits.' This is where the name, Ngaruawahia, comes from.

TIMELINE

HAPŪ VOICE IGNORED

In January 2016, a letter was sent to WDC which identified Pukeiāhua Pā as a site of significance for Ngāti Tamainupō.

The next month, WDC began consulting with the hapū on various issues e.g. water tank.

However, in April, Ngāti Tamainupō was excluded from the Pukeiāhua rezoning decision (Plan Change 17).

In September, 2017, the hapū was excluded from the consent decision for stages 2-5 of River Terraces Subdivision (RTS).

WDC apologised and added Ngāti Tamainupō to the mana whenua list, almost two years after the initial letter was sent.

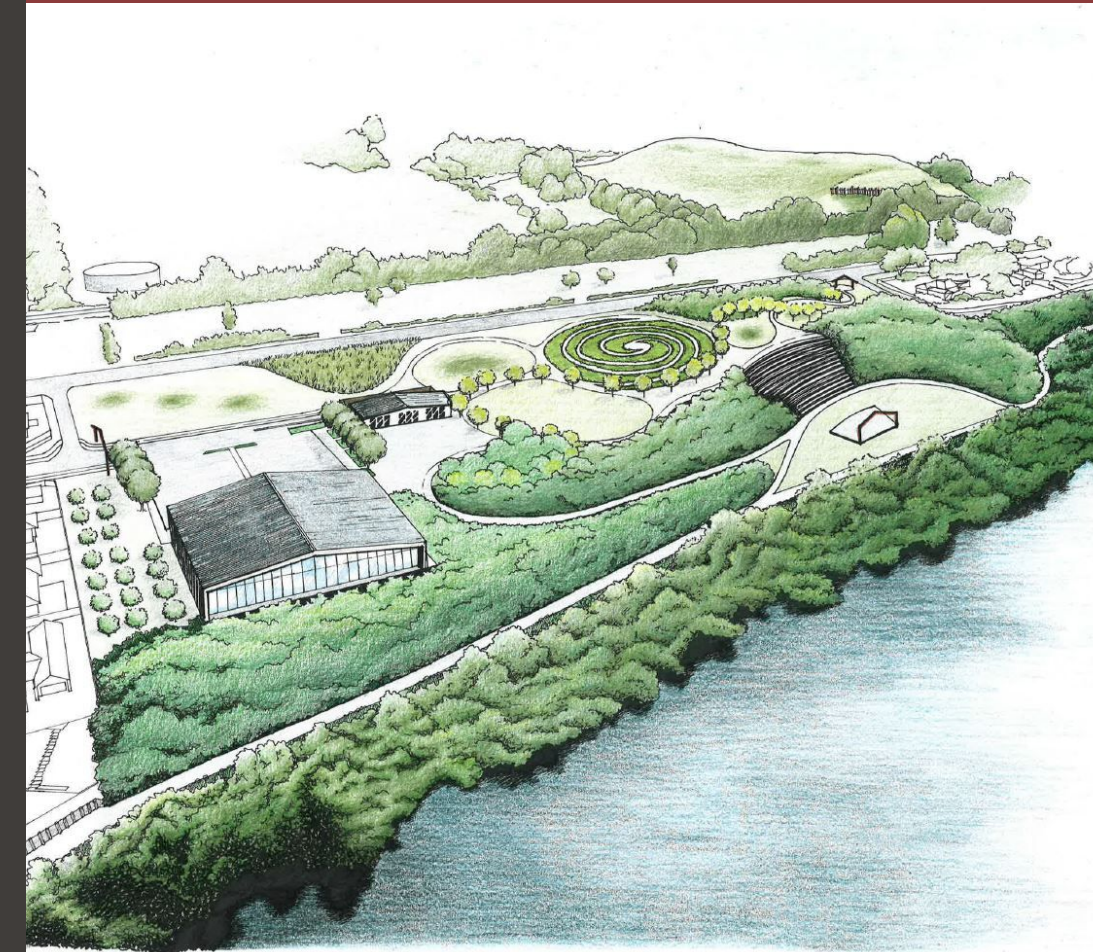
In March, 2020, Ngāti Tamainupō was excluded yet again from the consent decision for stage 6 (RTS).

On May 5th, diggers began excavating on-site.

The next day, our campaign began to protect our whenua for future generations.

OUR VISION

To preserve and protect our rua kai, grow healthy and healing kai for whānau, and create a place for the community to come together to connect and learn.



CAN WE COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT?

We have an ambitious goal to buy back our ancestral land and create a space for the whole community to enjoy. Please give to our crowdfunding page and share with whānau and friends!

givealittle.co.nz/project/pukeiahua