

## **Richard Northey's Report to June Board meeting**

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May I participated in a discussion with Local Board members in response to a presentation from Panuku seeking support for the exercise of compulsory purchase rights and other urban development tools to make some urban development non-effective - in general, I supported the proposals. That afternoon I attended the Local Board Chairs forum with some interesting issues.

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> I took part in the weekly Waitematā Board workshop which responded both to Panuku's proposal and the Government's Urban Development Authority proposal. We then presented our annual budget advocacy to the Governing Body after a wait while they ran late. I then went to Auckland University's Celebrating Research Excellence event; which emphasized stalls and speeches on research connected with big cities. I met up again with Larry Murphy, to speak to him about his research and recommendations on affordable housing and also with Tertiary Education Minister Paul Goldsmith.

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May saw me signing off Carla Van Zon's farewell card from the Arts Festival at the Concert Chamber and then Robyn and I enjoyed ATC's performance of Amadeus.

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> I took part in a meeting with relevant participants of the Council family – including ATEED and Regional Events- on financial and in kind support for the Santa Parade – in response to Pam Glaser's earlier request. I drafted a Board submission and response on Panuku's urban development tools proposal. We then had a meeting with Roscoe Thorby about Franklin Road lights this Christmas.

I wanted to challenge staff for Ping Pong on the POP tables outside the Cathedral but they called it off because of rain. We met the consultants about progressing the City Fringe Economic Development Action Plan.

On 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May, I was in Wellington for the Labour Party Congress where I took part in further discussions about Labour Manifesto Policy on Local Government, Senior Citizens, Housing and other issues and was in the team that came second in the Political Trivia Quiz, after the team with Michael Woods in it.

On 15 May I was interviewed by MBIE about the experience of my Consulting business in dealing with Government Department; was briefed about the proposal for 4 public indoor Courts to be built at Western Springs College; and participated in the Local Boards Sub-regional meeting about Pest Management, Local Board Services, and the Council's Governance Framework Review.

16 May saw a meeting with Labour Parliamentary spokesperson Poto Williams, Michael Wood and Priyanca Radhakrishnan about issues concerning, and policy for, the Community and Voluntary Sector. That afternoon was the monthly Waitematā Local board meeting.

On 17 May we have a meeting with Council staff on rough sleeping issues. Then I participated in the Karangahape Road Business Association about their Strategic Plan finally was the Writers Festival Forum on The Great Divide.

The 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> May had me participating in a two day training seminar on Not for Profit Leadership and Governance, held at the Heritage Hotel. Following that I went to Ian Wedde's book of poetry launch and then spent an evening with Scottish crime writer Ian Rankin at the Writers Festival.

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> I took part in our engagement on our draft local board plan at the Parnell Market; heard Lloyd Goering and AN Wilson learnedly discuss the Bible; met my daughter Miranda, partner Adam and granddaughter Ingrid at the airport, in Auckland from Melbourne for a brief visit, which included an extended family dinner on the evening of the 21<sup>st</sup> and a lunch at the Orphans Kitchen on Ponsonby Road on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> I met with Alessandra to advance this year's Festival Italiano. The following day we had our weekly Waitemata Local Board workshop. That evening I listened to the Auckland Conversation on Lessons from New York.

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> I took part in the opening of the diverse Te Tangata Exhibition at Studio One, a major part of the Auckland Festival of Photography. That evening I took part in the meeting at Parnell's Jubilee Hall on our Local Board Plan.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May we moved house to our long-term home, Apartment 810, Heresford Residences, 8 Heresford Street, Freemans Bay – exhausting but exhilarating.

On 28<sup>th</sup> May we had another engagement on the Local Board Plan at the Grey Lynn Market and an interesting Seminar on local government issues in Auckland at the Society of Friends Meeting House.

On 29<sup>th</sup> May I attended the launch of the production of the musical "Sister Act" at the Waterfront Theatre; and then the Ponsonby Community Centre Committee, meeting Lisa, their new Manager and hearing about the continuing leak from the ceiling of the Leys Institute Hall.

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May had another Local Board Workshop dealing with the Parks and Communities Facilities Upgrade, Local Spatial Plans, the Ellen Melville Centre, Zoo, Western Springs Stadium and SMART procurement priorities.

On Wednesday 31 we had another Local Board Plan engagement at the Central Library and met up with some picturesque characters. That afternoon Pippa Coom, iwi representatives, consultants and parks staff has an enlightening walking tour over Meola Reef – its dogs, people, vegetation, wildlife and lava flow. Then I was at TABAC in Mills Lane for the start of the wondrous Feijoa Festival, including the progress and crops of their feijoa plantings off Beach Road.



On 1<sup>st</sup> June Pippa and I has an interesting tour of the Central Library immediately prior to a major refurbishment of its three public floors. See photo of me nesting in the children's area.



That afternoon I was interviewed about the governance of the Problem Gambling Foundation by the team of Ministry of Health Auditors reviewing all their contracting organization. Following that was the Local Board's HAVE YOUR SAY event at the Board Office; the tail end of the Matariki Launch event; and then Auckland Philharmonia's Mountain King performance.

Queen's Birthday Weekend was spent at our Coromandal Bach pruning the hedge and all the fruit trees (that we no longer have to do in Auckland) and catching and smoking two big Kahawai, one of which we had for smoked fish pie.

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, on my way to the Board workshop I tripped on the uneven Hopetoun Street footpath and tore my knee and that of my best suit (See photo). The Local Board workshop dealt with updating our Local Board Agreement, the Council's Governance Review, a range of transport issues and our Quick Response Grant applications, followed by a formal Board Meeting to adopt our Local Board Agreement and Works Programmes.



On 7<sup>th</sup> June we met the designers and proponents for the 254 Ponsonby Road Park and discussed their plans and priorities, then another Local Board Plan consultation meeting at the Grey Lynn Library Hall; followed by another HAVE YOUR SAY event session the following morning in the Grey Lynn Library.

The Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> we met with stakeholders to involve them in the City Fringe Economic Development update. That night Robyn and I took part in the opening night of Ellerslie Theatrical Society's production of "Festen".

On the 10<sup>th</sup> I drove to Mangawhai to hear the concerns of Bruce and Heather Rogan and others in the Mangawhai Ratepayers Association about their concerns about the performance, accountability and transparency of local government derived from their experience with the Kaipara District Council and its commissioners.

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> I was privileged for my role to be included in speeches by Pippa Coom and others at a celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passage of the Nuclear Free Zone New Zealand Act in 1987, an Act I was privileged to vote when I was the MP for Eden.