

27 September 2023

Barry Murphy Email: fyi-request-23575-823cdc73@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Murphy

**Official information request** – Information regarding the Teitei Drive project in the Ruapehu region.

We refer to your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), received by Crown Infrastructure Partners (**CIP**) on 6 September 2023, as below:

## The OIA request is as follows:

- 1. In holding this communication from the public and not discussing the opportunity and consulting with ratepayers, was CIP aware that this went against the Local Government Act (LGA)?
- 2. Was CIP aware that not consulting with the public about the possible land sale or gifting, and not documenting it in the LTP or having any consultation on the matter, was also a failure in process?
- 3. Who imposed this requirement for Ministers to announce the project?
- 4. Why did council have to keep confidential about it after the agreement was signed?
- 5. Do CIP and ministers believe keeping this confidential was for personal gain in the political system?
- 6. Will CIP & Ministers consider re-allocating the \$5.2m to allow RDC to purchase existing housing stock from the market and spread around the district where housing is required, more so outside of Ohakune where the real housing needs are required?
- 7. If not reallocating funding, will CIP/Ministers pause this project or cancel the funding based on the facts provided as the community does NOT believe this is the right place and that consultation needs to be had on the subject.

The information that you are seeking in questions 1-2, 5-7 are not held by CIP.

In respect of **question 3**, please refer to the following link from Treasury's website regarding the announcement of projects:

Letter from Hon Shane Jones: Delivery of 'shovel ready' infrastructure projects - Ministerial instructions and expectations - 24 July 2020 - COVID-19 Information Release - The Treasury

Regarding **question 4**, the confidentiality obligations are set out in the funding agreement and will be supplied in response to your OIA request dated 4 September 2023.

The OIA enables people to request official information from Ministers and agencies, including CIP. However, the OIA only applies to information that is already held by CIP. There is no obligation on CIP to create information in order to respond to a request. Please note, as previously advised, other questions in this request were transferred to Kāinga Ora or Ruapehu District Council and they will reply to you directly on those questions.

CIP notes that you are entitled to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the OIA.

Yours sincerely

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Tanya Hansen Crown Infrastructure Partners