

Attachment C: A high-level summary of feedback from targeted engagement between July and October 2017

Development Strategy

1. There was support for the concept of opportunity areas, and aligning investment between the council, council controlled organisations and external agencies.
2. The importance of addressing infrastructure needs – including in rural areas – was a constant theme. It was raised that it is important to ensure there is supply of, and funding for, sufficient infrastructure like open space, transport, stormwater, wastewater and community facilities to support growth in brownfield and greenfield areas.
3. Some of the key themes of the feedback were the following:
 - Ensure there is a clear integration between the *Development Strategy* and the rest of the Auckland Plan.
 - There needs to be greater emphasis on how Auckland will address its growth challenges, including where growth will occur. The plan could include further information on the capacity provided in response to demand, sequencing, indications of responsiveness to the market, and alignment of growth planning with critical infrastructure.
 - Strengthen the narrative on opportunities in brownfield land areas, including opportunities for affordable housing, and infrastructure requirements.
 - The terms ‘quality compact approach’ and ‘considering quality first’ should be defined.
 - The plan needs to give consideration to rural and coastal communities, note the difference between rural and urban issues, recognise protected areas of natural beauty and cultural significance, and also protect land for existing and future industry and commercial use (with a variety of employment opportunities to reduce the need for long commutes).
 - The requirements of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity should be incorporated in the *Development Strategy*.
 - The Southern Initiative should be retained and opportunities around replicating this model in West Auckland need to be considered.

Belonging and Participation

4. There was feedback that communities should be connected and everyone’s involvement should be welcomed.
5. There was strong support for the focus on and equity/social justice and strengthening our diverse communities.
6. Some of the key themes of the feedback were the following:
 - The inability of many people to buy a dwelling is one of the biggest barriers to belonging.
 - The Auckland Plan should reflect the importance of: facilities and services, regional and local events, community programmes, funding community groups, arts and cultural initiatives and sports and recreation in bringing about a shared sense of belonging.

- There is a need to support community-led outcomes and empower communities given activities developed and delivered by community groups have many positive flow-on impacts such as increased safety.
- The plan needs to reflect the importance of Māori and the strength of our diverse communities, especially with the growing population of Asian communities. Also, the plan should have reference to valuing and celebrating Auckland's diversity with recognition of demographically as well as geographically diverse communities like coastal and rural communities, and not just social/ethnic diversity.
- There needs to be collaboration with central government to ensure investment in areas like health services responds to population growth.
- Community safety needs to be maintained and enhanced.
- The Southern Initiative should remain a key priority.
- The plan needs to convey a sense of positive growth and intergenerational benefits.

Environment and Cultural Heritage

7. There was support for sustainability and resilience being embedded into how Auckland grows and develops.
8. There was diversity in the feedback on an integrated environment and cultural heritage approach, with some supportive of the approach and some suggesting a separation of the two concepts. It is notable that the connection between environment and people was recognised even where a split of the two themes was suggested.
9. Some of the key themes of the feedback were:
 - The impacts of climate change should be acknowledged.
 - There is an intrinsic link between environment and people that needs to be recognised in the Auckland Plan.
 - Sustainable practices should be prioritised and promoted, including the use of incentives to minimise environmental degradation. We need to construct more sustainable houses and buildings, promote/enable waste minimisation/recycling and have broader low carbon initiatives. Auckland should be a leading example of low carbon and sustainability initiatives in Australasia.
 - There is a need to focus on: environmental enhancement as opposed to just protection, and enabling our communities to take a proactive role in managing and enhancing the environment.
 - The tensions between growth and protecting and enhancing the environment need to be highlighted. The impacts of growth on cultural and built heritage also need to be taken into account.
 - There is a need to treat coastal erosion as a regional priority as well as address the water quality in our waterways, and the availability of future water supplies.
 - There need to be clarity on what aspects of 'cultural heritage' are included other than the built environment and Māori culture. The plan can more clearly articulate the other kinds of 'cultural heritage' that are being described and contribute to a strongly cultural city.
10. Various aspects relating to the measurement and monitoring of this outcome were noted, including the need for baselines, the continuation of historic monitoring, the need for measurable goals, indicators and interim goals, and the need for generational, long-term goals.

Opportunities and Prosperity

11. There was support for the emphasis being placed on local opportunities, particularly in regards to employment.
12. There was general agreement on the need to increase productivity and raise wages simultaneously, and growing local talent.
13. Some of the key themes of the feedback were the following:
 - There needs to be greater emphasis on fostering research and development for innovation and supporting entrepreneurs.
 - There is a need to address the distribution of, as well as connections to, employment. It was suggested that the plan should be expanded to explicitly address the issue of the location of employment given its potential to have positive benefits in terms of growing local communities and relieving pressure on transport infrastructure.
 - Auckland's unaffordability is impacting on attracting and retaining talent. Auckland needs a workforce that can take up a wide range of jobs with various skill levels, but that is becoming difficult given the less skilled people and those with lower paying jobs cannot afford to live in Auckland.
 - The physical placement of tertiary institutions is critical for the future and it is important to ensure that hubs are easily accessible.
 - The opportunities that technology changes may bring, such as the creation of new jobs and developing skills to match, should be explored.
 - The attraction and retention of talent (especially young people) and that of migrants is important. Also, our youth need to be provided with opportunities to have meaningful jobs.
 - Arts and culture opportunities need to be enhanced.

Access and Connectivity

14. There was general agreement that ensuring access to opportunities is particularly important for Auckland's success.
15. There was general support for an increased focus on walking and cycling, particularly through increasing the safety of these travel options
16. There was feedback on the need to ensure strong links with the Auckland Transport Alignment Project's (ATAP) strategic approach.
17. Some of the key themes of the feedback were the following:
 - There is a need to ensure a strong 30 year perspective comes through, rather than shorter timeframes that other documents are based on.
 - It is important to find the right balance between providing a bold vision for increasing the role of public transport, walking and cycling, while recognising that most trips are undertaken by private vehicle.
 - Ensure a clear "rural transport story" comes through, particularly in relation to safety, travel choice and connectivity.
 - There is a need for more emphasis on inter-regional links and discussion of the Upper North Island as an integrated whole. There is also a need for better passenger rail connections between Auckland and neighbouring regions.

- Emphasise the importance of addressing significant access disparities between different geographic areas, socio-economic groups and different ages and abilities.
- Ensure strong integration between land-use and transport in providing access, especially through encouraging local employment opportunities where possible.
- Discuss how to best mention smarter transport pricing, balancing its core role in the ATAP strategic approach against the substantial uncertainty about how and when pricing will occur.
- Strengthen the links between active transport and better health outcomes.
- Strengthen references to the potentially transformational impacts of technology and make the section more specific to Auckland.

Homes and Places

18. It was raised that the key challenge for local communities relates to housing affordability, including what affordability would look like in future.
19. Support was shown for a range of products to improve housing affordability, including rent to buy, shared equity and shared ownership.
20. Some of the key themes of the feedback were the following:
 - The inability of many people to buy a dwelling is one of the biggest barriers to a sense of belonging.
 - The benefits created by retirement villages need to be recognised.
 - Public places like parks need to be used more efficiently, in tandem with growth, and the health benefits they can provide needs to be made more explicit.
 - It is important to focus on the following:
 - affordable, safe, and healthy homes, including a “warrant of fitness” scheme for all rental properties
 - community safety
 - require owners of multiple dwellings to pay more tax and also tax homeowners who leave their houses vacant.
21. The role of design in influencing the quality of urban form and a sense of place was also raised. Also, there was preference for accessible design to be the norm, noting the importance of accessible design to the elderly and the young, particularly in areas close to amenities.
22. The council’s role in delivering houses was questioned with the feedback being that the council should instead focus on providing core services such as roading.
23. There was a view of government as a key decision maker.

Māori Identity and Wellbeing

24. There was feedback that Māori desire to be: socially connected, healthy, active in sports, successful in education and employment, and have their housing needs met. Included in the feedback were aspirations like, Māori living in decent homes, no suicides, strong sense of identity, culturally enabling social services and marae, and all Māori in employment.
25. There was support for the inclusion of Māori identity and wellbeing as a separate outcome area in the Auckland Plan refresh process. There was also general support for the strategic directions.

26. It was suggested that there should be an increase in the number of multi-generational housing and integrated mixed tenure.
27. There was also a suggestion to integrate Māori culture with park names and art and designs, art and sculpture installations and play themes in addition to a focus on design principles.
28. Some of the key themes of the feedback were the following:
 - The interrelationships and interdependencies between Māori wellbeing and the other outcome areas are important to capture. Also, Māori needs and aspirations should be explicitly referenced in all outcome areas.
 - There is a combined desire to see betterment for all Māori; there is thus a need to move beyond distinguishing mana whenua from mataawaka in order to “hear the total Māori voice”.
 - The plan needs to acknowledge the resilience role marae play for Māori and the wider community.
 - The Treaty of Waitangi relationship needs to be elevated.
 - The special relationship with Māori as tangata whenua should be recognised throughout the plan.
 - There needs to be a focus on the young person in community achieving sense of self, pride of place, achievement.