

Wednesday 07 April 2010

On the right track or the road to nowhere?

That is the question that will be asked of a number of MPs about transport, in the first of a series of political debates to be held in Papakura's Selwyn Arcade on the 12th April. Following on from the success of the MPs debate on the proposed Auckland Supercity last year, SavePapakura.com have organized a series of debates for 2010. SavePapakura.com spokeswoman Janet Phare said that "people enjoyed last year's debate and were keen to see more political debates on topical issues. Transport consistently figures as Auckland's number one issue in surveys of Aucklanders, so here is an opportunity to hear the politicians debate this very topical issue. These sorts of debates frequently occur in city centres, and sometimes comment is made that politicians are only seen in elections years, so now here is our chance for people in Papakura to attend a local venue and enjoy an evening of lively political debate."

Councillor Caroline Conroy working with the SavePapakura group has been liaising closely with the various political parties in Parliament to secure a range of MPs for the debate. "It's not an easy task to bring a number of MPs together for such a debate, given they are such busy people, so it's great that MPs with an interest in Auckland Transport have confirmed their attendance for this debate" said Ms Conroy. "We have David Bennett National's Hamilton East MP representing the government, David Shearer Mount Albert MP representing the Labour Party, and David Clendon MP representing the Green Party."

"Like elsewhere in Auckland, transport is a key issue for Papakura," said SavePapakura.com spokesman Mr Flash Langley, "with electrification for rail proposed, additional rail stations, increasing congestion on the motorways, freight movements, roads of national significance, and a national cycle way all on the agenda; but often accompanied by significant funding issues as well. Here is an opportunity for us to hear the politicians debate the issue and for us to ask some questions. This evening is bound to be far more lively than an evening at home in front of the TV."

SavePapakura.com chose Selwyn Arcade for this debate, as their usual venue at Accent Point is currently unavailable. "We are keen to hold this debate in a venue close to the rail station, so that anyone wanting to attend on the bus or train could do so. We are very grateful to Boodles Restaurant for allowing us to use their courtyard area and hope that people will make an evening of it; enjoying a meal or bar snacks, drinks, coffee and some lively political debate."

**Monday 12th April 2010, 7-9pm. *Transport: On the right track or the road to nowhere?*
Boodles Restaurant's courtyard area,
Selwyn Arcade, 182 Great South Rd, PAPA KURA.**

ENDs

Further details:

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The Great Papakura Debate.

In the first of a series of debates come along and listen to the views of MPs on....

TRANSPORT

Auckland's No 1 issue....

Are we on the right track or the road to nowhere?

Monday 12th April 7-9pm

Boodles Restaurant, courtyard area

Selwyn Arcade, 182 Great South Rd, Papakura

Enjoy an evening of food, drinks, and lively debate. The MP's are:

David Bennett – National MP

David Clendon – Green MP

David Shearer – Labour MP

Organized by SavePapakura.com

For further details phone Caroline Conroy, 298 5945.