

Draft Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Plan 2017 consultation feedback report

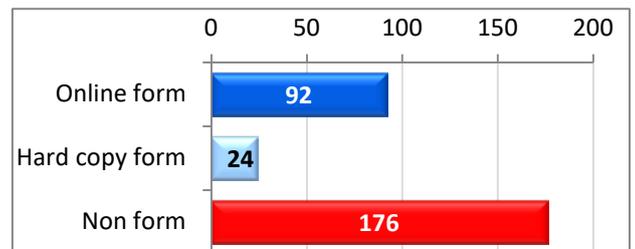
1. Purpose

This report provides a high level overview of data gathered through public consultation held on the draft Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Plan (MTLBP) 2017. For further detail, all submissions and feedback on the draft are attached to this report.

2. Background

The consultation period on draft local board plans ran from 22 May to 30 June 2017. A total of **292 written submissions** were made through the following channels:

- Online form available on the Shape Auckland website (92)
- Hard copy forms included in the household summary documents (24)
- Via email, pro forma submission, letter etc (176)



In addition, we have also considered **other submissions** received from the people we engaged with at various events. An estimated 270 community members attended an event that was hosted by community partners such as TANI, contractors such as YMCA (who organised youth events and collected youth feedback) or at Council-hosted Have Your Say events. Community members gave verbal submissions/feedback at these events which we noted and have considered in this feedback.

An additional 11 pieces of feedback were gathered from Facebook. Facebook feedback came from comments that had specifically tagged (using a hashtag) local board plan consultations.

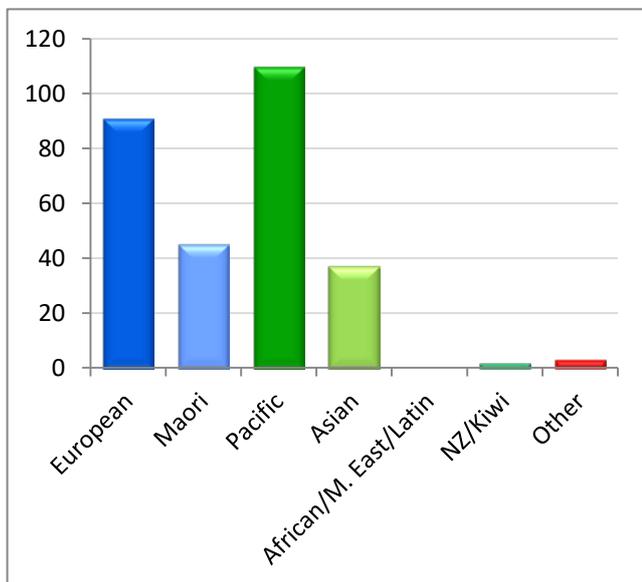
3. Feedback - Demographic profile

The demographic profile of submitters who gave **written submissions** (including on social media) is as follows:

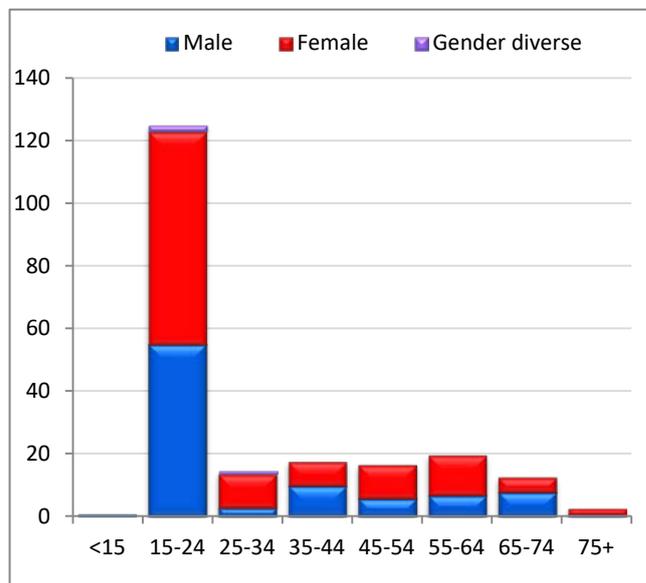
- The majority of submitters were females (57%)
- The majority of online and hard copy submissions (i.e. not including in-person submitters) came from submitters with Pacific Island heritage (53%). Europeans (44%), Maori (22%) and Asian (18%) were the other significant categories.

- The age group 15-24 was over represented (59% of submissions) – the increase in numbers can be attributed to the youth engagement activities that were carried out aimed at encouraging young people to make their voice heard through this process

Ethnicity *(some may have picked more than one ethnicity)*



Gender, Age Groups



Other submitters

Members of the community that we engaged with at events during or just before the consultation period were not specifically asked for demographic information. However, we do believe that the two largest groups reached at these events were Pacific and Asian. This was due to the high numbers of attendees at some of the partner-led events.

Traditionally, Pakeha are well or over represented in Council engagement. In this round of consultation, we have seen increased participation from Pacific Island communities, Asian and have an increased percentage of submitters who identify as Maori.

Submissions made by organisations to Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

In addition to individual submitters, the following organisations made groups submissions to the draft Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Plan 2017.

- Glen Innes Business Association
- Mt Wellington Amateur Swimming Club
- Onehunga Sports Football Club
- Onehunga Fencible & Historical Society
- Panmure Business Association
- Point England Bird Sanctuary
- Rixen NZ
- Synergy Projects
- Tamaki Tatupu Communities
- Tamaki Youth Engagement

- Te Papapa Onehunga Rugby & Sports
- The Onehunga Combined Sports Trust
- The Onehunga Enhancement Society & Manukau Harbour Restoration Society
- Wai-o-taiki Bay Residents Association
- Tamaki Samoan Collective (notes taken by staff at a meeting on 3rd May 2017)
- The Asian Network Incorporated

Submissions made by organisations to more than one Board

- Squash Auckland
- Auckland Cricket Association
- Sport Auckland
- Auckland Regional Migrant Services
- Love Our Libraries
- The Tree Council Inc
- Auckland Central Volleyball Club
- Eco Matters Environmental Trust
- Auckland Rugby Union
- TOES & MHRS
- Te Whakakitenga O Waikato-Tainui
- Healthy Auckland Together
- Heritage NZ Pouhere Taonga
- Cancer Society Auckland Northland
- Auckland Curling Club
- Toxic Awareness Group
- The Arts Council of NZ Toi Aotearoa Creative NZ

Pro forma (petitions)

Some pro forma submissions were made to all local boards. These include submissions opposing the use of chemical spraying (glyphosate) with 189 names attached to the submission, for maintenance in parks and streets.

4. Survey Feedback – Responses to consultation questions

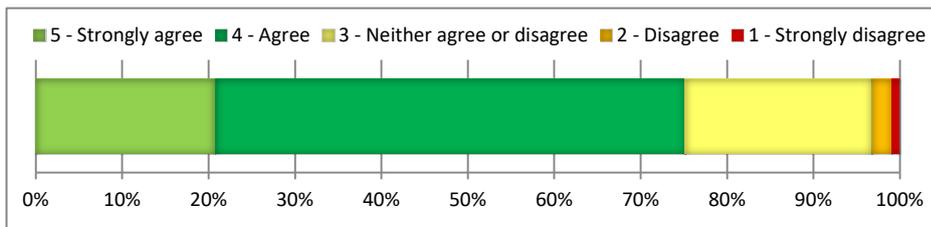
There were 3 key questions asked in the consultation survey. The analysis in this section is based primarily on the responses in the written submissions as it is much easier to glean the responses to the specific questions that were asked in these submissions. Whilst these questions were also put to the community at events, the conversations at events were often more free flowing and tended to be more focused on understanding and/or debating of issues.

Question 1: On a scale of one to five, are we on the right track with our proposed local board plan?

The purpose of this question was to gauge respondent’s general support for the overall draft plan.

75% percent of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed,

22% neither agreed nor disagreed, and 3% either disagreed or strongly disagreed that you are on the right track.

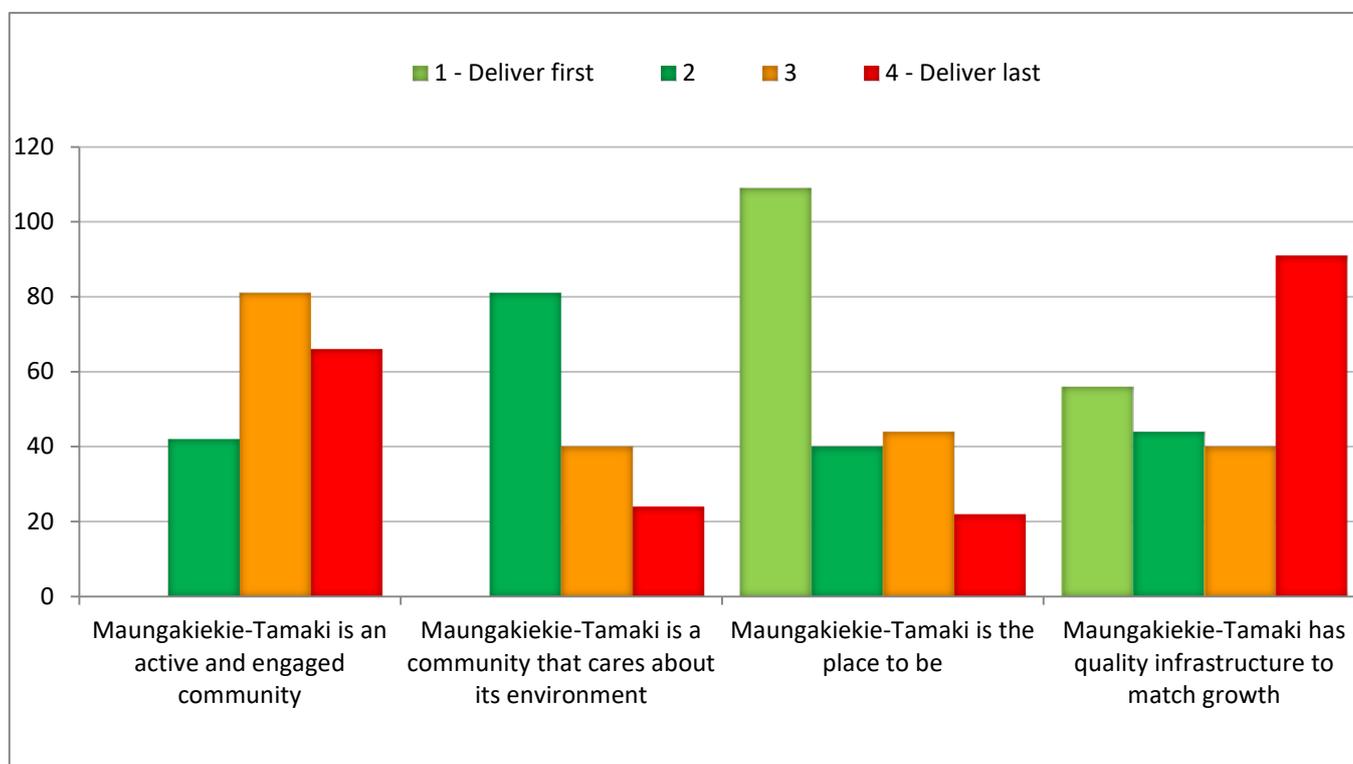


The responses reflect that there is a high level of community support for the draft plan. There were various comments noting that the plan is and appears to be balanced. There were some who felt the plan was a bit too high-level and aspirational and therefore vague on the details of what will be done to implement the aspirations.

Comments about specific issues made in response to this question are considered in analysis of issues

Question 2: Please rank the following in order of importance, where one is most important and four is least important.

The purpose of this question was to gauge respondent’s views on what is more important to assist the board in deciding what to prioritise.

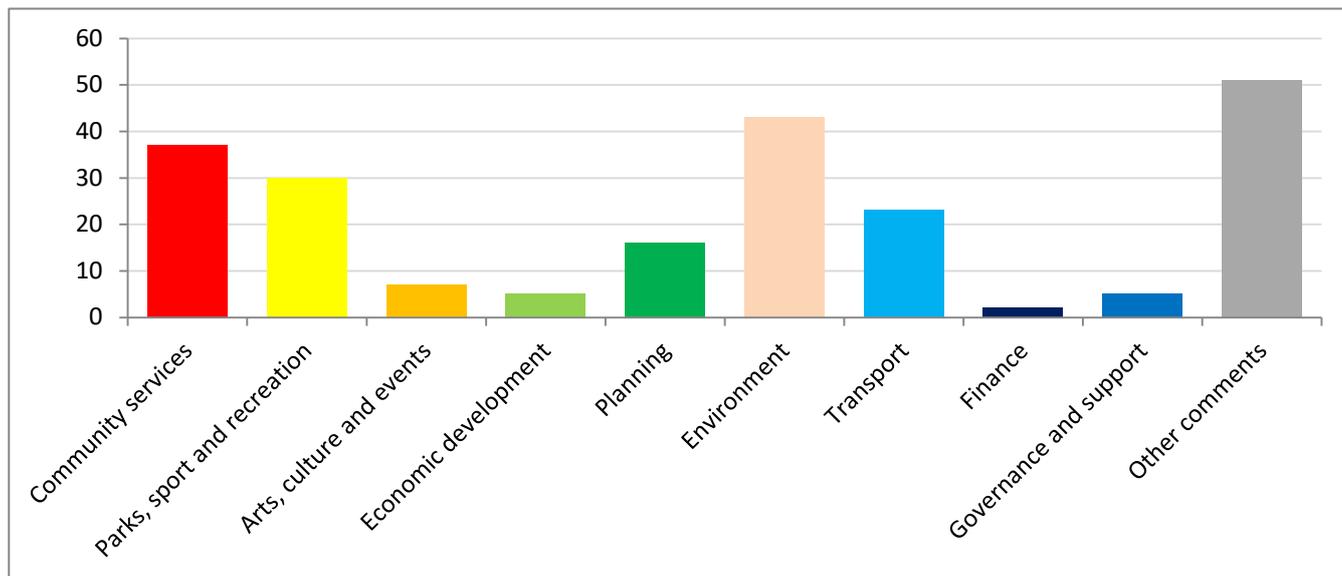


It is unclear how many of the respondents answered these questions based on what they thought the outcomes were about and how many had taken the time to read the full outcomes before deciding on a ranking.

The general conclusions we can draw from these statistics are, and from the commentary that is attached to these responses is that:

- There is a great deal of importance placed by the community on **infrastructure issues**, especially **transport**. There is a strong sense that not fixing the infrastructure challenges (transport, buildings and redevelopments, stormwater etc) will undermine any effort to create a liveable, cohesive community that is proud of its surroundings. Written submitters have strongly indicated that Outcomes 3 and 4 (The place to be and Infrastructure that matches growth) should be prioritised because there are currently many challenges in this area. This is also consistent with feedback received at events and with general feedback about transport, **town centres** and other issues.
- Outcome 3 also includes **economic development** aspirations and points to the importance of **businesses and town centres**. There was a high level of support for a thriving local economy which can produce more jobs and opportunities for the community.
- Many submitters are passionate about the **natural environment**. There are strong sentiments in the feedback about needing to prioritise environmental conservation and protection efforts especially in the face of so much growth and development which this community is experiencing. Environmental degradation can underpin health and wellbeing issues and is harder to undo. This was the underlying concern for many who signed on to support a campaign to request Council to **end the use of chemical herbicides** in weed maintenance.
- Many submitters indicated that the local board should always strive to put **people first**. Although Outcome 1 is focused on programmes and initiatives that mobilise and create a sense of community, this comment applies throughout the whole plan. **Safety** in the community was highlighted multiple times by many submitters.

Question 3: Do you think we have missed anything? If yes, please explain what it is and why it's important.



Responses to this question were open ended and varied but some key topics were highlighted. The broad category of topics covered a range from community service to environment and transport. A great deal of issues raised in response to this question is already covered in the draft local board plan.

Issues raised which were coded “other comments” relate to youth, education, alcohol and gambling outlets, facilities for campervan/motorhome users. The majority of submission feedback points coded “Community services” were about public security/safety.

5. Event feedback

It is difficult to code feedback and general comments received at events into the same categories as the survey. However, we believe it's fair to say that in spite of the low attendance, there was a generally positive feeling at the Council-hosted Have Your Say events and the smaller numbers enabled more focused and in-depth discussions on issues.

The topics that dominated these discussions were environment, transport and community services in the conversations that were had at these events.

Feedback at youth-led events highlighted a range of issues that are important to young people. These are elaborated on further below.

6. Social media feedback

Eleven pieces of feedback were received via Facebook. Many of these stated the need for indoor and sports facilities to accommodate beach volleyball, basketball, running/cycle ways, skateboard park,

exercise equipment near the playground and a motocross track in GI, and community gardens in Onehunga.

7. Feedback themes and issues for local board consideration

This section contains an analysis on the key themes in the feedback and suggests, where relevant, potential changes to be made to the local board plan as a result of this feedback.

7.1 Transport

It is no surprise that this is a major issue for the community. The most common concern is about **traffic congestion** with many worrying that it is only going to get worse with growth.

The transport area which had the most comments and suggestions is **cycle and walkways**. There is a strong desire for safe, attractive and well-connected cycling and walking paths and infrastructure that supports these paths eg secure bike stands, destinations, recreation opportunities. Some submitters are worried that there is an opportunity lost if these are not prioritised at this time.

Alternative transport options such as walking and cycling enables getting people out of their cars for some shorter trips which can in turn help ease congestion. Submitters have also acknowledged the health benefits of walking and cycling. Health and wellbeing is a theme that has come out strongly in the feedback.

As expected, submitters continue to ask for **park and ride** facilities. One submitter preferred investment to go towards making cycling and walking facilities safer as they felt park and ride facilities are expensive and usually take up prime valuable land eg near train stations.

The demands about **public transport** are clear are simple. The community wants public transport to be more reliable, accessible and affordable. Young people would like to see transport costs reduced further for youth. Disincentives for driving should go hand in hand with incentivising public and active modes of transport.

Some submitters noted that there is an underinvestment in **rail** and one suggested that in contrast, there is a perceived overinvestment in motorways. East to west train and other public transport connections between Onehunga and places such as Pakuranga, Otara were specifically noted as an area of concern by a submitter. A rail connection from Panmure to the airport was also noted.

Making local streets work for communities is an area that a couple of submitters talked about. In particular, there were some suggestions about reimagining and utilising local streets as extensions of open spaces. I believe the underlying idea here is to not see local streets as dividers in intensified neighbourhoods but rather shared spaces to care for collectively, and if feasible and safe to do so, can

be closed off for a community street event. This would fall more into **place-making** and not a transport function.

The general sense about the proposed **East-West Link** is that it will have an adverse effect on the environment. The majority of comments received are suggesting opposing this project.

Recommendations	
Review and strengthen commitment to prioritisation of cycling and walking infrastructure	<p>The board may wish to review this position on cycling and walk ways to recognise that the development of recreation and commuter pathways does not have to be mutually exclusive.</p> <p><i>Over the next three years we will prioritise the creation of recreational paths for walking and cycling that contribute to better community health and wellbeing. In the longer term, when our area is less affected by development work, we will prioritise and advocate for safe walk- and cycle-ways travelling across our area.</i></p>
Outline position on rail issues in particular a preferred position on rail to the airport (timing, alignment etc)	<p>Rail is an area of transport that wasn't discussed much in the draft. Given the topic of light rail and connections to the airport has been raised recently, the board may want to discuss and include its views and preferred position, if any in the final plan.</p> <p>This can capture aspirations for a rail connection to the airport and preferred path alignment that is consistent with the board's vision about the redevelopment of Onehunga.</p>

7.2 Put people first

The focus on **youth** has been warmly welcomed by the majority of submitters. Thanks to a successful campaign to get feedback directly from young people, a list of ideas direct from young people was submitted to the board for consideration. They include these suggestions:

Summary of youth consultation from both face to face and online engagement

- Young people from Glen Innes and Panmure area would like to see **Pt England Reserve** preserved.
- Young people would like to see **transport costs** reduced for youth
- Young people within the Maungakiekie-Tamaki area would like local business to **provide more job opportunities** or provide **work experience via internships or volunteer work**.
- Young people would like to have **more cultural based events** and would like to see a **youth community centre** locally, an example given was Zeal in Henderson.
- Young people were mostly happy with green areas however they would like to increase of **plants, trees** and would like to see a **community picnic area** that families could enjoy.
- Young people would like to improve communication with the local board and recommend online surveying preferably via **Facebook or social media**.

- Finally the majority of young people within the Maungakiekie Tamaki area feel **proud** to live there.

Other suggestions from submitters that are relevant to young people include **compulsory training pathways for school leavers** and how to **help families** so that young people are also receiving the support they need at home which can help in keeping them in school and in positive activity. Concerns raised about public security and safety also suggested links to disengaged young people.

Inclusiveness - Various submitters noted the need to create opportunities for more people and not just the young. There was also a suggestion by one or two submitters that the plan is silent on ethnic communities, resettled and refugee populations. Another submitter noted the need to consider the elderly, visually impaired and needs of disabled people when designing infrastructure and programmes. One resident didn't identify with the cover because of its emphasis on young people.

Some submitters want more focus **on health and wellbeing** of people. There were various comments on **reducing harm from alcohol, smoking and gambling**. A few submitters asked for support towards programmes that address **mental health** and improve access to healthcare. One person noted they do not support fluoridation of the water supply, which is not the usual feedback we receive on this issue.

Community gardens is a topic referenced multiple times in written submissions and was also discussed at events.

Recommendations	
Acknowledgement of and initiatives for ethnic and migrant communities, included refugees	We know the board is supportive of all communities and that it is committed to funding initiatives eg welcome packs that facilitate better engagement with migrant communities. You may wish to clarify in the narrative of the plan that the strategic focus on youth does not necessarily mean neglecting the needs of other members of the community. The board is increasingly forging connections with hard to reach communities and catering to the needs of disabled people in infrastructure developments is part of business as usual etc.
Young people	Most of the feedback on initiatives for young people are aligned to the initiatives in the draft local board plan

7.3 Natural environment

Many submitters noted that having a healthy natural environment is essential and that this supports the health and wellbeing of people as well as contributing to making the area a nice place to live. There are calls for more environmental awareness and education.

The key environmental areas discussed in the feedback are waterways, climate change, chemical spraying and waste.

With regards to **climate change**, there are calls for initiatives and incentives to **reduce carbon emissions**. Submitters, including those who didn't specifically reference climate change, called for more **trees** including **edible trees** to be planted especially around waterways, in parks and open spaces. **Coastal erosion**, whether submitters link it to climate change or not, is an issue that was raised multiple times as needing to be addressed.

The board's focus on **waterways** resonates with the community. Submitters are calling for cleaning up and improving waterways including polluted creeks. Current and potential partners have flagged in their submissions their willingness to work with the board on initiatives to improve the waterways.

Chemical spraying is the most referenced issue thanks to proforma submissions. The level of support for the pro forma submission tells us that there is a widespread concern about this practice. Glyphosate, which is used sparingly by Council in the management of noxious weeds, has been declared a carcinogen by the World Health Organisation. Perception is everything and prevention is better than cure. The local board may wish to respond to these submitters by taking a firm stance on this issue.

Various submitters commented that there is a lot of **rubbish** on the streets and highlighted a number of maintenance issues to Council. **Waste** reduction continues to be a theme supported by submitters. This is well aligned to the local board's views and initiatives.

The Point England Development Act issue created awareness about the presence of **threatened shorebird species** in the local board area. A couple of submitters picked up that there is no mention of this in the local board plan.

Recommendations	
Chemical spraying (glyphosate use)	<p>Whilst the board has expressed its concern over this issue, this initiative in the draft local board signals a more pragmatic approach by not committing to advocating for the elimination of this practice. You may wish to strengthen this in response to the community submissions on this issue.</p> <p><i>Explore environmentally friendly ways to maintain our local parks and facilities and advocate to the governing body for the reduction of chemical spraying.</i></p>
Conservation of bird life	<p>The board may wish to note its commitment to conservation and in particular, it may want to signal a commitment to work to protect the rare birdlife that is present in this part of the isthmus. This ranges from the shag colony at Panmure basin to the roosting sea birds at Point England and Wai-o-taiki.</p>

7.4 Safety, Safety, Safety!

A high number of submitters made reference to “**public security**” as a primary concern. This also suggests that perception of safety remains a problem in the local board area. People want safer streets and parks, reduced crime rates, more neighbourhood watch programmes, enforcement and security. This is an area that is covered in the local board plan.

Recommendations	
Safety initiatives	<p>One of the key initiatives proposed by the board is to review and continue implementation of the local boards Safety and Alcohol Harm Reduction plans.</p> <p>You may wish to outline some of the key features of these plans to give assurance to the community of the types of actions that will be undertaken/reviewed.</p>

7.5 Quality infrastructure

This statement ‘infrastructure to match growth’ was well supported and quoted in various submissions. There is a strong sense that not fixing the infrastructure challenges (transport, buildings and redevelopments, stormwater etc) will undermine all the development that is happening in the local board area and any effort to create a liveable, cohesive community that is proud of its surroundings. Some submitters have submitted that infrastructure is falling behind growth.

Good quality urban design is fundamental to have and is the standard that you should insist on from all the redevelopment taking place in the local board area. People are worried about intensification and reduced parking provision for housing developments. Others point to immigration which is a measure the local board doesn’t have much control over.

There is concern that as the population grows, the need for **open and shared spaces** will be greater. In this regard, submitters are calling for more parks and community green spaces, optimisation of existing parks and open spaces and utilisation of the Onehunga harbour area. There are many suggestions that can be added into the mix when planning for improvements in open spaces and upgrades to existing parks and facilities. They include:

- Barbecue areas in local parks
- Picnic places for families
- Parks with playgrounds and coffee shops
- Construction of coastal nature walkway at Wai-o-taiki Reserve
- More leisure parks

- Dog bins
- Storage units on parks for park tenants/activities

Sports and recreation opportunities was another key area of feedback. There was a suggestion that improving **organised sport and recreation experience** is a theme that is missing from the plan. There were multiple groups that submitted with suggestions on initiatives that the board should support. They include:

- Provision of multisport facilities
- Provision of indoor volleyball facilities – multiple submitters claim there is a demand in this sport
- Heating of outdoor pools eg Panmure – this will allow the pool to be utilised fully including in the summer when it is still considered too cold for training
- Request for a site for a curling rink
- Requests to identify partnership opportunities from Auckland Rugby, Auckland Cricket Association
- Requests to upgrade existing facilities at local parks eg Waikaraka park cricket pitch and fields
- More basketball hoops and skateboard parks
- Onehunga Bay Reserve skatepark that retains and features the current vert ramp
- Safer playgrounds for kids
- Motocross tracks in Glen Innes
- Upgrade and improve the Glen Innes pools facility

Recommendations	
Include a list of specific projects	Whilst it is our advice that the local board plan should be kept at a high level, we think there is value in identifying a short list of key capital projects the community has asked for. Having these noted in the plan strengthens the case for funding in the long term plan and to partners that are undertaking redevelopment in the area (eg TRC, Panuku, NZTA)

7.6 A nice place to live

It will be fair to say that the overall aspiration of submitters is to create a **nice safe community** to live. One submitter noted they want a “nice environment” while another noted that they “want a feeling of belonging in the community”. One claimed the local board area is losing the community feel and believe that making the area more attractive will nurture pride and make people feel positive and care more about their community.

In addition to safety, good quality infrastructure, improving the transport issues and thriving town centres (discussed below), the submitters also identified other things that they feel will contribute overall to creating a nice place to live. They include more community-led **events, art and culture** activities and **community education**.

Heritage is another topic referred to in various submissions. There were concerns raised about extensive redevelopments threatening heritage places and the need to proactively manage these. Heritage New Zealand wishes to discuss ways to identify and protect heritage which can start with an inventory project and a strategic plan for their management.

Submitters also talked about the ‘big issues’ that many communities around the country are grappling with:

- Social housing and housing affordability
- Housing crisis
- Homelessness
- Planning for schools and hospitals

More meaningful engagement and continuous **support for community groups** is valued by many submitters.

Recommendations	
Heritage	To address the concern that redevelopment may threaten or destroy heritage sites, a suggestion has been made for the board to create an inventory of heritage sites. This inventory can cover natural and built heritage as well as sites of significance to mana whenua. The board may want to consider including this in the plan
Vision for redevelopment of communities	The community is well aware of the redevelopment that is happening throughout the local board area. They want the local board to influence these so that they can deliver positive outcomes for the community. We recommend the board elaborates on its vision for the different parts of the local board area in the plan. This vision can help guide and set the standard for any planning and developments that will take place in your area.

7.7 Thriving local economy

Job creation and redevelopments of town centres to make them more attractive to both businesses and people were popular topics. Calls to clean up Panmure, upgrade Glen Innes, reinvigorate Onehunga and attract more businesses into the area are not news to the Council. These areas have had their fair share of challenges but now have some opportunities that can be leveraged through transformation projects in this area. This is an area your community wants you to focus on.

Recommendations	
Vision for town centre redevelopments	There are opportunities for town centre redevelopments presented through transformation programmes. The board can seek to influence these plans including through agreeing a clear vision for these town centres that it can communicate to partners
Develop green economy	A submitter made a suggestion that there is potential to create more environmental/green jobs in this area. There is likely unexplored potential here that can and should be explored. In addition to any opportunities with local businesses eg Visy, there may be grassroots opportunities that can be developed eg nature walk tours (using the concept of nature walk that connects the Omaru through Wai-o-taiki), water cycle community education (Rixen, Rivertalks). This aligns well with the calls for environmental action from your community.

8. Final Local Board Plan

The majority of the submission points raised during the consultation are already covered in some form in the plan. The submissions have reinforced the direction of the board and the balance in its activities. However there are also some suggested on changes and additional initiatives that can be added that can further improve the plan. The board will consider this after reviewing submissions and give direction to staff on the edits to be made.

There was feedback on East West Link and Point England proposed development, both of which were live issues in the community at the time of consultation. You may wish to note any particular feedback about East West Link for ongoing discussions about this project.

There are also a range of issues raised that require central government resourcing and policy direction to make happen. You may want to include any issues not currently listed in the draft in your advocacy items.