

Accessibility Action Plan 2017 – 2020

“A place where everyone thrives and belongs”

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About Be. Accessible

Imagine a world where every person, building and community is truly accessible. And therefore every human being has the opportunity to fulfil their true potential. That world is what Be. Accessible has set out to create.

Be. Accessible is a New Zealand social change initiative and a holistic framework for accessibility with a mission to create a truly accessible country for us all.

Be. Accessible is managed by the Be. Institute, a social enterprise that aims to work across all sectors and communities throughout New Zealand. The belief is that every person has their part to play in the creation of accessibility regardless of how big or small the change.

Be. Accessible supports individuals, businesses and organisations to become leaders in accessibility and are excited to have developed an Accessibility Action Plan with the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board. This plan will enable the Local Board to ensure some of their key priorities around connectivity, diversity and safety over the next 3 years are achieved.

Introduction

This Accessibility Action Plan aims to improve outcomes for people with access needs in the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board area, as well as families, older people and visitors.

The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board have begun their journey in prioritising accessibility with a strong focus in 3 areas:

- **Priority 1: A strong local economy: Town Centres**
Making local town centres attractive, lively and safe through accessibility;
- **Priority 2: A well-connected area: Public Transport**
Creating a well-connected area, part of a great, affordable public transport network that makes it easy for all to move around;
- **Priority 3: Facilities to meet diverse needs: Parks and Community Centres**
Ensuring existing facilities and parks and open spaces are high quality, well maintained and accessible to diverse users.

Priority 1: A strong local economy: Town Centres

The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board are continually inspiring Auckland Transport and Council design teams to prioritise accessibility into every aspect of upgrading town centres in the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board area.

Over the next 3 years we will:

- a) Ensure the design and delivery of the Ōtāhuhu streetscape upgrade, prioritises holistic accessibility so all people with varying needs will be able to get around easily;
- b) Ensure the recommendations of the completed current state accessibility assessment of Ōtāhuhu town centre are followed through and the design team make it a priority to find solutions where necessary;
- c) Ensure all town centre streetscape upgrades within the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu local board area incorporate optimum accessibility at the concept and design stage, integrating accessibility at every check point of the delivery;
- d) Encourage design teams to utilise the new Universal Design tool on the Auckland Design Manual website, created by the Auckland Design Office to check and maintain an accessible approach.
- e) Provide Access Maps for newly upgraded town centres, which provides information on accessible amenities and facilities, including accessible routes;
- f) Ensure Access Map information is provided on Auckland Transport's Online Journey Planner;

Priority 2: A well-connected area: Public Transport

The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board encourage Auckland Transport to ensure accessibility is a priority from concept stage through to delivery of all public transport projects in the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu local area.

Over the next 3 years we will:

- a) Support Auckland Transport to incorporate an expert consultant on holistic accessibility of the upcoming upgrade projects, which is integrated during the concept and design phase and at every check point of the delivery:
 - Māngere Town Centre Bus Station upgrade;
 - Route 32 upgrade;
- b) Encourage Auckland Transport to utilize the Local Paths Design Guide to ensure shared pathways are accessible;
- c) Utilise and promote the new walkway, cycleway and waterway accessibility APP which DOC, Halberg Disability Sport Foundation and Be. Accessible are in partnership to develop.

Priority 3: Facilities to meet diverse needs: Parks and Community Centres

The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board are engaging with facilities managers and park designers to encourage a high level of accessibility when facilities are upgraded.

Over the next 3 years we will:

- a) Engage with community venues to bring awareness of the importance of accessibility and encourage the uptake of an accessibility review to see how accessible their venue is for local users and where access improvements could be made for future upgrades;
- b) Continue to consult an expert in holistic accessibility on the development of the detailed design plans for Māngere Centre Park and Walter Massey Park upgrades, ensuring the completed upgrades will maintain a high level of accessibility;
- c) Utilise the accessibility expertise within the Investigation and Design team, to create and showcase a truly accessible playground at Māngere Centre Park, that will become a 'destination park';
- d) Use the learnings from the accessibility review of the detailed design plans for Māngere Centre Park and Walter Massey Park, to create a template that can be used for future upgrades of other local parks;
- e) Showcase the accessibility of the upgraded parks by promoting across media and other networks.