



David Shearer

Putting Mt Albert first.

22 May 2009

Chair
Balmoral Says No Group

As the Labour candidate for Mt Albert I would like to offer my support to the Balmoral Community Group and the residents in particular of Wiremu, Pine, Volcanic, Tennyson and surrounding streets who will be adversely affected by the proposed McDonald's development. I believe in a strong community whose voice is heard on the decisions that impact them.

The area around the intersection of Balmoral and Dominion roads is a residential area and the development of a 24/7 McDonald's would change its nature. I am particularly concerned with the proposed locations of the drive-through entry and exit lanes that will dispense traffic onto residential streets at all hours of the night. This is especially concerning given the number of families in the immediate area and would, likely to lead to an increase in litter, noise and smell that would impact local residents.

I believe residents in that area have a right to a quiet neighbourhood suitable to families and communities. In October 2007 Helen Clark MP wrote a similar letter of support to your group and following in that tradition I would like to place on record the same backing to your endeavours and commiserate that it has still not been satisfactorily resolved.

Whether it is the Super-City proposal, the Waterview tunnel or development decisions that affect a community, local people should have a say on how their neighbourhood looks and feels. Mt Albert is a unique and beautiful part of Auckland and we need to keep it that way.

I would be grateful if you could keep me informed of developments and where I could be of further assistance. I wish you every encouragement with your battle.

Sincerely

David Shearer
Labour candidate for Mt Albert

labour.org.nz

Authorised by Mike Smith, 182 Pile St, Wellington.

Campaign office: 34 Ethel St, Morningside
Phone: 0900 MT ALBERT or 845 1919
Email: david.shearer@labour.org.nz

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