

## Message from the Mayor



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Guppy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wayne Guppy  
**MAYOR**

What an exciting time to be part of Upper Hutt and watch the growth and development of the city over the last five to six years. We're seeing more local employment, a wider range of living opportunities, more events and activities and a tremendous pride in being part of Upper Hutt.

The next 20 years are going to be very important for the future of our city. Doing nothing is not an option – we are running out of zoned space for housing and businesses. We need to plan now, and we need to plan with the community, to make sure that the direction we move towards is best for all of us.

The Upper Hutt City Council, the Councillors and I have adopted this Growth Strategy for managing future urban growth and it sets the foundations for future development within the city.

But the Strategy is about more than simply zoning new land for growth. A strong CBD continues to be important to the future of the city and providing for a greater variety of housing types will ensure that people of all ages and lifestyles can live in Upper Hutt.

Improving the design and layout of our existing urban areas is a priority, as is continuing to invest in and maintain our open spaces and the hill backdrops that define the city.

We will continue to consult with the community as we start to implement the ideas and projects outlined in this document through changes to the District Plan. Your input is necessary to ensure that the urban environment of tomorrow truly captures your aspirations.

We want to continue to prosper and grow; we want to leave a city for our children and our children's children that we are all proud of. The past five or six years have been exciting. It will only get better for us and for this great city in which we have chosen to live.