

## **Auckland City Centre Resident's Group**

### ***Waitematā Local Board***

***Have Your Say: 22 March 2018***

### ***City Centre Residents' Group Presentation.***

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We would like to thank the Board for the great work you are doing for the people and businesses of Waitemata and for the opportunity to meet with you today.

The major Auckland Plan and Long-Term Plan issues concerning us are –

#### **The Auckland Plan**

We think the full Auckland Plan document is good and well structured, easy to read and workable. When referring to the Auckland Plan we assume it is the version that was considered by the ACCAB 27 September 2017 meeting rather than the shorter version that has been distributed for consultation and that lacks any performance or targets or measures.

Areas where we think more emphasis would be worthwhile are –

An equal split between supply and demand management for transport. We are not convinced that Auckland needs to keep building more roading infrastructure given that the vast majority of streets are also used to prevent the free movement of traffic i.e. parking.

This can be partly remedied with paid and/or time limited parking on all roads and streets, probably on a sliding scale depending on distance from the closest centre, but we see little reference to that in the plan.

The other area we think is deficient is the opportunity to provide quality, high tech community work hubs so that many people working in the city centre have the option to work off site for the times that suit. This would mean 24/7 safe and secure facilities that support distance working, communities and families and are far cheaper to build/maintain than yet more roads.

Instead we see a shift of emphasis, and we therefore presume funding, away from those public facilities, art and cultural activities that make a world class city. These include lots of quality public spaces, recreation facilities, heritage programmes, art and culture.

We note the Outcomes section on Environment and Cultural Heritage but further reading makes no reference to culture. Similarly, Homes and Places makes no reference to heritage suggesting that Auckland has no heritage to protect and that is totally unsatisfactory.

We hope that this plan will also assist council and the Board to focus developments around a 'Whole of City Centre' or a 'Whole of Waterfront' approach rather than the somewhat ad hoc developments of the past.

## Long Term Plan

We support –

A regional fuel tax to raise 50% of additional revenue required with the other 50% coming from parking fees.

We support the targeted rate for our harbours, beaches and streams at a level that ensures we can achieve what is required within the ten-year timeframe proposed. We must do it so let's just get on with it.

We support rate increases at a level that meet the need for Auckland to become a world class city. We support the CCTR and can see opportunities to increase the residential aspect of that rate specifically to provide more resident friendly facilities.

While we support the need to create a level playing field in the accommodation industry we would like to see further research undertaken on the impact this will have for apartment buildings in relation to Schedules 1 and 2 of the Building (Specified Systems, Change the Use, and Earthquake-prone Buildings) Regulations 2005

We support the disestablishment of Auckland Council Investments Ltd as being a more efficient operating model for council to work with.

We support the Board's priorities for Waitematā including the already programmed work on Myers Park especially given the paucity of funding into the southern area of the CCTR area.

We are comfortable with AM36 being hosted on a temporary site (four years maximum) at Wynyard Wharf but agree with TNZ that the best site is the one we had before council put buildings on it – namely the Viaduct Basin/Halsey Wharf space.

We would encourage all parties to focus long term efforts on creating a permanent, clean space in this area that can be used for a multitude of maritime and other events including summer concerts, small pools for children, shade in summer, food trucks, festivals and similar events.

Pop up events and furnishings allow the same space to be used for a multitude of different activities, over different time frames, and that is what scarce waterfront space should be available for.

New Zealand has a very proud maritime history and Auckland is the one city in the world that should have the best maritime event space. TNZ has earned this respect and Auckland deserves nothing less.

**Noelene Buckland, Chair, CCRG**

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