

Date: Monday 17 August 2015
Time: 5.00pm
Meeting Room: Manukau Chambers
Venue: Level 1
Manukau Civic Centre
31-33 Manukau Station Road
Manukau

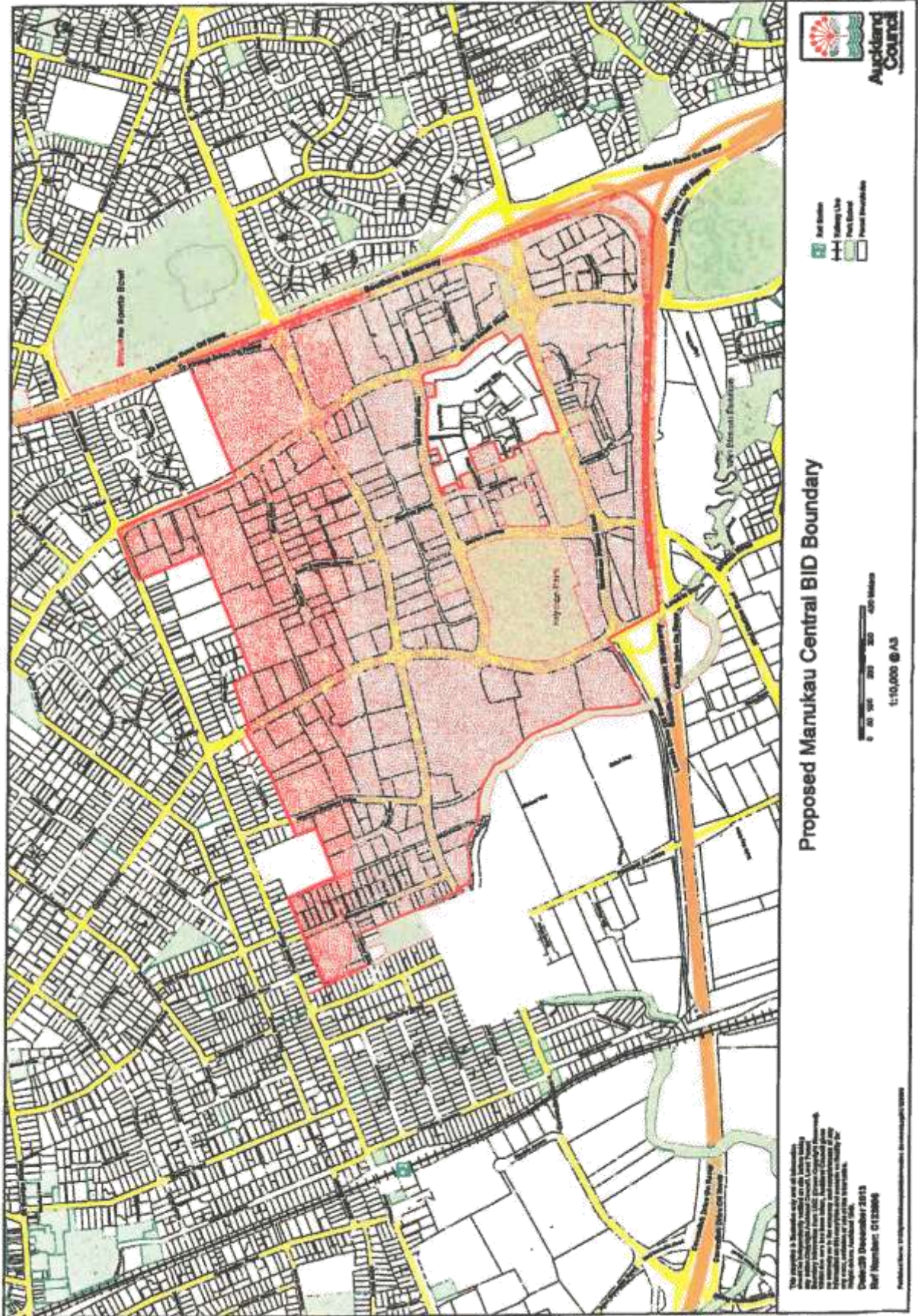
Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Item 12

Written report from Councillor Filipaina for the Otago Papatoetoe Local Board meeting.

- *The Southern Initiative: After an elongated process we have confirmed our current steering group structure as the governance structure, and Gael Surgenor (Director Community & Social Innovation TSI) will be developing our communication strategy for engaging with our partners, councillors and community. Steering group meetings will now be held bimonthly.*
- *The Unitary Plan is continuing to track along.*
- *Toia Opening – it was awesome to see the chair of the Otago-Papatoetoe Local Board attending.*
- *It was great to be part of the Power of Dreams breakfast celebration marking the 40th anniversary of Sir John Walker's 3m 49.4sec world record breaking mile run in Gothenberg 1975.*
- *Preparation for the Annual Plan 2016/17 has commenced with Finance and Performance workshops underway.*
- *It was wonderful to be part of the 2015 Secondary School Peace Symposium where we were well represented by some of our schools; namely De La Salle College.*





This year Ross Robertson, Deputy Chairman and I (Lotu Fuli) attended the LGNZ Conference on behalf of the Otago-Papatoetoe Local Board. The Conference was well hosted by the Hon. Steve Chadwick, Mayor of Rotorua Lakes Council and Councillors.

The Conference had a range of inspirational speakers, informative break-out sessions and floor displays, as well as the LGNZ Excellence Awards evening. It is impossible to fit everything that was learnt into a two-page report so this is a snapshot of some of the more memorable highlights.

Sunday 19th July

Powhiri and Opening Ceremony at the Bay Trust Forum

Surprise impromptu speech from the Prime Minister John Key

Welcome Reception sponsored by Simpson Grierson at the Blue Baths, Government Gardens

- Lots of networking and meeting up with other Local Government officials, all the Auckland Council board members were accommodated at the same location and this provided time to socialise and network with other Auckland local board members and Councillors.
- Great dinner and service at the Rydges Hotel restaurant.

Mon 20th July

The first full day of speeches and activities. Below are highlights from the speakers and sessions:

- **Stephen Yarwood, former Lord Mayor of Adelaide** – “Taking your people with you”. Stephen describes himself as an “Urban Futurist” and has gone on to make a career post-local government as one. He spoke about his time as one of the youngest Mayors ever in Australian history. One of the key challenges he sees is that Local Governments grapple with the inevitability of change. He observed that most LG leaders are in their 50s and 60s and are “extrapolating the past” rather than looking to create the future. “They need to think, act and do differently” He gave 3 top tips: 1) Articulate a Vision, 2) Focus on Strategy – everyday, 3) Motivate and Respect – treat people with respect and they will get things done. He challenged us to “Be the Change in Your Community”. He is an avid user of social media and can be reached on twitter anytime.
- **Kevin Roberts, Exec Chairman Saatchi and Saatchi** – Kevin brilliantly used a mix of video, sound and storytelling to captivate the audience. His message was also about embracing change and innovation. He drew an analogy with the “Lego Movie” – he said the conflict in the Lego movie between the Adult and the child applies in Local Government. The “Adults” constantly stifling the creativity and change being pushed for by the “youth”. He challenged us to

think about our own initiatives “Are you still funding the same things that have been happening for years – or are you creating an environment for change?” “Well told stories are filled with inspiration not information. Truth not facts. It’s not just about getting things done - it’s about making things happen!” He left us with his 3 C’s: “Creativity, Connection and Collaboration – emotion leads to action. Being in touch with how people feel makes things happen”.

- **Dr. Lester Levy, Chief Exec, NZ Leadership Institute:** Dr. Levy was a more traditional speaker with a conservative style, but he did pose some good points for LG representatives to ponder. He said that “All change starts with the individual” and he emphasised the importance of integrity in our work as LG leaders “Integrity – you either have it or you don’t... it’s the entry point into leadership”.
- **Engaging with Iwi Master Class** – both Ross and I attended this Master Class. It was very informative and we were told of the changes that have happened in the Rotorua district in terms of engaging with Iwi. It took a long time to develop but they have a great working model now. I reflected on our own practices here at Auckland Council and was happy to realise that much of what was discussed is already in motion at AC, however there is always room for improvement. Some key quotes from the session: “Progress is impossible without change” “Do what is right, not what is comfortable” “Honour the past, empower the present, strengthen the future”
- Floor Displays – deserving of a mention is the Virtual Reality technology display where we got to try on a Virtual Reality helmet where you could walk through and experience a virtual environment – very trippy indeed.

LGNZ Excellence Awards Night – sponsored by Fulton Hogan

A great night with good food and conversation. Unfortunately (but not surprisingly) Auckland Council did not win any awards, but we did get several “special mentions” and “commendations”. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners.

Tuesday 21st July

The morning consisted of a variety of speakers including an address by the LGNZ President Lawrence Yule and the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Paula Bennett.

The Minister gave a message that encouraged rural districts to consider merging to create larger, stronger LG Councils. From where I sat I could hear many dissenting voices and rumblings. I even heard a short conversation between Wellington representatives that they were glad to have avoided the catastrophe of a merge.

Aside from these negative murmurings, all in all the Conference was very positive. It had a wistful air of looking to the future and embracing technological and cultural change. It was a great opportunity to network with other board members and councillors, discuss initiatives and ideas and forge friendships that should help as we strive in our own part of this City to make it Super.

*All presentations and speeches are available for viewing on the LGNZ website:

<http://www.lgnz.co.nz/home/about-lgnz/lgnz-conference-2/presentations-conference-2015/>

