

Member's activity and accountability report for March/April 2017

Lindsay Waugh

Auckland Transport

The meeting with AT engineers to discuss my feed back on the intersection changes between **Bentley Avenue and Chartwell Avenue** was informative and productive. Auckland Transport's rationale for the speed table option to deal with this dangerous intersection was robust and convincing. I was pleased that the officers running the project supported my request to include cycling lanes where possible. While these sections of cycle lanes may not be continuous, each improvement contributes to the Kaipatiki Local Board's consistent position to improve cycling infrastructure in the Kaipatiki area at every opportunity.

In response to my feedback regarding the removal of the speed table adjacent to **Opakitai Beach Haven Community Gardens**, Auckland Transport is reviewing their plans and I am delighted to report that the project is being re designed to reinstate the speed table that was part of the original concept.

I provided feedback on Auckland Transport's plans to refine the **Bentley Avenue /Glenfield Road** intersection and as a result a meeting was held with AT staff to discuss the points I raised. While there is not sufficient budget to fully consider and integrate the parking at 450 Glenfield Road at this stage I was pleased with the discussions and the willingness of AT staff to look at a mid block crossing as part of this project although this may need additional funds from the Local Board AT capital fund.

The sign indicating no right turn from **Onewa Road** into the Petrol station at the bottom of Onewa Road has been removed. This sign was installed to prevent morning traffic turning left out of Queen Street then right into the petrol station to jump the morning queue. This manoeuvre causes hold ups for traffic turning right into Lake Road from Onewa Road so I have asked Auckland Transport to replace the sign.

Creative Communities

Last month Creative Communities confirmed me as an assessor for the Auckland North Region for a third term. The Northern sector represents 24% of the population so their share of the fund, for this round, was \$108,00. Applications to the fund are oversubscribed 1.38.

The Creative Communities Scheme bases its decisions on projects that provide;

Access and participation: Create opportunities for Local Communities to engage with, and participate in local arts activities, or

Diversity: support the diverse artistic cultural traditions of local communities, or

Young People: Enable young people (under the age of 18) to engage with and participate in the arts.

The six-member committee sat on Friday 31st March and successfully allocated the full amount. Successful recipients of grant funding will be informed this month

Birkenhead Town Centre matters

Kae Condon of the Birkenhead Town Centre Association requested my assistance regarding access for a tour operator to gain approval for walking tours in LeRoys Bush. There was a lot of confusion regarding the correct avenue to confirm this access and significant fees were being discussed to licence the walking tour operator. Michael Goudie from ATEED has investigated the correct process and provided Kae with the correct contact to enable the operator to gain official sanction. Unfortunately despite Michael's assistance, gaining approval to take paid guided walks through the bush is proving to be problematic. The Department of Conservation has oversight of LeRoys Bush so guided walks need their approval and similar consequential fees that apply in significant National Parks. This seems out of scale with the local proposal and is proving to be a barrier to local operators who want to showcase the native bush areas that we all value and want to promote as part of our unique tourism offering.

Community Network meeting

The April community network meeting was very well attended with representatives from over 20 community organisations, government organisations as well as a representative from our Local MP's office. As usual there was a lot of positive information on local activities that make a positive contribution to Kaipatiki. The one exception was a report from our local Community Constable regarding three local face book pages that he advised the meeting allows false and derogatory posts to be made. In recent weeks, he reported, unsubstantiated comments have been allowed to remain which has generated fears about community safety and gives areas within Kaiatpiki an undeserved bad reputation. The Community Constable advised the meeting that he had contacted John Gillon, as the administrator of these pages, to take responsibility to moderate the content that was generating fear and misinformation across the community. Our Local Board plan seeks to improve public perceptions of safety yet these pages, administered by a Local Board Member, undermine the good work that is done by so many community organisations to connect and support our community and make them feel safe.

Northcote Town Centre

As the plans for the Northcote area start to firm up in both the residential and commercial area it is becoming increasingly apparent that the strategic value of Northcote, as an opportunity for growth, is being recognised. I have had informal discussions with our Councillor on the advantages of shifting Panuku's approach to Northcote from an "unlock" to "transform" status. This change of status would enable more regional funds to be invested in local infrastructure to ensure a comprehensive and quality result for Northcote in recognition of its strategic value as a centre with public transport connections to the CBD.

Kaipatiki Project

With the assistance of staff and the Hobsonville Land Company we explored the feasibility of relocating a HNZN house from the Northcote re-development to the Kaipatiki Project's site as a replacement building to deal with the current poor state of the existing facility. Unfortunately there were no suitable houses available within the time frame and there were access concerns as well as uncertainty on the actual cost effectiveness of such a move.

Streetscapes in Kaipatiki

During a previous term the Kaipatiki Local Board allocated funds from its AT capital fund to improve the Glenfield Library and Local Board office entrance as well as landscaping on the opposite side of Bentley Avenue to screen the supermarket service entrance. There were Magnolia and Jacaranda trees planted in front of the new hedge as part of this work but I have recently noticed that the trees and border plants have been removed and only the hedge remains.

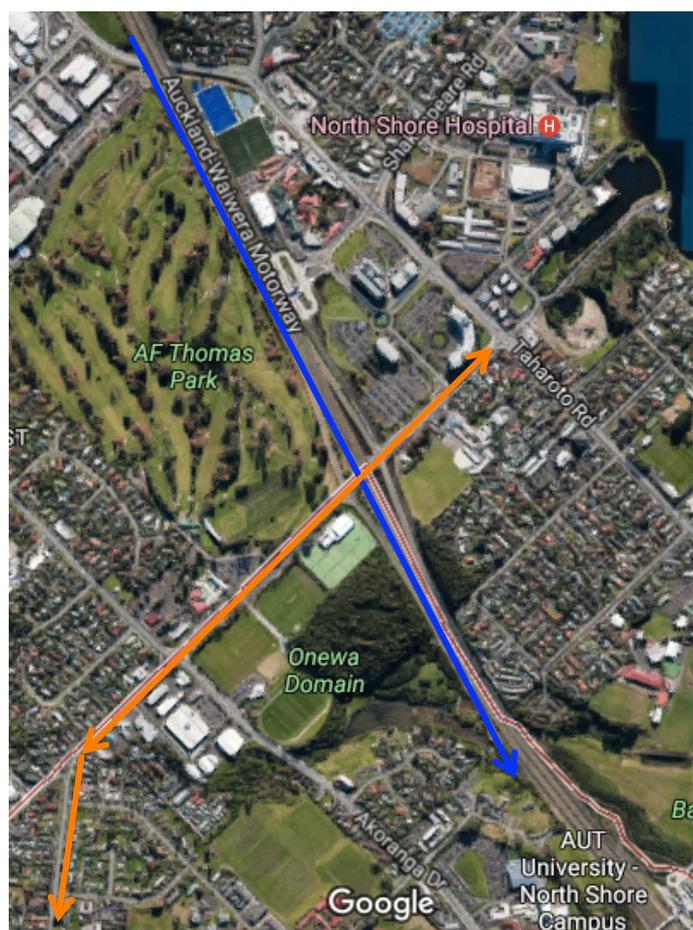
I would like to understand why these trees have been removed or if they all failed and formally request that they are reinstated as per the original plans. *The original plans will be tabled at the meeting*

NZTA Cycle Route North

As the Board develops the next Local Board Plan I wish to raise the importance of advocating to NZTA for the northern cycleway to be established along the western side of the motorway within the NZTA corridor.

It is well understood that the Northern busway is a very successful route but offers little connection for the Kaipatiki community. Planning for the further extension of the Northern cycle route beyond the current plans that terminate at Akoranga Drive should continue on the western side of the motorway to take advantage of the opportunity to run this route on the edge of Smiths bush, North Harbour Netball and Fred Thomas park to connect to the northern corridor cycleway and the cycling infrastructure funded by the local Board through to Croftfield Lane.

This western alignment would also intersect with the Northcote Safe Cycle Route at Northcote Road and provide excellent connectivity for the Kaipatiki community.



Shade trees for playgrounds

I would like to request officers provide advice to the Board on the current status of the to **significant tree budget** previously allocated to Kaipatiki. If this budget is still available I suggest the Board passes a resolution to tag this budget to provide suitable shade trees close to playgrounds to provide a long term and sustainable solution to provide shade in and around our playgrounds.

Kaipatiki Local Board Acknowledgement.

I would like to request that a suitable plaque be installed at the entrance to the Marlborough Youth Centre to provide appropriate acknowledgement of the KLB's investment in this local facility

Youth summit

The Youth summit held at the Museum was well worth attending and I was impressed at the number of young people prepared to contribute to supporting the youth advisory panel and work on the process and protocols that will guide the selection process to elect 21 members to the Youth Council from across the region

Power in Parks

The parks department created a list of suitable parks to have power outlets installed and I would like an update on the rollout of this initiative. There are key locations where regular events are held, like Little Shoal Bay, that still don't have access to power.

Other matters

I followed up on an application for an updated Resource Consent for a child care centre as I was concerned that it could have been a direct contradiction to the Boards agreed position with regards to height in relation to boundary infringements with the neighbouring reserve. However this was not the basis for the revised application but an application to increase the numbers of children permitted to attend based on a revision of the design. I request that the traffic impact assessment for this new application be forwarded to the Board for our information.

Recommendations

That the KLB:

- 1. Requires the trees previously detailed in the plans for the Bentley Avenue streetscape upgrade (2014) be reinstated**
- 2. Sends a formal letter to the NZTA to advocate for the Northern cycle route to be established within the NZTA road corridor on the Kaipatiki Local Board Boundary on the western side of the motorway.**
- 3. Requests that the significant tree budget be fully allocated to provide shade trees in the vicinity of our most exposed playgrounds.**
- 4. Commissions a suitable plaque to acknowledge the Local Board's investment into the development of the Marlborough Hall Youth facility**