



Date: Thursday 17 December 2015
Time: 9.30am
Meeting Room: Reception Lounge
Venue: Auckland Town Hall
301-305 Queen Street
Auckland

Governing Body

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Auckland Achievements – November/ December 2015

Nelson Street Pathway (Te Ara I Whiti / Lightpath) opened

Auckland's newest and highly anticipated piece of cycling infrastructure, the Nelson Street Cycleway, has been opened. Phase one includes the architecturally designed Canada Street Bridge which stretches over State Highway 1 as well as the newly revamped and magenta-coloured Nelson Street off-ramp, which includes a string of interactive lights along one side. Following a recommendation from iwi, it will be called "Te Ara I Whiti", which translates as the Lightpath.

In the first 12 days of its opening, numbers of cyclists riding the Lightpath have been as high as 2,797 and have averaged 1,172 a day and those travelling on the Nelson Street section in the first week have averaged 685 a day.

The \$18m overall project (phase one: \$15.4 million, phase two: \$2.6 million) which is a key part of the Government's Urban Cycleways Programme has been jointly delivered by the NZ Transport Agency, Auckland Council and Auckland Transport. It is part of \$200m of cycle improvements in Auckland over the next three years.

Public consultation conducted on Quay Street cycleway

Auckland Transport has conducted public consultation for a cycleway which will run on the north side of Quay St from Lower Hobson St to Plumer St, improving access for people walking and cycling to and within the city centre.

The proposed design is a mix of two-way on-road cycle lanes separated from traffic by raised kerbs, a shared path and two-way cycle lanes flush with the footpath. It will connect with the Nelson St Cycleway and the Viaduct at Lower Hobson St. Cycle facilities will extend all the way to the Glen Innes to Tamaki Drive Shared Path at Hobson Bay.

The cycleway is an interim solution as Auckland Council will develop a coastal boulevard in this area in the coming years.

Transformation starts of Downtown Auckland

Auckland Transport and Precinct Properties Ltd have concluded negotiations that will see the first stage of the City Rail Link (CRL) constructed as part of Precinct's Commercial Bay development.

Scott Pritchard, Precinct Properties' chief executive, has confirmed development of New Zealand's tallest, most expensive new office tower, confirming the company will proceed with a 39-level, \$681 million downtown building on Auckland's waterfront. A new Auckland precinct has also been revealed, to be called Commercial Bay as a nod to the city's history in the waterfront.

Commercial Bay will be built on the site of the Downtown mall which straddles Lower Queen Street and Albert Street. The Commercial Bay development will make an outstanding

contribution to what people are calling "the new Auckland". It is one of several major new developments that will arrive in Auckland's City Centre in the next few years.

With the re-situating of stormwater pipes on Lower Albert this month and the demolition of the Downtown Mall in May 2016, Aucklanders will now see the first tangible steps in the construction of the City Rail Link (CRL).

Public transport patronage continues to break records

Auckland's annual public transport usage is continuing to soar with the latest figures showing a total of 81.2 million passengers - an increase of 8.1 per cent on the previous year.

The latest monthly figures released by Auckland Transport (AT) show rail services totalled 15.1 million passengers for the 12 months to November 2015, an increase of +22.6 per cent on the previous year.

The patronage target, set by the government for funding of the CRL will be achieved at the end of next year, over three years ahead of schedule. The government's target was for 20 million passenger rail trips per year.

Other public transport modes also saw significant rises in the latest figures.

Bus services totalled 60.4 million passenger trips for the 12 months to November 2015, an increase of 4.8 per cent while ferry services totalled 5.7 million passenger trips, an increase of 10.5 per cent.

Consents for new Auckland homes at high level

The trend for the number of new dwellings consented in Auckland is at its highest level since December 2004. This is partly due to an increase in consents for new apartments. In the latest statistics department figures covering the month of October 2015 compared to October 2014, Auckland's dwelling consents are well above the historical average.

The region with the largest increase was Auckland – up 214 to 805 and the region that consented the most non-residential building work was also Auckland (\$174 million).

Auckland one of best cities for international students

Auckland has been named one of the top 20 best cities in the world for students in 2016. Published annually, the QS Best Student Cities index showcases the best urban destinations for international students, based on a diverse range of indicators grouped into five key categories. These categories are: university rankings, affordability, student mix, desirability, and employer activity.

Auckland has moved up four places this year, to 18th equal with Brisbane, and is the only New Zealand city to feature in the top 20. This shift has largely been driven by a high score for 'student mix', reflecting the large and diverse student community, combined with an inclusive and tolerant culture.

Record numbers of international students are choosing to study in Auckland according to the latest findings in Education New Zealand's International Education Snapshot. Auckland received more than 65,000 international enrolments between January and August 2015, up 15 per cent on the same period in 2014.

Hunua pest blitz successful

This year's pest control programme in the Hunua Ranges has been a success. The first round of post-operational monitoring, following the aerial application of 1080 over a 21,500-hectare area, is complete, with rat and possum numbers at an all-time low.

Flourishing foliage, an abundance of seeds and forest 'fruit' and signs of new life in the kōkako population are noted early indications of how successful it has been.

Mayoress' scholarships announced

Four students from Auckland's lower decile schools have been awarded Mayoress' Fund for Youth scholarships. River Jorgensen, Racheal Kaitu'u, Penina Latu and Tule Mahe - selected as scholarship recipients from more than 30 applications - will receive \$12,000 for their final year of school and their undergraduate degrees.

The scholarships are run through the First Foundation which supports the students, assigns them a mentor and will organise work experience so they can earn extra money. The Mayoress' Fund for Youth is managed by Auckland Communities Foundation.

Grey Lynn declared free of fruit flies

Grey Lynn has been declared fruit-fly free with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) confirming that the Auckland fruit fly operation has been successful and that the Queensland fruit fly has been eradicated from New Zealand. Field staff cleared fruit fly traps in Grey Lynn for the final time earlier on 4 December and found no signs of the fruit fly for the first time since March.

Finalists in the NZI Sustainable Business Network Awards 2015

Auckland Council was proud to have a number of its people and projects on the shortlist of finalists for the NZI Sustainable Business Network Awards 2015, held recently at Shed 10 on Auckland's waterfront.

The awards celebrate the contribution businesses, government agencies, social enterprises and individuals are making to transform New Zealand into a sustainable nation.

Dorothy Wilson, who won the Element Magazine Sustainability Champion Award, is the former Deputy Mayor of Waitakere. She spearheaded the council's 'zero waste by 2040' target and has been promoting, developing and facilitating sustainability for 30 years with a record for creating long-lasting change.

5th Biennial Sculpture in the Gardens event held

Auckland Botanic Gardens is hosting the 5th Biennial Sculpture in the Gardens event. Curators Rachel de Lambert, Richard Mathieson and Linda Tyler have selected 21 artists to produce 20 large-scale works for the 1.8km outdoor trail. This free exhibition is a great opportunity to see large-scale artworks from New Zealand's best-known and up-and-coming sculptors.

Sculpture in the Gardens is organised by the Friends of the Auckland Botanic Gardens, the Auckland Botanic Gardens and Auckland Council with support from Manurewa Local Board and many valued sponsors and volunteers.

Chief Executive Auckland Council Performance Objectives Time Period: 1 January 2015 - 31 December 2017		
Performance Focus Area	Alignment with Auckland Council Strategy	Objectives
Sound financial stewardship of Auckland Council	Outcome 5 Rates burden decreases as non-rates revenue share of total revenue grows to x% (TBC)	Council's financial performance Long Term Plan key financial indicators achieved Cost-savings & efficiency targets
	Outcome 6 Doing more with less without compromising the customer service and experience (cost savings target TBC)	
Customer, Citizen and Community Satisfaction	Outcome 1 Our citizens have a strong voice and are key in shaping Auckland	Increased trust in Council Customer friendly & responsive services Effective local body election processes
	Outcome 2 We get the job done faster, more conveniently and at lower cost than before for Customer, Community and Citizens	Cohesive strategic direction for broader community involvement, including volunteers
Efficient and Effective Auckland Council	Outcome 4 Elected members are better supported to make high quality decisions for Auckland	Elected members satisfaction with governance support, quality advice, delivery of agreed, funded and resourced projects and the organisations support of the Governance model
	Outcome 6 Doing more with less without compromising the customer service and experience (cost savings target TBC)	Improve high volume customer facing processes Auckland Plan refresh completed effectively Delivery of Annual & Unitary Plans achieved Demonstrated evidence of innovations and new approaches that improve the performance of Council and the council family
Vibrant organisation prepared for the growth of Auckland	Outcome 3 Our high performing and inclusive workforce effectively serves a diverse and changing Auckland	Effective CCO relationships built and delivery of major collaborative initiatives Headlines for Auckland growth, including major project delivery High performance innovative & inclusive culture & high employee engagement Achieve Maori aspirations, aligned to Te Tahi Takatini A safe and healthy work environment Auckland Council strategy endorsed

Item C1

Attachment A

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