

Date: Tuesday 13 December 2016
Time: 9:30am
Meeting Room: Upper Harbour Local Board Office
Venue: 30 Kell Drive
Albany

Upper Harbour Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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13 December 2016

David Warburton
Chief Executive
Auckland Transport
Private Bag 92250
Auckland 1142

Dr Lester Levy
Chairperson
Auckland Transport
Private Bag 92250
Auckland 1142

Dear David and Lester

Re: Gills Road footpath / Pedestrian connection bridge project

I am writing on behalf of the Upper Harbour Local Board to express our extreme disappointment and dissatisfaction with the board's recent experience in relation to the above project.

This is a joint project, where our board had committed \$300,000 towards a pedestrian bridge adjacent to an existing one-lane road bridge, and Auckland Transport was to install the footpath connection. Our local board has been treated with total disrespect and arrogance by your project team, which I cannot let pass without comment.

I attach resolutions which we intend to pass at our public business meeting today. These resolutions articulate the timeline of expectation which Auckland Transport had publicly committed to. Last Tuesday (6 December) in a closed workshop, Auckland Transport proposed to completely renege on their commitment.

- This project is not a whim or a 'nice-to-have' vanity project; this is a legacy issue whereby a rural road is **neither safe, nor fit for purpose** for anyone other than motorists given the development which has been permitted to occur, now and into the future. For a number of years now, we have received many submissions from residents asking us to urgently address pedestrian safety issues in this area.

Gills Road is inside the Rural Urban Boundary and although historically rural, there are now several hundred houses occupied with several hundred more consented and currently being constructed. The road is not wide enough for a centre white line in parts and is not curbed and channelled, other than adjacent to the developed areas. Our project enables pedestrian access from the urban area at the top of the escarpment down to the local village shops, amenities and public transport.

We were told last Tuesday that because of the substantial growth in the area, a bid was being made to attract funding for the Gills to Oteha Link road. This was a legacy North Shore City project which we support in principle based on historic information some of us have been privy to over the years. We are however, adamant that this link will not remove the need to have safe pedestrian access to Albany village via the **existing** road.

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We ask that you urgently revisit your intentions not to proceed with this project. It should also be noted, while Auckland Transport have publicly reported this project as being out for tender for construction this month, privately your organisation has decided to cancel.

I look forward to hearing from you with urgency on this matter to address how our board is presumed to manage the public's expectations.

Regards



Lisa Whyte
Chairperson

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Annual Plan 2017/2018 - Local Consultation Content

Upper Harbour Local Board

Each year we review priorities and activities in your local board area to ensure we continue delivering the right outcomes. We're seeking your input for the 2017/2018 financial year.

Message from the chair

Upper Harbour is one of the fastest growing areas in Auckland. The Upper Harbour Local Board's number one priority is to advocate for the adequate provision of infrastructure, open space and community facilities in developing greenfield areas, such as Hobsonville and Whenuapai. As our population expands, so does our need for efficient and effective public transport links. Our growth has an impact on the natural environment, so we want to help preserve and protect our waterways, native bush and wildlife. Aucklanders from all around the region come to Upper Harbour to play sports. We will continue advocating for improved sport and recreation facilities, particularly for indoor sports, in our local board area. We encourage you to be involved in working out our priorities for 2017/2018 and look forward to hearing what you think.

What we plan to do

Since adoption of our local board plan, we have built a new swimming pool in Albany, upgraded the Albany Highway and commenced significant developments in Hobsonville and Whenuapai.

Based on our 10 year budget, in 2017/2018 we plan to invest \$2.2 million to renew and develop assets in your local board area and \$11.8 million to maintain and operate these assets and provide other local initiatives. This includes:

- Community house development at Hobsonville Point
- Community Hub in Albany
- Sportsfield development
- Renewal of existing assets

What might change

We propose the following changes to what is planned:

- Expand the Community Hub in Albany into phase 2 of development

In addition to what we have planned, we propose the following priorities for 2017/2018:

- Indoor sports facilities at Hobsonville Point
- Community sports village in Albany
- New playgrounds in developing areas (e.g. Albany Heights)
- Toilet block in Unsworth Reserve
- Pest-free programme for Upper Harbour

- Mechanical edging in Upper Harbour parks
- Albany Park 'n Ride improvements
- Gills Road footpath and link completion
- The Avenue/Dairy Flat Highway intersection upgrade
- Upper Harbour Drive/Albany Highway Intersection upgrade
- Develop the Rosedale landfill site
- Secure a long-term library for Upper Harbour

What do you think?

- Have we got our priorities right?
- Do you agree with setting up a pest-free programme in Upper Harbour?
- Would you prefer more feeder buses to the Albany Park 'n Ride, or more parking?