

8<sup>th</sup> June 2018

To whom it may concern

### **Re Low emissions Inquiry**

I would like to support Patrick Reynolds and Greater Auckland's submission on the following point.

"However, we feel the Commission is too pessimistic about the ability of urban communities to change to more compact form. The Commission believes, repeating its claim from its earlier *Better Urban Form* study, that the existing dominant auto-dependent suburban form is all but permanent because of expressed preference.

*'Increasing the density of urban areas, combined with good public transport and accessibility, can reduce vehicular travel and emissions. **But intensification of this nature has proven difficult to accomplish and runs counter to the living preferences of many New Zealanders.** Urban planning policies are likely to take many years to achieve significant increases in density. By then, reductions in vehicle emissions may have already been achieved through advances in low-emissions transport.'* Draft Report p384 (emphasis added)"

My research into urban form indicates that auto-dependent suburban form is not necessarily permanent or a reflection of expressed preference.

Rather, there has been market failures and political choices that have created the current pathway to automobile dependent urban forms. If these issues were addressed, it is my belief, based on a considerable amount of research that revealed preference from significant numbers of New Zealanders would be for a much lower emission lifestyle that was not dependent on an auto-dependent urban form.

I believe this change, if supported by central and local government could happen quickly -within a decade or so and would complement the low emission shift to a full EV vehicle fleet, which given the length of time vehicles stay in use, could take several decades to accomplish in NZ.

My reasoning is laid out in the following paper;

[Can Great Design Help Solve the Housing Crisis? A Master Planned Block Proposal](#)

Yours Sincerely

Brendon Harré