

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **The Horowhenua Business Park sees Government facilities return to Horowhenua**

Horowhenua Developments Limited have been successful in their bid to make The Horowhenua Business Park the new home of a purpose-built, state-of-the-art facility of national significance.

Announced today by the Department of Internal Affairs, the development of the national repository will see the return of the Central Government to Horowhenua, housing both digital and physical assets that are critical to preserving our nation's history and taonga.

A partnership between The Horowhenua Company Limited and Electra, Horowhenua Developments Limited (HDL) has been working to turn vacant paddocks into a business park for Horowhenua.

HDL Director and Electra Chief Executive, Neil Simmonds, says that the Park was initially among 3500 sites identified in the Lower North Island, before joining a shortlist of thirteen.

“This announcement has been a long time coming, and negotiations really accelerated during the March lockdown. As the largest and most state-of-the-art development in Horowhenua's history - our clear commercial competitive advantage for both commercial and government agencies alike has put Horowhenua on the map as a location for national and regional data-warehousing, storage and logistics.”

Horowhenua Developments Limited Property Development Manager, Melissa Hanson, says that the facility will be a building of national and local significance.

“Spread over a 4.6 hectare site, with room for potential expansion, the 10,000m<sup>2</sup> facility will hold everything from physical memories, to digital data, all protected by specialised lighting, temperature and humidity control storage space; and security and protection from risks such as water damage, fire, earthquakes and pests.”

“We expect to see an immediate effect on our local economy during the construction, and long term with the creation of high-value jobs across IT and logistics.”

The design of the repository will commence immediately, with the building scheduled for completion in 2025.

The Horowhenua Business Park is also set to be tenanted by national manufacturing company Thermosash, whose infrastructure is nearing completion.

“With so much uncertainty around the economy following COVID-19, and with the ability to construct purpose-built affordable facilities, Thermosash believed there was no better place for their business to relocate and grow,” says Melissa. “Our district offers a low-risk investment with a great return - and clearly others are noting this too.”

Negotiations are currently underway for the last sites at the park, for more information, please visit [horowhenuadevelopments.co.nz](http://horowhenuadevelopments.co.nz)

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