

Purpose: To represent and advocate for all Auckland city centre residents to Auckland Council and other relevant agencies/organisation. The purpose of such representation is to make known the concerns of residents, to work for the best possible living environment and to support community building in the City Centre.



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CCRG Meet the Candidates Election Forum Friday 2 October 2020: Ellen Melville Centre

Transport in the City Centre

Our city centre is now referred to as the 'city of cones' with major road works on many of our key streets.

While Quay Street and the waterfront area is expected to be completed in 2021, the Albert/Victoria Streets intersection will be closed for several years from March 2021.

We are advised that Waihorotiu/Queen Street Valley will need to accommodate some 70 diesel buses per hour once the above intersection is closed. Wellesley Street is also proposed to be a bus only street.

What transport solutions will you recommend to the incoming government that ameliorates gridlock in the city centre and ensures an emissions free environment now for the residents who live here?

Facilities in the City Centre

Many international cities have quality public amenities such as showers, toilets, lockers and shelters available for those who need them. Our city centre has few of these, with a considerable number being decommissioned in recent years.

This creates major issues around health and safety issues for residents, visitors, workers and the rough sleepers.

What would you advocate for to ensure both support and funding for more safe, secure and quality public amenities in our city centre and where would you want these to be located?

City Centre Master Plan

On 5 March 2020, Auckland Council adopted the refreshed City Centre Master Plan which now incorporates the Waterfront Plan. This has been the subject of a wide and generous public engagement and consultation programme that CCRG have been a part and that has resulted in a document that we totally support.

While work on the CRL will need to be accommodated in the short term, planning for what we want the city centre to look like, and function as, needs to get underway now.

What actions and priorities would you recommend to Auckland Council now to ensure that the city centre, and particularly Waihorotiu/Queen Street Valley, operates in a way that delivers on the Access 4 Everyone Vision in the City Centre Master Plan?

City Centre Green Space

In recent years, residents have seen increasing numbers of mature trees destroyed across the city centre and very little evidence that they are being replaced.

Work related to the CRL has also meant the loss of 80+ trees in the immediate vicinity of these works.

The resource consent conditions require a 1 for 1 replacement of these trees, within the area of removal, and to date no plans are under discussion with city centre residents as to where these trees might be planted.

Where do you believe are the priority areas for the replacement trees in the city centre and what plans will you want to see in place by the end of 2020 for this to happen?

Auckland Waterfront

Work is progressing well on the AM36 infrastructure and the Queens Wharf Mooring Dolphins are now not proceeding.

While the cruise industry is currently not viable, there will be a time when it is and Auckland will need to be ready for that.

In addition, there has been considerable discussion around Ports of Auckland's future and where a new port may be located. Ports of Auckland is a business entity that is 100% owned by the people of Auckland via Auckland Council.

What process and outcome will you recommend to government to ensure that the people of Auckland have the opportunity to determine how their waterfront is developed and what the future of their port is?