

# A Message from the Mayor



**LET'S TAKE  
WELLINGTON TO  
NEW HEIGHTS.**

However you look at it, Wellington is doing extraordinarily well.

It's a great place to live, with dramatic scenery, a thriving arts and entertainment scene, and strong, cohesive communities. It's a vital, energetic city with an unparalleled lifestyle.

Our economy is growing strongly, unemployment is low, and we are looking forward to the future with high levels of confidence.

The challenge for us is to keep up the momentum, to maintain the edge our city has. That means making Wellington even more vibrant, providing exciting events and attractions for visitors and residents alike, and continuing to develop great facilities and public spaces for people to enjoy.

That's our aim for 2005/06.

I believe the new projects we're undertaking this year will benefit the city for years to come.

We're supporting the development of several major attractions, such as a new aquarium for the south coast, the sinking of the frigate Wellington to create a dive reef, and a major enhancement of the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary's visitor experience.

We're working to develop new inner city parks and create stunning waterfront areas, and we're supporting projects that will enhance the city's sports facilities.

We're establishing a new trust to run the Wellington Arts Centre and nurture our creative talent, and we're welcoming fantastic new events such as the World of WearableArt to the city.

In doing all of this, we're also continuing to provide the dozens of important, everyday services that keep the city humming along: things like the water supply and roads and libraries and parks and reserves. Council staff manage these services with a great deal of care to ensure they meet the highest standards.

In preparing our plan for the year, we've listened to what ratepayers want. After hearing your submissions, we've amended some proposals, increased our support for others, and shaved a small amount off the rates increase we'd originally proposed.

I believe 2005/06 will be a year to celebrate. It'll be a year when we take Wellington to even greater heights as a lively, prosperous and internationally-competitive city.

We're on a roll. I look forward to keeping it that way.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Kerry Prendergast". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**KERRY PRENDERGAST  
MAYOR**