

Waitematā Local Board Achievements report

1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018



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Message from the chair



On behalf of the Waitemata Local Board, I am pleased to present our key achievements covering the period 1 July 2017 until 30 June 2018. It has been a busy year so I appreciate this opportunity to reflect on and celebrate our projects, initiatives, and events.

In March 2018 the local board was joined by Denise Roche following a by-election caused by the resignation of board member Mark Davey. The local board members Adriana Aveñdano Christie, Denise Roche, Rob Thomas, Richard Northey, Vernon Tava, and Shale Chambers as deputy chair and me as the chair all lead a portfolio and are co-portfolio holders.

Our major projects that marked the year were the restoration of Ellen Melville Centre and redevelopment of Freyberg Place in our city centre, the opening of the community-led Grey Lynn Pump Track project, and the upgrade of Teed Street, a project identified through our Newmarket Laneways Plan.

We have continued to leverage off maintenance programmes and seized the opportunity to improve Cox's Bay Playground with a design based on a theme of natural play.

In the last year, we adopted our Local Board Plan 2017 which is our guiding vision for three years, and have consulted on the council's 10-year budget and Auckland Plan 2050, as well as local town centre and park development plans. We have an enormous appreciation for our engaged and dynamic communities and organisations that have guided our vision and priorities for these important plans.

Community events play a big part in contributing to our communities' wellbeing. We funded our signature events, Parnell Festival of Roses and Myers Park Medley and delivered a new 'Pop' series across the city centre and fringe, and supported community events including Festival Italiano, Grey Lynn Park Festival and Anzac services.

Improvements to our cycling and walking infrastructure are key priorities for the board. Enhancements were completed at seven intersections along Ponsonby Road with a focus on pedestrian safety. We are at the final stages of completing a new footpath linking Parnell Train Station to Nicholls Lane, and improvements to the Newmarket Park entrance have resulted from the Cowie Street Bridge over the railway line which will accommodate a future Greenways cycle link.

We appreciate and give thanks to the partnerships and support of our local communities and organisations in helping us to deliver a fantastic year of significant achievements. We look forward to continuing this relationship into the year ahead.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P. Coom".

Pippa Coom
Chair, Waitemata Local Board

Waitematā Local Board members

Local boards have been established to enable local representation and decision-making on behalf of local communities. You are encouraged to contact your elected members to have your say on matters that are important to your community.

Address: Waitematā Local Board office, 52 Swanson Street, Auckland Central

Postal address: Auckland Council, Private Bag 92300, Auckland 1142

Email: waitematalocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Phone: 09 353 9654

Facebook: facebook.com/Waitemata



Pippa Coom - Chair
Portfolios: Transport (Lead),
Planning and Heritage
021 926 618
pippa.coom@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Shale Chambers - Deputy Chair
Portfolios: Parks, Sports and Recreation
(Lead), Arts, Culture and Events
021 286 7111
shale.chambers@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Adriana Aveñdano Christie
Portfolios: Economic Development
(Lead), Parks, Sports and Recreation
022 460 3951
adriana.a.christie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Richard Northey
Portfolios: Arts, Culture and
Events (Lead), Community Development
021 534 546
richard.northey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Denise Roche
Portfolios: Community Development
(Lead), Environment and Infrastructure
021 548 774
denise.roche@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Vernon Tava
Portfolios: Planning and Heritage
(Lead), Transport
021 0232 4292
vernon.tava@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Rob Thomas
Portfolios: Environment and Infrastructure
(Lead), Economic Development
021 704 423
rob.thomas@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Local Board Plan 2017

The Local Board Plan is an important document that sets the strategic direction for the local board for the following three years. Reflecting community priorities and preferences, the plan guides local board activity, funding, and investment decisions on local activities and projects.

During May and June 2017 we consulted with our communities to identify priorities and outcomes to focus on.

The local board received over 200 submissions, feedback at engagement events and via social media from residents, community groups and local businesses on the draft. The local board also hosted a hearing at the local board office where 15 community members chose to present their feedback to the local board and members of the Governing Body in person.

The majority of people we heard from were supportive of the new plan and its direction. Feedback received highlighted the importance of libraries, of progressing the development of Ponsonby Park, the need to do more around homelessness and rough sleepers, concerns about

alcohol-related harm, prioritising pedestrians, and supporting businesses impacted by major projects. We also received 188 proforma and other submissions to reduce the use of agrichemical weed control in our local parks.

The Waitemātā Local Board approved the 2017 Local Board Plan in October. The plan focusses on six outcomes:

- inclusive communities that are vibrant, healthy and connected
- attractive and versatile public places that meet our communities' needs
- the natural environment is valued, protected and enhanced
- a high-quality built environment that embraces our heritage
- an accessible, connected and safe transport network with well-designed streets
- an innovative, productive and resilient local economy.

To celebrate the adoption of the new plan, local board chair Pippa Coom launched the plan at the Ellen Melville Centre in December 2017 with local board members and Waitemātā community representatives.



Projects and initiatives

Ellen Melville Centre and Freyberg Place opening

Over the last year, the Ellen Melville Centre has become a lively community hub for city centre residents, offering a space to bring people together, to make connections and grow as a community.

The redevelopment of the Ellen Melville Centre has been a long-held priority for the Waitemata Local Board. The project recognises that the Auckland 'CBD' has changed considerably over the last decade, becoming a true City Centre with a growing and diverse resident population.

On 15 September 2017, the local board celebrated the opening of the newly renovated Ellen Melville Centre. Local board chair Pippa Coom acknowledged the many people who had been involved with the biggest project delivered to date by the local board.

The restoration of the Pioneer Women's Hall (renamed 'Ellen Melville Centre') has revealed a rich history. It tells the story of mana wahine, the pioneer women both Māori and Pakeha who made a massive contribution to the foundation of Auckland, including the women who fought for equality and the right to vote. The centre now offers five rooms for community use, which the local board named after significant women; Helen Clark Room, Elizabeth Yates Room, Betty Wark Room, Marilyn Waring Room, and Eleitino (Paddy) Walker Room.

The Centre upgrade is complemented by the upgrade of the adjacent Freyberg Place funded by the City Centre Targeted Rate. The Auckland City Centre Advisory Board, which includes the Local Board Deputy Chair Shale Chambers, provides recommendations to the Finance and Performance Committee on how the targeted rate could be spent.

The Centre's urban lounge opens out to Freyberg Place, which provides terraced seating, a cascading water feature and native planting around a large open plaza. This space comes alive throughout the day with people eating their lunches and art performances programmed in the evenings.

Artwork has been weaved into the design of both the centre and the square and significant art works within the building have been conserved. The Tukutuku panels that were originally installed in the hall in 1962 have been restored by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei marae weavers and relocated above the stage in the Pioneer Women's Hall. New artwork by artist Lisa Reihana entitled 'Justice' is positioned on the O'Connell Street wall, referencing the life of Ellen Melville as one of the first women in Auckland to practise law and to serve as a long standing city councillor. The artwork carved into the water feature by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei artist Graeme Tipene expresses the importance of water that once flowed through the area.

The new Centre is shared by a growing number of community groups that use the space. A successful community open day was delivered in November 2017 with around 30 community groups participating and 15 groups providing performances and workshops. Since opening, a number of existing and new programmes have been developed reaching out to city centre families and residents, encouraging them to connect with their new community centre. Programmes include cooking and food sharing with the Love Food Hate Waste programme, community exercise classes, films with Love of Bees, language classes, Plunket groups, language classes, Youthtown, Circability and Artweek. Each Tuesday the Splice team invites the community to participate in sessions of yoga, talks and workshops. The Centre has also hosted a number of events, exhibitions and festivals over the last year.

The Ellen Melville Centre staff continue to work closely with the community to build meaningful programmes and activation opportunities, bringing residents together in the newest community hub in the heart of the city.



Agrichemical-free parks

Our community told us that they wanted us to support initiatives which would minimise the use of agrichemicals for weed control in our local parks. We have allocated funding from our Locally Driven Initiatives Budget (LDI) to deliver agrichemical-free parks at Western Park, Albert Park, Myers Park and the non-sport field sections of Victoria Park in 2018/2019. This funding will enable contractors to remove weeds manually rather than through the use of chemicals.

Currently council contractors do not use chemical weed control around playgrounds and this funding enables manual weed removal practice to be extended across some of our major parks.

The Waitematā Local Board is also advocating to the Governing Body and Auckland Transport to allocate funds to conduct extensive non-chemical weed control, and to increase the overall maintenance budget for parks, open spaces and the road corridor to enable the elimination of agrichemicals.

Foreshore heritage signs

Auckland's shoreline has changed dramatically since 1840. In tracing the line of the original foreshore, we can see the history of Auckland's development, from colonial port to modern city.

The Waitematā Local Board installed 25 interpretation panels documenting the heritage foreshore prior to reclamation. The signs stretch between Te Okā / Point Erin and Taurarua / Point Resolution. Each panel includes photos and facts that celebrate the history of Waitematā.

The panels can be followed along the original foreshore to make a self-guided tour which takes approximately three hours to complete. Almost the entire walk is suitable for people with all levels of fitness, most wheelchair users, cyclists, scooterists, and is child, pushchair and dog friendly.

The new panels were installed ready to be part of the Auckland Heritage Festival programme. Local board chair Pippa Coom, and board member and Events portfolio lead Richard Northey were participants of the Heritage Festival walk in October 2017.

The next step for this project is the digitisation of the interpretation signs, led by local board member and Planning and Heritage portfolio lead Vernon Tava. This will allow walkers to access additional information via their smart phones through QR codes on the signs. Keep a look out for this in 2019.



Heritage Festival Walk

Park improvements

Albert Park improvements

Albert Park is a much loved park in our city centre. Known as our heritage park, it is appreciated for its long history and its distinctive character. The park offers Victorian gardens, fountain, sculptures and heritage structures such as Albert Park Keepers Cottage and the Albert Park Band Rotunda. The wide footpaths throughout the park also provide a connection between the university, library, art gallery and Queen Street for pedestrians.

There have been a number of improvement projects in Albert Park over the last year to help maintain its historic character, improve safety and enjoyment for park users and provide improved community spaces.

Albert Park Keepers Cottage

The Albert Park Keepers Cottage was built in 1882. This gothic style building has become treasured for its heritage value. The 136 year old cottage has recently received a much needed upgrade; renewal works undertaken over the last year included a seismic upgrade, roof replacement, interior renewal and a repaint. The cottage is intended to be used as a community space from 2018/2019.

Albert Park Band Rotunda

The Albert Park Band Rotunda is an iconic feature in Albert Park, built in 1901, it is the oldest surviving bandstand in the Auckland region. Restoration works of this structure have included roof repairs, joinery repairs, a full repaint and security lighting upgrade.

Pedestrian safety

Efforts have been made over recent years by Auckland Council to improve safety at Albert Park. Projects were funded by the local board, Auckland Transport and the City Centre Targeted Rate. Lighting in the park was upgraded and shrubs and trees were pruned to improve night time visibility for pedestrians. Wayfinding signage was put in place, along with installation of additional CCTV cameras at the entrances and throughout the park. Improvements were targeted at three pathways which will discourage antisocial behaviour and better connect pedestrians with their destination.

Wayfinding at Auckland Domain

As well as being home to several sports fields and regional attractions such as the Auckland War Memorial Museum, the Auckland Domain also provides key connections to Grafton and Parnell town centre.

Wayfinding signage in the Domain is a Waitemata Local Board initiative to improve the connectivity between Parnell train station and the Domain.

In December, the local board approved funding from the Locally Driven Initiatives to design and install wayfinding signs on the northern boundary of the Domain.

Grey Lynn Monkey Bars

The reinstatement of the Grey Lynn Monkey Bars was a great example of democracy in action and that age is no barrier in contributing to Waitemata's design and identity.

In April 2017, the local board received a petition from 8-year old twins Ila and Jaya Patel with 210 signatures from Grey Lynn Primary School pupils wanting the council to bring back monkey bars to Grey Lynn Park following a playground upgrade that didn't include them.

Local board chair Pippa Coom and local board member Adriana Aveñdano Christie attended the Grey Lynn Primary School assembly along with now Prime Minister Jacinda Adern, to receive the petition.

The board allocated budget to reinstate the monkey bars, which were installed in May this year.



Cox's Bay playground upgrade

Cox's Bay playground was due for a renewal, which is usually undertaken on a like-for-like basis. In the case of Cox's Bay playground, we identified the renewal as an opportunity to create positive experiences for a wide age range by enhancing the playground to deliver greater play value and make the most of the park's great location. The local board contributed an additional \$100,000 from the Locally Driven Initiatives budget towards enhancing the Cox's Bay Reserve playground renewal project.

The playground was built based on a theme of natural play and the design reflects the history of the area, which used to be an iwi seasonal harvesting place. New planting and natural play features such

as boulders and climbing rocks were included in the design. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei contributed to the design through the colour pallet for the play equipment and painting of the stilts in traditional colours. The planting around the playground incorporates pā harakeke flax (special weaving flax) which the local iwi will be able to harvest to use for weaving.

The reopening of the playground was held in September 2017. Deputy chair and Parks portfolio lead Shale Chambers re-opened the playground at an event attended by local board chair Pippa Coom and local board members Adriana Aveñdano Christie, Vernon Tava, Richard Northey, and Rob Thomas.



Grey Lynn Pump Track

Grey Lynn Pump Track

The Grey Lynn Pump Track is a fantastic example of a community-led project. In 2015, community parents Paul Wacker and Scott Keuglar with a large group of children presented an idea to the Waitematā Local Board to develop a bike pump track in Grey Lynn Park.

The bike pump track is an all-weather tar seal circuit designed to use the pumping motion of the cyclist's body as they ride instead of pedalling. The track caters for a wide range of ages, from very young children to adults.

The board unanimously agreed to provide permission for the use of the land and to contribute \$30,000 towards the pump track. This was the first project to be approved for funding through the Community Led Small Build Programme, a new programme that supports small community projects that are at least 80 per cent funded by the community.

The Grey Lynn Pump Track opening party was held on 18 November 2017 and celebrated by an opening party with food trucks, demonstrations, prizes and lots of bikes. Local board member Rob Thomas spoke on behalf of the Waitematā Local Board at the celebration.

Grey Lynn Pump Track was a finalist for the Big Bike Bling Award category in the 2017 Bike to the Future Awards.

The track is now enjoyed by over 1000 children and their bikes a week.

Symonds Street cemetery

Symonds Street Cemetery is one of Auckland's most historic and unusual public reserves. With its combination of scattered graves, grassed open spaces, deciduous glades and native forest, the cemetery forms an interesting and unique passive recreation area on the fringe of the city centre.

We recognise the significance of this place and have allocated funding towards programmes that ensure the maintenance and restoration of the cemetery's monuments and surrounding natural heritage area. A monument conservation programme has now been developed which will inform the future care of the cemetery. Deputy chair Shale Chambers sits on the Friends of Symonds Street Cemetery which is an advisory group focused on the protection and preservation of this historic cemetery.

The board also provided funding towards increasing the public enjoyment of this heritage park. Over the last year, a new walking trail was created (November 2017), with 23 interpretive signs installed in the West Cemetery. A number of guided walks and events were hosted in the park including the Heritage Festival in October, the Rose Event in November, Dare to Explore in January and Pop 2018 in March.

2018 marked the 175th anniversary of William Hobson's death. An event was held to commemorate this important anniversary. This event was a local board supported event that was delivered by the Friends of Symonds Street Cemetery.



Heritage Festival Walk at the Symonds Street Cemetery

Volunteers in local parks

Waitematā is fortunate to have passionate members of the community that contribute their valuable time towards environmental outcomes at their favourite parks. We want to enable and support our communities to lead initiatives such as volunteering at their local parks.

Last year, the board allocated \$10,000 towards an ecological volunteers and environmental programme. This programme provided support to volunteer groups to carry out ecological restoration and environmental programmes in local parks, such as community planting events, plant and animal pest control and litter removal.

In 2017/2018, more than 1000 volunteer hours were undertaken at projects including:

- planting at Point Resolution
- weed control and grave maintenance at Symonds Street Cemetery
- ongoing animal pest control at Alberon Reserve, Auckland Domain, Newmarket Park, Lemington Reserve and Tirotai Reserve, and the addition of three new sites: Westmere Park, Grey Lynn Park and Hakanoa Reserve
- restoration work and litter clean-up at Lemington Reserve
- litter clean-ups at Albert Park, Myers Park and Victoria Park
- weed control and planting at Cox's Bay Reserve.

Environmental initiatives

Waitematā Urban Forest

The board commissioned a study to compare changes in the urban forest canopy data from 2006 to 2016. Using Light imaging, Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data we were better able to understand changes in the urban forest coverage.

The findings from the report captured and mapped canopy losses as well as newly established canopy and canopy growth. The report also identified that the rate of urban forest canopy loss on private land is disproportionately higher than the loss on public parkland.

Armed with information from this report, we are better able to maximise the benefits and protection of the urban vegetation in the Waitematā area.

This data has now encouraged a wider piece of work to be done regionally and will be part of the Auckland Urban Forest Strategy.

Low carbon lifestyles

The low carbon lifestyles programme is a locally funded programme that aims to increase energy efficiency in households which will reduce household energy costs, improve household warmth and comfort, and reduce carbon dioxide (CO²) emissions.

The Live Lightly team reached 220 households (a total of 778 residents) in the Waitematā area. Each household was given personalised advice on how they could improve the energy efficiency of their home, while at the same time saving money, improving their warmth and comfort, and reducing CO² emissions. Follow up phone calls to participants evaluated any changes in household energy efficiency. Of the 148 households that participated in follow up phone calls, 127 reported changed behaviours. As a result of advice given, the estimated total dollar savings was an average of \$244 per household. The estimated total CO² savings was 23,400kgs, an average of 184kg per household.

Business Food Waste Initiative

A trial was undertaken in the Waitematā area to support cafes to divert coffee grounds from landfill. Coffee grounds were collected from 10 cafes within the local board area and distributed to eight local community gardens. The trial resulted in six tonnes of coffee grounds being diverted from landfill, and a saving of 1.4 tonnes of CO₂ emissions through reduced transportation and compost production.

Community resilience

Due to our coastal location, Waitematā is at risk from a number of natural hazards. To ensure our communities are supported and resilient to disasters and the impact of climate change, the local board is working with our community centres to support educational programmes to prepare our communities.

Over the last year, the board facilitated two Emergency Preparedness workshops that brought together representatives from different Waitematā community facilities, chosen for their key locations within Waitematā area, to serve the community as civil defence information centres.

Local board chair Pippa Coom and local board member and Environment and Infrastructure portfolio lead Rob Thomas attended the workshops.



Low carbon lifestyles programme

Planning



Tuk-Talk for the Parnell Plan engagement

Parnell Plan

The Parnell Plan will provide strategic guidance to ensure Parnell continues to be a fantastic place to live, work, play and do business. The plan will set out the community's vision for the area, key objectives, and our strategies for achieving these objectives.

The vision of the draft Parnell Plan is "Auckland's First Suburb: A creative, innovative and collaborative community that celebrates its unique natural, cultural and historic environment."

The plan is currently being developed with a community-led working group.

Six workshops were held with the working group between 15 February and 16 April, which consisted of the Blind Foundation, Holy Trinity Cathedral, local youth representatives, Parnell Business Association, Parnell Community Committee, Parnell Heritage, Parnell School, Parnell Trust, The Auckland War

Memorial Museum, mana whenua, and local board members Pippa Coom, Vernon Tava, and Richard Northey.

The Parnell Plan public engagement received over 200 pieces of feedback and the use of the 'Tuk-Talk' initiative was very successful with over 600 feedback forms being submitted. The key themes that emerged from mana whenua were ensuring Māori stories and histories were visible and shared, and enhancement of the natural environment.

The final Parnell Plan will be adopted and published in 2018/2019.

City Centre Public Amenities Project

Auckland Council commissioned the City Centre Public Amenities report which serves to understand the public amenity provision, especially public toilets, shower and lockers in Auckland's city centre.

The City Centre Public Amenities review found that enhancing the city centre public amenities will benefit the wider population; it will be of particular benefit to older people, parents and carers with young children, people with disabilities, and transgender people as well as the rough sleeping community.

Through the Auckland's 2018-2028 Long-term Plan consultation process, there was a strong theme through the submissions received by the Waitemata Local Board that people wanted the council to increase support for the rough sleeping community.

At our March business meeting, the Waitemata Local Board endorsed the City Centre Public Amenities report and confirmed the board's role as champions in the provision of more and enhanced city centre amenities including toilets, showers, drinking fountains and lockers, which enhance the dignity, health and wellbeing of residents, workers and visitors.

This report has provided a framework for a strategic approach to public amenities which will be used to identify opportunities to partner and affect future developments to provide these amenities.

Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa Development Plan

Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa is a significant reserve for its richness in history, geology, ecology and its diverse community use.

The reef was formed over 28,500 years ago and is part of Auckland's longest lava flow from the Three Kings eruption. The reef and the surrounding area has now been identified as ecologically significant in the Unitary Plan and supports a range of habitats, including feeding grounds for wading birds. Recently, the site has a popular off-leash dog area.

The local board acknowledges the significance of this area and adopted the Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa Development Plan in February. The plan presents a holistic direction that will provide for the full range of community needs. It will enable a coordinated development of Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa over the next 10 plus years.

Auckland's City Fringe Economic Development Plan

The local economic development outcome in the 2017 Waitemata Local Board Plan is to achieve an innovative, productive and resilient local economy.

Auckland's City Fringe Economic Development Action Plan was adopted by the local board in November 2017. The vision of the action plan is for a vibrant, connected, healthy and thriving businesses and communities.

Economic Development portfolio lead Adriana Aveñdano Christie and portfolio co-holder Rob Thomas launched the Auckland's City Fringe Economic Development Action Plan in June 2018.

Alongside the launch, we delivered a workshop with our six city fringe business associations to identify how the Waitemata Local Board can best collaborate with the business communities in delivering economic outcomes for the city fringe.

Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea Park Development Plan

Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea is a wildlife sanctuary in Waitemata with a natural spring-fed lake. This popular park provides a green refuge for visitors from the city.

The park is surrounded by a cluster of major attractions including the Auckland Zoo, Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT), the Western Springs Stadium, as well as Western Springs Outer Fields, Western Springs Garden Reserve, Motions Road Reserve and Chamberlain Park Golf Course.

The Waitemata Local Board commissioned this development plan to provide a vision and action plan to guide improvements for Western Springs as well as its neighbouring reserves and facilities over the short, medium, and long-term.

We approved the draft plan earlier this year for public consultation, and are looking forward to hearing our communities' feedback.



Meola Reserve

Pedestrian connectivity

Local roads and footpaths sit under the governance of Auckland Transport however we work closely with Auckland Transport to provide local guidance on projects and upgrades that should take place in the local area.

One of the priorities for the Waitemata Local Board is to provide residents and visitors with accessible, connected and safe transport networks with well-designed streets.

Parnell Train Station connection

Parnell Train Station opened with limited services in March 2017. The Waitemata Local Board contributed \$330,000 of our Local Board Transport Capital Fund towards a new footpath link which connects the station to Carlaw Park, Nicholls Lane and Stanley Street.

Passengers will be able to continue their commute down Nicholls Lane allowing easier connections to the National Library Auckland, ASB Tennis Centre, and local offices as well as connecting to Auckland University. The footpath is due to be completed late 2018.

Ponsonby Road pedestrian improvements project

Auckland Transport and the Waitemata Local Board improved the pedestrian experience along Ponsonby Road with changes to eight side streets between Lincoln Street and Pollen Street.

The local board contributed over \$770,000 towards the Ponsonby Road Pedestrian Improvements project from our Local Board Transport Capital Fund. Improvements are aimed at creating a more pedestrian-friendly environment building raised speed tables to create a slower-speed environment at intersections, upgrading footpaths, installing new street furniture and trees, and renewing street lights.

Seven of the eight intersections were completed in November 2017, and the remaining works on Collingwood Street intersection was completed in August 2018.

Poynton Terrace pedestrian crossing project

The Waitemata Local Board has been seeking to improve the link from Myers Park through to Karangahape Road. This priority was identified through public consultation and included in the Myers Park Development Plan.

Led by local board member and Transport portfolio co-holder Vernon Tava, the board requested that the council's Development Project Office complete the Poynton Terrace raised table crossing between St Kevin's Arcade and Myers Park. This crossing provides a visual link from Myers Park through to the shops in St Kevin's Arcade (and from the shops through to Myers Park) and provides a better connection through to the K-Road businesses.

We are pleased to see progress with this project. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei performed a blessing which was attended by local board member Adriana Aveñdano Christie, for works to begin on the site in July 2018. Works are due to be completed late September 2018.

Newmarket Park entrance

As a result of the construction of the new Cowie Street Bridge to increase safety and efficiency of the rail network into Parnell train station, Auckland Transport and the local board took the opportunity to improve the connectivity to Newmarket Park by improving its entrance at Laxton Terrace. The new bridge will also accommodate a future Greenways link, a planned cycling and walking route linking Parnell and Newmarket via the old Parnell rail tunnel.

New public space at the Eastern Viaduct

The waterfront is becoming an increasingly popular destination for Waitemata residents, Aucklanders and visitors. Panuku Development Auckland (Panuku) has responded to the need to make Eastern Viaduct a safer and more attractive place for people.

The local board pushed for Panuku to bring forward the realisation from the 2012 Waterfront Plan, to create a usable open space on the waterfront. Public car parking has been removed from Eastern Viaduct to improve safety and prioritise the space for people and a space for temporary activation such as a community pump track. The space will also improve the connection between the waterfront corridor and Wynyard Quarter.

Place naming

A responsibility of the local board is the naming of new roads and parks within the local area.

The Waitematā Local Board considers all new names carefully, often through a consultation process to ensure each name reflects the heritage and identity of the area.

Tiramarama Way

The board approved the name Tiramarama Way for the east-west laneway that traverses the Wynyard central development block in Wynyard Quarter.

The meaning of the name is to shine, glimmer and light the way, and is a reference to the sun god as he wakes and rises in the east, traversing to the west and bathing, highlighting the waters of Te Waitematā. The name reflects the design of the laneway, which includes 'purposeful puddles' which rise and fall with the tides.

The name was proposed by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and underwent a rigorous consultation process with mana whenua, developers and key stakeholders.

Wynyard Quarter Laneways

The local board approved a suite of names in August 2017 for a further five new laneways in Wynyard Quarter.

The network of laneways will traverse the Wynyard central development block in Wynyard Quarter which is bound by Halsey, Madden, Beaumont and Pakenham streets. The new development will be home to commercial and residential buildings.

The set of names belong together and tell a narrative that reflects the harbour location and the heritage of the area.

The chosen names and their meanings are:

- Pūanga Lane: Beginning of harvest cycle; seventh brightest star seen above Tauroru (Orion's Belt) in early morning
- Māhuru Lane: Spring cycle of initial growth; fourth month in Māori lunar calendar
- Autahi Lane: The second brightest star, the son of Takurua
- Waikokota Lane: The place where cockles could be harvested
- Pipiri Lane: First month of the Māori lunar calendar- depicts the cyclic connection of arrival and departure, beginning and end.



Placemaking

Teed Street Upgrade and opening

The upgrade of Teed Street is the first major project delivered from the Newmarket Laneways Plan that was adopted by the local board in 2015. The local board has a vision to enhance the pedestrian environment to create a quality public realm with streets that are locally distinctive, safe, healthy, accessible and social.

The Waitemata Local Board contributed \$350,000 towards the upgrade through the Local Board Transport Capital Fund. The developed design incorporated feedback from mana whenua, Auckland Transport, the Newmarket Business Association, and community groups and residents.

Highlights from the transformation include new street furniture, increased outdoor dining capacity, native trees and shrubs and a Ray Haydon sculpture. The design features 'bio-retention' rain gardens designed to help improve stormwater quality.

Plants were carefully selected for the area with the cabbage trees holding a particular cultural significance. The area was once named Te Ti Tūtahi – 'the cabbage tree standing alone'. This tree stood until 1908, and now cabbage trees have been returned to Teed Street, some of which directly descend from that tree.

A celebration of the street and artwork was held in July 2018, and involved a blessing of the street, rain gardens and sculpture by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei kaumatua. Local board chair, Pippa Coom spoke at the celebration acknowledging the Newmarket Business Association and Newmarket Arts Trust.

The afternoon was accompanied by music from the New Zealand Symphonic Orchestra and food from cafes on the street, showcasing their specialties.

New neighbourhood park in Wynyard Quarter

Wynyard Quarter has been undergoing a transformation to become a new city centre neighbourhood. In December 2017, the Waitemata Local Board approved the concept design for a new neighbourhood park in the corner of Daldy Street. The aim is to create a high quality 'neighbourhood' park at the centre of the Quarter that will function as a 'backyard' for the future residential community.

The new park will provide outdoor exercise, relaxation, imaginative play, a pollinator habitat as well as a space for local events.

Tiramarama Way

The opening of the laneways in June 2018 is another step towards achieving the 2012 Waterfront Plan vision of creating a new city waterfront neighbourhood in the Quarter. Since the Quarter welcomed its first residents, we have enjoyed watching it develop as Waitemata's newest neighbourhood. Local board members Adriana Aveñano Christie and Richard Northey represented the Waitemata Local Board at the opening and naming of Tiramarama Way.





Kelmarna Gardens

Community-led projects

254 Ponsonby Road

254 Ponsonby Road was identified and purchased for the purpose of creating an open space civic site. The aspiration for the site is to serve as a place for the community to gather and a space to host local events.

The board endorsed a community-led design process in 2014 to develop a community vision for the design of Ponsonby Park. The design – strongly endorsed by the public – is the development of the full site as an open space and includes a park, pavilion, plaza, lanes and street upgrades.

The board adopted the community's vision for 254 Ponsonby Road as Waitemata's priority unfunded capital project. The board advocated to the Governing Body early this year for funding to develop the site through the council's 10-year budget process. Local board members and Parks portfolio lead Shale Chambers and portfolio co-holder Adriana Aveñdano Christie presented to the Governing Body along with local board chair Pippa Coom and local board member Richard Northey.

Ponsonby Park has now been approved for an options paper and the development of a business case, and is earmarked for funding to deliver the project in 2020-21 financial year.

Community empowerment

The Waitemata Local Board believes in empowering communities to 'have the power and ability to influence decisions, take action and make changes happen in their lives and communities'. The local board provided funding to support the following groups to pursue community-led initiatives:

- **The Newmarket Business Association** to identify opportunities for place activation and better community outcomes for Newmarket Station Square. Findings from the public consultation were completed and presented to the local board, and will inform the next steps for activation in the square.
- **The Grafton Residents Association** to create a community-led vision for Grafton which will be used as a tool to assist future development. It is due to be completed in 2019.
- **Grey Lynn Residents Association** to develop a community-led precinct vision for the Great North Road area. It is due to be completed in 2019.

Community gardens

The Waitemata Local Board continues to support the network of community gardens and garden related

projects in the local board area by providing funding, staff support, and educational workshops. Over the last year, the board has supported a growing network of gardens including:

- Kelmarna Organic City Farm
- Grafton Community Centre
- Wynyard Quarter Daldy Street
- Te Maara St Columbus Community Garden
- Housing NZ Greys Ave
- Freemans Bay Community Garden
- Francis Reserve Grey Lynn – Auckland Women's Centre
- The Junction – Symonds Street
- Arahura Trust Crossroads Club House
- Auckland Live
- Grey Lynn Fruit Trees
- Grey Lynn Community Centre
- Wilton Street Picnic Garden Grey Lynn
- Enviro schools and sustainable schools projects
- St Matthews in the City and City Mission
- Feijoa Forest
- ADHB site opportunities
- Bee Hives Town Hall
- Bee pollinator pathways
- For the love of bees project activity
- Hauora Garden – Studio One
- United Church of Tonga
- Highwic House.

Showers for homeless

The Waitemata Local Board supports initiatives that will enhance the dignity and wellbeing for rough sleepers.

Through the Waitemata Community Grants Programme, the local board provided funding to the City Centre Residents Group, who partnered with the Auckland City Mission and Ellen Melville Centre to offer a programme of showers to homeless people this winter. This initiative took place at the community centre twice a week for eight weeks.

Swags for City Mission

The local board also provided a grant to the Auckland City Mission to purchase 50 portable backpack beds (swags) for the homeless in the city centre. This initiative will help to improve the health of rough sleepers in our community by providing warmth and basic shelter which will be particularly useful in winter.



Fukuoka Gardens

Partnerships and collaboration

We value building strong relationships and working together with our mana whenua, our partners, our neighbouring local boards, and further away crossing international borders.

Some of the relationships over the last year were:

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Marae visit

Delivering on the council's commitment to Māori at a local level is a priority for the Waitemātā Local Board. We acknowledge the long association mana whenua have with the Waitemātā area and undertake to work in a genuine partnership with iwi and hapū who have an interest in Waitemātā.

On 26 October Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei marae hosted the Waitemātā Local Board members and local board services staff. It was a great opportunity to strengthen our partnership and to hear our partner's aspirations and projects, and to share our own focus areas.

The hui was led by Rangimarie Hunua, Chief Executive of Whai Maia and attended by Waitemātā Local Board members Pippa Coom, Rob Thomas, Adriana Aveñdano Christie, Richard Northey, and Shale Chambers.

Fukuoka Garden – Sister Awards

The redeveloped Fukuoka Garden won Best Overall Project and Best Local Government Project at the 2018 Sister City New Zealand Awards. The award

recognises the initiative for strengthening the relationship between Auckland and Fukuoka, fostering international understanding and friendship.

The original Fukuoka Friendship Garden was gifted to the Auckland Zoo in 1989 from Japan's Fukuoka City in recognition of their sister city relationship. The garden was relocated due to zoo expansions and has found its new home at the neighbouring Western Springs Lakeside Park.

Friends of Fukuoka Garden community group played a key role in the planning, design and construction of the new garden. They continue to be strongly involved, providing important cultural advice and expertise in Japanese garden maintenance.

Parks portfolio lead Shale Chambers and Planning and Heritage portfolio lead Vernon Tava were appointed by the board to oversee the project and the relationships involved in the project.

Fukuoka Garden is an authentic Japanese garden that hosts a tea pavilion, waterfall and pond. Many of the original features such as bonsai trees, paving stones and lanterns were preserved from the original garden.

Fukuoka Garden is a beautiful oasis for people to enjoy for free, a place of peace and tranquillity in central Auckland.





Newmarket Stream volunteers

Vanuatu delegates

A great step in creating global partnerships, the board were happy to welkamem (welcome) delegates from Vanuatu to the Waitematā Local Board in February this year. The delegates were a mix of political and executive leaders including representatives from the Ministry of Internal Affairs and from the Department of Local Authorities.

The meeting enabled both countries to share key learnings across international boundaries about working closely with the community to deliver 'place shaping' and 'activation' in the community especially within Business Improvement Districts.

Newmarket Streamside Assistance Programme

The Streamside Assistance Programme for Newmarket stream is a wonderful example of neighbouring local boards and local communities working together towards a common purpose.

This is a joint initiative between the Waitematā Local Board and the Ōrākei Local Board that supports advice and volunteers to restore the health of the connecting waterways.

The local boards commissioned a survey that provided baseline data for the stream and funded a predator control workshop in November 2017. Since then, street coordinators and volunteers have implemented animal pest control and bird counting in the neighbourhood. This fantastic work will continue in 2018 and 2019.



Public art

Tauranga Waka – the resting place of canoes

A set of five bronze wakas now sit on Tangihanga Pūkāea - Beach Road where the original shoreline once sat. The artwork called Tauranga Waka - the resting place of canoes, tells a historic narrative of waka of Hauraki neighbours sitting alongside waka of Ngāti Whātua. The working waka symbolises a time of peace and manaakitanga.

The Waitematā Local Board places great value in celebrating our heritage and encourage mana whenua to tell their history and stories of Waitematā's past. Deputy chair Shale Chambers delivered a speech at the celebration in May welcoming the new public artwork to the Waitematā area.

This artwork was funded through the City Centre Targeted Rate.

Light Weight O at O'Connell Street

Light Weight O by artist Catherine Griffiths, funded by the City Centre Targeted Rate has been installed on O'Connell Street. The art work is a big 'O' suspended from the buildings. Bronze on one side and a mirror on the other, it gently rotates, highlighting the amazing architecture of the surrounding buildings from different angles.

The launch of the Light Weight O artwork was held in August 2018. Local board member and Arts, Culture and Events portfolio lead Richard Northey delivered a speech at the launch of the new artwork in the city centre, also attended by local board member Adriana Aveñdano Christie.

Support to business associations

Seven business associations operate within the Waitematā Local Board area, of which six are established as Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). The local board continues to be represented on business associations, providing advice, advocacy support and allocating funds to help deliver local initiatives.

Below is the list of the business associations with their respective board members representative:



Grey Lynn Business Association (BID) – Denise Roche



Parnell Business Association (BID) – Vernon Tava



Heart of the City (BID) – Shale Chambers



Ponsonby Business Association (BID) – Pippa Coom



Karangahape Road Business Association (BID) – Richard Northey

NEWMARKET.

Newmarket Business Association (BID) – Rob Thomas



Uptown Business Association (BID) – Adriana Aveñdano Christie

Local events

Local events are a great way to bring people together to connect and celebrate the amazing community they live in. The Waitematā Local Board invests in new and established events that are free, diverse and accessible.

Over the last year we again delivered our two signature events; Parnell Festival of Roses and Myers Park Medley. We also hosted our Pop programme held at different locations in Waitematā and hosted the Good Citizens Awards which we hold every two years.

We also supported a range of community events through our Events Partnerships Fund and Events Development Fund such as Grey Lynn RSC Anzac Day service, Festival Italiano, Artweek, Grey Lynn Festival, West End Cup and the opening night of the Franklin Road Christmas Lights community event.

Local board delivered events

Parnell Festival of Roses

For the 24th year running, the Parnell Festival of Roses was delivered in the Parnell Rose Gardens (Dove Myer Robinson Park). Held on Sunday

19 November, the popular event received an estimated 3000 visitors throughout the day.

Parnell Festival of Roses is a board funded free community event that celebrates the blooming of the roses. It brings the wider community together to enjoy a day in this iconic park. The event featured two stages of live entertainment, and a series of rose themed talks. Sixty-four stalls were present on the day providing fun activities, food and beverage, community and craft stalls.

The following community groups and organisations were included in the planning of the event; Parnell Business Association, Parnell on the Roses, Mediaworks, Parnell District School, The Heritage Rose Group, and The Blind Foundation.

The board is committed to accessibility, and New Zealand sign language Interpreters were onsite all day, and audio-described tours were offered.

Local board member Richard Northey gave the welcoming speech on behalf of the board.



Myers Park Medley

Myers Park Medley is an annual event and is now into its fourth year. This year the event was held on 18 February 2018.

This community day out brings together city centre residents to connect and celebrate our unique community. The family-friendly day is filled with roaming entertainment, face painting, activities, games, and of course the chance to enjoy Myers Park's award winning playground and splashpad.

The varied stage entertainment reflected the diverse audience, with a mixture of young and old, different backgrounds and cultures, from people attending alone, pairs of friends and families.

Member Richard Northey delivered a speech to welcome attendees and thank the organisers, community groups, the community, and Karangahape Road Business Association for their contributions to the day.



Good Citizens Awards

Every two years the Waitematā Local Board hosts the Good Citizen Awards.

The awards are the board's way of recognising community leaders and groups for going above and beyond for the benefit of the community and the environment. At our third Good Citizens' Awards ceremony held in October we celebrated the huge contribution by volunteers and heard the amazing stories behind each of the nominations. We are privileged to have fantastic individuals and groups in our community doing such amazing work.

Awards were made in four categories - Children and Young People, Individual, Community Group, Special Award for Long Service to the Community - to a diverse range of recipients from across Waitematā.

Congratulations to everyone who was recognised on the night and thank you for the great work that you do for our communities.

Children and Young People Award

- Amy Klitscher
- Jessica Palairt
- Sophie Sills
- Ariana Brunet
- Naushyn Janah

Community Group Award

- Outreach Therapy Pets Programme
- Grey Lynn Pump Track group
- Community-led Design (254 Ponsonby Road)
- Awhina Mai Tatou Katoa

- Rainbow Youth
- Littlemore Trust

Individual Award

- Daniel Tippett
- Clare Lynch
- Chris Bailey
- Adam Parkinson
- Vivienne Lang
- Andrea Reid
- Bob Tait
- Kiran Patel
- Joan Goodwin
- Paul Gourley
- Makyla Curtis
- Gloria Jenkins
- Brian Deadman
- Garry James Lambert
- Kate Burke
- John Pakenham

Special Award for Long Service to the Community

- Tim Coffey
- Deborah White
- Tony Skelton



Pop in Waitematā

Pop is an annual series of temporary public art projects designed to integrate arts and culture into the everyday lives of Aucklanders by taking arts and culture into open public spaces.

The local board invested \$65,000 to support the 2018 season. In the month of March, eight Pop projects were delivered across seven locations in the local board area.

The events included:

- **Pop Ping Pong** - game of ping pong with electronic soundscape
- **Pop Marbles** – engaging passers-by to construct a unique marble run
- **Pop Plinths** – a selfie opportunity for runners to strike a pose
- **Pop Drop** - two super-sized water filled droplets at the harbours edge
- **Pop Poetry** – held at Symonds Street cemetery
- **Pop Riders** - White Face Crew who roamed cycleways on 'popped out' bicycles
- **Pop Poi** – inviting audiences to try their hand at poi
- **Pop Big Bang** - a grid of 25 drums that lit up when played.

The events were delivered in partnership with the Auckland Arts Festival and attracted approximate audience numbers of 45,505 across a three week period.

Board supported events

- **Festival Italiano 2017** – held Sunday 1 October
- New Zealand's largest Italian street event held at Newmarket
- **Artweek 2017** – held 7-15 October
- Ever popular event in the heart of the city
- **Grey Lynn Park Festival 2017** – held 25 November
- Popular and long running annual event at Grey Lynn Park
- **2017 West End Cup** – held 1-3 December
- International tennis tournament held annually in Westmere
- **2017 Franklin Road Christmas Lights Community Event** – held December
- Annual event to celebrate the community and their contributions each year
- **175th anniversary of William Hobson's death** – held 11 February
- Friends of Symonds Street Cemetery held a special event in February to commemorate this anniversary
- **2018 Anzac services** – held 25 April
- The board provided funding to Grey Lynn RSC to deliver this year's Anzac Day service.



Community grants and funding

The Waitematā Community Grants Programme provides opportunities for community organisations to deliver projects, activities and services that benefit residents in the Waitematā Local Board area.

Local community grants

The board ran two Local Grants and three Quick Response rounds in the 2017/2018 year, allocating a total of \$140,511 to 56 community organisations. The grants enabled these community groups to deliver a range of outcomes for the local area such as arts, community, environment, events, heritage, and sports and recreation.

Some highlights for the grants recipients were:

Action Education – “By attending our workshops, participants were introduced to spoken word poetry, gained writing and literacy skills, built confidence and self-esteem through self-expression and had an interest in learning ignited.”

St Peters College – “The worm farms have formed a strong talking point with staff and students. Many have been asking how they can contribute and help.”

The successful applicants were:

- Action Education Incorporated
- Adrienne Schierning
- Age Concern Auckland Incorporated
- Auckland & District Pipe Band Inc.
- Auckland Basketball Services Limited
- Auckland Choral Society Incorporated
- Auckland City Centre Residents' Group Incorporated
- Auckland City Mission
- Auckland Fringe Trust
- Auckland Regional Migrant Services Charitable Trust
- Auckland Table Tennis Association (Inc)
- Auckland Women's Centre Incorporated
- Audrey van Ryn
- Breaking Boundaries
- Children's Autism Foundation
- Chirag Jindal
- Circability Trust
- Deaf Wellbeing Society Incorporated
- Gladstone Tennis Club Incorporated
- Grey Lynn Business Association
- Hamilton Embassy Enterprises Limited
- Heritage Roses, Auckland
- Jewish Federation of New Zealand Incorporated
- KidsCan Charitable Trust
- Life Education Trust Counties Manukau
- Mr Anirban Datta
- Ms Colleen Altagracia
- New Zealand Dance Advancement Trust (The New Zealand Dance Company)
- New Zealand Dance Festival Trust - Tempo Dance Festival
- New Zealand Sunday School Union Inc
- Newmarket Community Association
- Parnell Community Committee Incorporated
- Parnell Heritage Incorporated
- Parnell Trust
- Ponsonby Park - CLE Group
- Project Litefoot Trust
- Q Theatre Trust
- Rainbow Youth Incorporated
- Rangmanch NZ Inc.
- Richmond Rovers Rugby League & Sports Club Incorporated
- Sarah Smuts-Kennedy
- Shaila Contractor
- Show Me Shorts Film Festival Trust
- St Mary's College Board of Trustees
- St. Peter's College
- StarJam Charitable Trust
- Sustainable Coastlines Charitable Trust
- Tamara Azizian
- The Auckland Children's Christmas Parade Trust
- The Auckland King Tides Initiative
- The Auckland Performing Arts Centre at Western Springs (TAPAC)
- The Graduate Choir NZ Trust
- Tuatara Collective
- Unitec Institute of Technology
- Westhaven Radio Sailing
- Youthline Auckland Charitable Trust.

Accommodation grants

The board ran one Accommodation Grant round, allocating a total of \$125,000 to 21 community organisations, which supported their ongoing rent/lease payments, rates and ongoing venue hire costs.

These organisations reside in the Waitemata Local Board area and provide important services that align with our priorities:

- Action Education
- Body Positive Incorporated
- Chinese New Settlers Services Trust
- Foundation for Peace Studies Aotearoa New Zealand trading as The Peace Foundation
- Fun and Games Toy Library Inc.
- Global Action Plan Oceania
- Indian Ink Trust
- National Youth Theatre Company Trust
- New Zealand Comedy Trust
- New Zealand Dance Advancement Trust (The New Zealand Dance Company)
- New Zealand Dance Festival Trust - Tempo Dance Festival
- New Zealand Society of Authors
- New Zealand Writers Guild Incorporated
- Objectspace
- Opera Factory Trust
- Pacific Islands Dance Fono Trust
- Rainbow Youth Incorporated
- Raukauri Music Therapy Trust
- Script to Screen
- Te Karanga Charitable Trust
- The Lifewise Trust.

Local Events Development Fund

A separate annual expression of interest approach for the Local Events Development Fund is available to partner with established and emerging community-led events.

A highlight for the year was the Lightpath Festival – Te Ara I Whiti which was a popular celebration inviting the public to walk, bike, run, and experience the lights of Auckland's iconic 'pink path'. The event in December was enjoyed by approximately 7,000 participants.

In 2017/2018, the board allocated a total of \$32,000 towards four events through the Local Events Development Fund.

- Franklin Road Christmas Lights Opening Night
- Auckland International Buskers Festival

- The 17th Japan Day 2018
- Lightpath Festival - Te Ara I Whiti Festival.

Community Leases

The board supports the vital role community groups play in developing community engagement by providing subsidised leases for community activities across the local board area. These community groups provide a great range of outcomes to our communities. The leases are:

- Rape Crisis Auckland
- Auckland Bowling Club Incorporated
- Auckland Grammar Schools Board
- Auckland Kindergarten Association Incorporated - Freemans Bay
- Auckland Kindergarten Association Incorporated - Myers Park
- Auckland Kindergarten Association Incorporated - Parnell
- Auckland Musical Arts Trust
- Auckland Playcentres Assn Incorporated - Franklin Road
- Auckland Refugee Council
- Auckland Tennis Incorporated
- Auckland Women's Centre Incorporated
- Auckland Womens Refuge
- Basement Theatre Trust
- Children's Autism Foundation
- Circability Trust
- Citizens Advice Bureau - Grey Lynn
- Doctors for Sexual Abuse Care Incorporated
- Frank Sargeson Trust
- Grey Lynn Community Centre Incorporated
- Herne Bay Petanque Club Incorporated
- Herne Bay Ponsonby Racquets Club Incorporated
- Inner City Women's Group Incorporated
- Kelmarna Community Gardens Trust
- Kinder House Society Incorporated
- Museum of Transport and Technology Board
- Parnell Community Trust
- Parnell Lawn Tennis Club Incorporated
- Ponsonby Community Incorporated
- Richmond Rovers Rugby League Club Incorporated
- RNZ Plunket Society - Ponsonby
- RNZ Plunket Society - 192 Parnell Rd, Parnell
- RNZ Plunket Society - 545 Parnell Rd, Parnell
- Scout Association of NZ - Hawke Sea Scouts
- Societa' Dante Alighieri (Italian Society)

- Victoria Park Sports & Cultural Trust
- West End Lawn Tennis Club Incorporated
- Western Springs Assn Football Club Incorporated.

Consultation for the 10-year budget and Auckland Plan

The Waitemata Local Board members were keen to hear what locals had to say about the proposals in the 10-year budget and the Auckland Plan 2050.

It was a busy consultation month from February to March 2018. The local board hosted two 'Have Your Say' events in partnership with the Grey Lynn Residents Association and the Parnell Business Association and the Parnell Community Committee. The board also hosted a hearing style event at the local board office where people had an opportunity to present directly to the board. Local board members also presented at five community hosted events, one radio interview and four library drop-in sessions.

In total the board received over 1500 written submissions and interacted with over 100 people in person to hear what they had to say. The board heard from over 75 organisations and businesses.

It was great to hear that many of the submissions confirmed that we are heading in the right direction, with 83 per cent supporting or partially supporting the local board's priorities. Feedback also provided valuable direction towards which priorities to concentrate on.

The feedback received informed the 10-year budget as well as the 2018/2019 Waitemata Local Board Agreement.

Other consultations

Over the last year, the community was consulted on a number of significant local projects including:

- Waitemata Local Board Plan 2017-2020
- Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea park development plan
- Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa Development Plan
- Tree planting proposal for St Mary's Road
- Parnell Plan
- Salisbury Reserve Park Entrance.



Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea Park Development Plan consultation



Advocacy

A key role of the local board is to advocate for initiatives that the local board may not have decision-making responsibilities or funding for in this 10-year Budget, but recognise the value they will add to the local community.

Regional and national plans and policies

A key role of the local board is to represent communities' views on regional and national issues by providing feedback on plans and policies. Below is a summary of the board's submissions in the last year.

- Low Emissions Economy Draft Report
- Local Government (Community Well-being) Amendment Bill
- Auckland Plan Refresh
- Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan
- Waste Management and Minimisation Plan
- QEII Square Private Plan Change
- Rates Remission and Postponement Policy
- Regional Land Transport Plan.

Transport advocacy

The Waitemata Local Board is dedicated to providing accessible, connected and safe transport network with well-designed streets. This includes improving safety for commuters, drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

The local board's advocacy positions for transport are:

- ensure Parnell Train Station is providing full services and is accessible to all users at the earliest opportunity
- provide accessible pedestrian and cycling connections to Parnell Station. Open the Greenways route from the Strand through the old Parnell tunnel and create an accessible pedestrian connection from Parnell Station to the Domain, the Strand and Parnell Town Centre
- complete the Auckland Cycle Network
- improve access between Broadway and Station Square in Newmarket and link to the Newmarket Laneways Plan
- build light rail within the isthmus
- Auckland Transport to adopt a target of zero serious injuries or deaths on our roads as part of a comprehensive safe systems approach to road safety including safe road design, enforcement, safer speeds and driver education

- Auckland Transport to undertake a trial of a slow speed zone in a residential area and/or a town centre
- Auckland Transport to implement the city centre 30km per hour speed zone (as described in the City Centre Masterplan) and the Wynyard Quarter slower speed zone
- Auckland Transport to consider how every renewal and maintenance project can be leveraged to improve the road design for all users including layouts that include bus lanes, greenways, and cycle lanes, remove cycle pinch points and add better pedestrian crossings
- Auckland Transport to improve intersections with substantial foot traffic for pedestrians and developing solutions to improve safety and amenity for pedestrians
- Auckland Transport to advocate for a change of the give way rule requiring motorists to give way to pedestrians crossing parallel to the main road at intersections
- Auckland Transport to continue implementing residential parking schemes to manage commuter parking in central Auckland suburbs following consultation with residents
- Auckland Transport to develop the 2018/2019 foot path renewal programme
- secure a regional budget to enable the implementation of the Waitemata Local Board Greenways prioritised routes
- Auckland Transport to provide opportunities for greenery in every streetscape improvement.

Other advocacy

The Waitemata Local Board advocated to the Governing Body and Government on issues related to the arts, environmental and low carbon, affordable housing and solutions for homeless.

In addition to our advocacy for Ponsonby Park at 254 Ponsonby Road the Waitemata Local Board has prioritised the following advocacy areas:

- **affordable housing:** Ensure Auckland Council actively builds or enables others to provide affordable housing through appropriate mechanisms and tools
- **housing solution for homeless people:** Deliver short and medium-term housing solutions to address homelessness
- **work towards eliminating agrichemical use:** Secure a budget to eliminate agrichemical spray and embrace the commitment to minimise agrichemical use

- **reduction of wastewater flows into waterways and the Waitematā Harbour:** To increase funding for water quality improvements to accelerate the delivery of cleaner harbours, beaches and streams and support the delivery of localised solutions for all four catchments (Meola Reef, Grey Lynn, City Centre and Parnell/ Newmarket)
- **ensure Auckland's regional arts and cultural institutions and programmes are financially sustainable:** to secure appropriate funding to ensure the financial sustainability of projects, facilities, venues and events including the delivery of the free entertainment programme currently delivered by Regional Facilities Auckland.

The Waitematā Local Board also advocated for the following issues:

- **open and closed cemetery maintenance budget:** secure a regional maintenance budget to maintain a base service level for open and closed cemeteries.
- **Auckland Domain Capital Improvements Budget:** Secure adequate capital funds to progress the Auckland Domain Master Plan
- **Central Community Recycling Centre drop-off sites:** Secure the acquisition of a second drop-off facility and the completion of a main processing site which, together with the site being developed on Great North Road, will comprise a regional waste management network that will service the needs of Waitematā, Albert-Eden and Puketāpapa local boards.
- **Pt Erin Pool Redevelopment Initiative:** Prioritise Pt Erin Pool for redevelopment according to the recommendations endorsed by the Waitematā Local Board in 2013 in relation to two potential development concepts
- **Auckland is an age, child and youth-friendly city:** continue to put older persons, children and young people first so Auckland can become an age, child and youth-friendly city that is fit for all
- **city of peace:** support the development of a regional policy that prohibits the promotion, marketing and sales of weapons of war in council facilities including facilities managed by council-controlled organisations
- **Ponsonby Road Arts Precinct:** support the creation of an arts precinct at 1-3 Ponsonby Road through transferring 3 Ponsonby Road from a commercial lease to a community arts facility, subject to the outcome of a business case and / or needs analysis
- **Carlile House:** ensure the restoration and protection of Carlile House and consider acquisition if necessary
- **Built Heritage Acquisition Fund:** support an effective built heritage acquisition fund to help save at risk buildings or other built features that have heritage merit from destruction by neglect, by purchase, short term hold or sale
- **Restoration and protection of the St James Theatre:** the council provides support to the Auckland Notable Properties Trust in the restoration and protection of St James Theatre
- **Auckland Council living wage:** ensure that there is budget provision of a 'living wage' for council employees and progressively for contractor employees
- **council-controlled organisations' (CCOs) low carbon targets:** advocate to the Governing Body for council-controlled organisations to include low carbon targets in their Statements of Intent
- **single use plastic:** support mechanisms to reduce single use plastic and eliminate single use plastic bags
- **full council ownership of Ports of Auckland:** ensure Ports of Auckland Limited remains in full council ownership
- **Investment Policy:** follow a policy of social and environmentally responsible investment
- **Victoria Quarter:** take action to progress the City Centre Master Plan objectives for the Victoria Quarter area including Nelson Street to deliver a quality urban neighbourhood that enhances the area's historic character and where the safety of pedestrians is prioritised
- **implementation of the Smokefree Policy:** Auckland Council to continue to deliver on the vision and outcomes of the council's Smokefree Policy 2017 – 2025 by extending smokefree public areas to plazas, civic squares shared spaces, urban centres, alfresco dining areas and beaches
- **MOTAT Redevelopment:** support the redevelopment of MOTAT that achieves the dual outcomes of continuing the long-term preservation of its collections and providing high quality recording and presentation of the history of transport and technology in Auckland and New Zealand.

Waitematā Local Board Governance

Auckland Council has a shared governance model with decision-making shared between the Governing Body (mayor and councillors) and local boards. The Governing Body provides decision-making and oversight of decision on regional activities whilst local boards provide decision-making and oversight of decision on local activities. The local board are also the communities' advocates that represent the local community for regional issues, strategies, policies, plans and decisions which have local importance.

The Waitematā Local Board is made up of seven elected members, whose purpose is to make decisions that support the priorities of the local community and deliver initiatives that improve the wellbeing of the local community.

New local board member Denise Roche

After the resignation of local board member Mark Davey, a by-election was held for a new local board member to fill the vacancy at the Waitematā Local Board.

Newly elected board member Denise Roche was sworn in at the local board's business meeting on 20 March 2018. Denise Roche has been appointed by the local board as the Community Development portfolio lead and the Environment and Infrastructure co-portfolio holder.

Auckland Domain Committee

The committee has decision-making responsibility over parks, sports, recreation and community services and activities within the Auckland Domain, the city's oldest park. It is comprised of three Governing Body members, three local board members and two members of the Māori Statutory Board. Waitematā Local Board Chair Pippa Coom, deputy chair Shale Chambers and local board member Vernon Tava sit on this committee.

Joint Governance Working Party

The Joint Governance Working Party was established to consider governance matters of mutual interest to the Governing Body and local boards. The working party consists of four councillors and four local board members. Waitematā Local Board Member Richard Northey was appointed the chair of the Joint Governance Working Party, which is the first joint working party to be chaired by a local board member.

The working party has been mandated to oversee the implementation of the Governance Framework Review, a review of the Auckland shared governance model. The Representation Review has been delegated

to the working party to review the representation arrangements to ensure fairness of representation including across all Governing Body wards and, within each local board and across all subdivisions. The working party is also reviewing the Code of Conduct and will provide recommendations for amendments to the Governing Body.

AKL Paths Leadership Group

AKL Paths is a joint initiative between council and Auckland Transport created to better activate Auckland's shared paths and cycle ways. The initiative builds on the implementation of local boards' greenway plans and the development of the cycle network over the past few years. One of the main achievements of the group so far has been the publication of "Local Path Design Guide". Local board chair Pippa Coom is the local board representative of the group.

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) represents the national interests of councils in New Zealand and leads best practice in the local government sector. Local board chair Pippa Coom has joined LGNZ's National Council (ex-officio) as the local board representative. Pippa attended the 2018 LGNZ Conference and Annual General Meeting as one of four Auckland Council's delegates, and local board member Richard Northey attended as the local board's representative.

Pippa is also a member of LGNZ's Governance and Strategy Advisory Group set up to define strategy to guide LGNZ's advocacy approach.

The New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute (Trafinz)

The New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute or Trafinz is an organisation that represents local authority views on road safety and traffic issues in New Zealand. Waitematā Local Board Chair Pippa Coom is a member of the executive committee, which consists of 15 councillors and officers from various councils across the country.

One of the main achievements of the group in 2018 has been to meet with Ministers and Councillors to build a new partnership for positive change towards 'Vision Zero', a project that aims for zero fatalities or serious injuries involving road traffic.

Looking ahead

We have an exciting year ahead with projects and initiatives scheduled in our 2018/2019 programme of works.

254 Ponsonby Road remains the local board's major advocacy project. This long overdue civic space is well supported and we hope to see the community's considerable effort rewarded with tangible progress.

Our environmental initiatives include continuing to invest in improving our local waterways, such as Waipapa and Newmarket Streams, and expanding the programme to include Waiparuru Stream in Grafton Gully and the Three Kings/ Western Springs Aquifer. We are implementing agrichemical-free maintenance of our parks at Albert Park, Myers Park, Western Park and the non-sports fields' part of Victoria Park. We are also developing a Waitemata Urban Ngahere Forest Action Plan to increase tree cover in the local board area.

Leveraging off scheduled renewals, we will continue to improve and activate our local parks and playgrounds. Improvements are planned for Salisbury Reserve,

Heard Park and Basque Park, as well as the upgrade of the public amenities at Grey Lynn Park. We are looking to implement actions from our local park development plans, and are finalising our Meola Reef Te Tokaroa Development Plan and our Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea Park Development Plan.

With a focus on quality infrastructure that provides safe and attractive pedestrian environments, we will use our transport budget to fund initiatives that deliver great streets for our communities. We will continue the delivery of our Greenways including the route through Coxs Bay Reserve connecting West End Road with Jervois Road. We will support measures designed to make our roads safer for all users.

Looking ahead, we are working to deliver another year of great outcomes to improve the wellbeing of our local communities.

Waitemata Local Board





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