7th September 2021

Tena koutou,

I am writing on behalf of the Murchison & Districts Community Council in relation to the issue of land development and housing.

This has been an ongoing issue that we have raised with TDC for several years. We are continuing to experience a shortage of housing, and the ability to develop. It is very difficult to find rental accomodation, houses and or land to purchase for the purpose of residing. After many discussions and meetings with various people from TDC it has been acknowledged that we do have a genuine need. It has also come to our attention that there is the ability for "emergency re-zoning" to be done in order to free up land for development, as has been done in other parts of the district.

Although this need seems to be acknowledge by some TDC staff, it unfortunately does not get any traction once it goes to the table where action is required, being considered less important than the other issues that the district faces. We have been asking and waiting for action to take place. With the current zoning in our district, there will be no development.

The re-zoning that needs to occur in order for development to take place is, re-evaluating the Residential Zone and potentially applying a Rural Residential Zone & Rural 1 Zone. For our district to be locked up in Rural 2 Zone is non-sensical, as there are already many blocks of Rural 2 land that are less than the theoretical minimum lot size.

There is a continuing sense of being pushed to the back burner on this issue, growing a feeling of lack of confidence and support from TDC on what effects our district.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours respectfully,

Solana Pettus (secretary)