

Hon Judith Tizard

Member of Parliament for Auckland Central



17 April 2008

Media Statement

New prison plans welcomed by Judith Tizard

Judith Tizard welcomed plans announced today by Corrections Minister, Phil Goff for the replacement of the Victorian era Mt Eden Prison. Ms Tizard was especially pleased to see aspects of its significant heritage value being acknowledged.

"It is great to see that the landmark old stone building is being upgraded and converted into an administration block. There is widespread public support for the preservation of this building as a heritage site," she says.

Phil Goff said that he hoped that parts of the prison, constructed in the early 1880s, will be made accessible to the public in the future, "with the northern wing perhaps being converted into a museum," he said.

Judith Tizard welcomed this, "It is important to acknowledge the appalling conditions prisoners were kept in for much of the prison's history," she said.

"The new prison will be a huge step forward for Auckland," said Judith Tizard.

"Mt Eden Prison has been in need of replacement for decades and is just one of the huge number of infrastructure projects that this government has tackled," says Judith Tizard.

Construction work on the prison will begin in July this year.

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