

## Chair's Report December 2016

It has only been a few weeks since the November Business Meeting. In preparation for the Festive season, there will be a number of events being aligned before the Christmas Break. The office will be closing for the 2016 Festive break, noon on Friday 23 December 2016 and reopen 9 January 2017.

### Local Board Activity

A number of events from the Local Community:

The Unveiling of Pou from the Future Streets Local Transport. This has been an additional Aspiration of Mana Whenua that when entering the site of Mangere Future Streets local infrastructure, the community would be greeted by Pou carved by commissioned Artists Chris Wade and Sunnah Thompson. The Pou were unveiled by Mana Whenua local Kaumatua Dave Wilson and Bobby Clark with whanau from both Pukaki and Makaurau Marae at the Dawn Ceremony recently, Saturday 26 November 2016. The Pou are located on Orly Avenue near the Mangere Arts Centre and the other is located at the entrance of the Mangere Town Centre Carpark on Mascot Avenue Mangere.



Counties Manukau Sports Award was held Sunday 27 November 2016 at Vodafone Events Centre Manukau. A number of Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board Members attended. Congratulations to all the winners, special mention to New Zealand Southern Cross Campus 1<sup>st</sup> XIII League Team 2016 and Swimmer Tupou Neiafu for their Awards on the night! Well done to these fine young men and women.



On the same evening, the Otahuhu Mangere Youth Group organised a Candlelight vigil service at the site of where Baby X's body was found by a person in our Community. This is a very sad tragedy that has caused a number of responses and our local young people felt compelled to organise this service as a tribute to allow people to express their grief, and come together as a community to support one another. Members of our Local Board have joined with the Member of Parliament for Mangere, Su'a W Sio, pending Police Investigation, to come together to give the Baby a proper Funeral Service and Burial. Members of the Funeral Directors' Association have also come forward to enlist their support and be part of this plea to the Police. This matter is in the Hands of the Police until further notice.

Robertson Road Primary celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday of existence. I attended this with Member Tauanu'u Nick Bakulich to be given a grand Tour by Youth Councillors. A number of events to celebrate this milestone were held in the week and attended by many past pupils and their families.



I attended the Regional Meeting Counties Manukau Police and Auckland Councillors. A number of issues continuing with Police advising a number of key areas of Policing, Community Safety and their confidential Intelligence outlining strategies in this Policing District. There have been new appointments within senior Police Roles in the other two areas in the Auckland Isthmus Policing Districts. Special attention is being given to matters of Priority such as a new Pilot initiative that involves a quicker approach when dealing with very difficult matters of Family Violence; Window Washers reappearing across Counties-Manukau due to the Warmer Weather; Police activity reports from District Commanders in Counties-Manukau.

### **Manukau Ward Councillors**

At the last November Business Meeting, our Ward Councillors Alf Filipaina and Fa'anana Efeso Collins provided an update of their delegated Deputy Chair roles in the various new Governing Board Committee Structures. They also provided our Local Board with a number of key priorities that would be their focus over the next year.

Both Councillors have requested a regular time in our Local Board Office, planned ahead. This enables each Councillor to make necessary local appointments either with Local Board Members or the Community. This will also assist the regular contact with the happenings in the local community of Mangere and Otahuhu.

At the Regional Councillors and Counties Manukau Police Meeting recently, Superintendent John Tims acknowledged the lengthy service of Councillor Alf Filipaina of 38 years in the Police Force. Supt Tims thanked Cr Filipaina's extensive contribution to the Police Community and acknowledged it was good to see Cr Filipaina would continue his service as an Auckland Councillor for the Manukau Ward.

This is the final Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board Business Meeting 2016, I would take this opportunity to thank our Communities of Mangere-Otahuhu for your support. We have been fortunate to return to our Roles to continue pursuing our Aspirations for the Community.

If you are free on Friday December 16 10am, please take the opportunity to join our annual Christmas Morning Tea with Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board Members. Let Lana Roberts know if you are able to RSVP on 09-2565133.

On behalf of the Mangere-Otahuhu Local Board, we would wish you all a very safe Christmas and joyous New Year 2017.

la soifua

Lemauga Lydia Sosene

Chairperson