

Summary of city centre projects and priorities up to 13 February 2018.

Programming

Central Wharves

1. The council's governing body approved the Queens Wharf Mooring Dolphin at the 23 November 2017 meeting. Panuku are preparing the updated resource consent, which will be lodged mid-April 2018. The Dolphin will be delivered as part of the Downtown Infrastructure Development Programme.
2. The council family is working with Ports of Auckland on the interface between council's city centre planning and the Ports 30 Year Master Plan. This is focusing on synergies with Quay Street, Central Wharves and the Quay Park area, including opportunities with respect to the City Centre Master Plan and wider road network strategies.

America's Cup (AC36)

3. At the 14 December 2017 governing body meeting, councillors voted to support Emirates Team New Zealand to host the America's Cup in Auckland, and to fund the required infrastructure developments. This included approving the Wynyard Basin (Halsey Wharf Extension, Hobson Wharf Extension and Wynyard Wharf East extension) location option as a basis for negotiation with the Crown and Emirates Team New Zealand.
4. Resource consents for the Wynyard Basin option were lodged by Panuku, on behalf of Auckland Council, on 15 January 2018.
5. Procurement is underway for the construction and design alliance partners who will deliver the base infrastructure. The Alliance is due to be formed in the second week of March 2018.

Downtown

6. The Downtown Infrastructure Development Programme is progressing well, with consents for the majority of the projects near completion, with submission planned early April 2018. The delivery team is co-locating at Auckland Transport to ensure momentum continues.
7. The 14 December 2017 decision by the governing body to fund the America's Cup infrastructure requirements was made within the context of the wider infrastructure requirements across the city centre and waterfront, acknowledging the costs required for planning, consenting and procurement of the approved option. This has enabled the downtown programme to look at re-prioritising some of its projects to deliver outcomes in-line with the America's Cup and APEC 2021.
8. A specific agenda item is included at the 28 February 2018 meeting on the Quay Street Seawall Project, seeking stakeholder feedback and advice on how to minimize the impact on local businesses and residents.

Midtown

9. Auckland Transport is progressing the indicative business case for the Midtown Bus Project, which includes the streetscape and amenity upgrade for Wellesley Street. The Auckland Council and Auckland Transport teams are currently reviewing the project alignment, and phasing of the Victoria Linear Park and Wellesley Street, with the City Rail Link development.

10. Planning is underway for a section of the Victoria Linear Park to be delivered alongside the City Rail Link works on Victoria Street.

Learning Quarter

11. Albert Park Improvement projects are in delivery. The CCTV is being installed February-March 2018, and lighting is being upgraded in March 2018. Work on the caretaker's Cottage and band pavilion is due to start March 2018. Path improvements, landscaping changes around the Chris Booth Sculpture on Victoria Street, and signage are in the final design stage, with delivery anticipated by July 2018.
12. Road layout changes for St Paul Street are in the final planning stage, with delivery anticipated in the second quarter of 2018.

Homelessness

13. The first meeting of the Housing First Governance group was held on 21 December 2017 and was chaired by Mayor Phil Goff. The group includes representation from government and local government agencies, Auckland businesses, mana whenua and the Housing First providers. The Housing First Collective has housed 288 adults and families with children across the Auckland region since March 2017.
14. Auckland Council is in discussions with a number of community providers to allocate the remaining regional homelessness budget. In 2017, the mayor prioritised \$500,000 to promote collaboration across the council group, government agencies, charities, businesses and philanthropic groups to address chronic homelessness. The majority of the budget has been allocated to the Housing First Collective to enhance the understanding of the Auckland homeless population (size and demographic) through a regional Point-in-time count due to be undertaken in 2018.
15. Auckland Council is continuing to work with a range of government and non-government agencies to develop a regional, cross-sectoral homelessness plan. The first phase includes commissioning a co-design project with people at risk and with lived experience of homelessness, and frontline service providers.
16. Current project planning anticipates that construction work on James Liston Hostel will commence in the second quarter of 2018 and should take approximately 14-16 weeks to complete.

Public amenities

17. A review of Auckland Council city centre public amenities (toilets, showers and lockers) was undertaken in late 2017. As part of this work, council decision making processes on how public amenities are initiated and implemented were reviewed. A report was presented to the City Centre and Waterfront Programme Control Group (PCG) at the end of November 2017. The PCG endorsed the need for further policy work to provide a clear mandate with respect to a public amenities strategy and agreed to escalate the work to the City Centre and Waterfront Executive Steering Group for a decision on the next steps. Both groups are made up of senior representatives from council and council-controlled organisations. The report will also be presented to the Waitemata Local Board on the 20 February 2018.

Activate Auckland: Supporting business

18. Activate Auckland is working with the Karangahape Road Business Association and Auckland Transport to develop best practice in development response communications. A development response strategy and action plan was delivered to the Karangahape Road project team in November 2017. Implementation plans are now underway,
19. The business support package has been launched through the Karangahape Road Business Association. The package is promoted by the Business Association, Auckland Transport and Auckland Council, it is a pilot created in partnership with Mentors NZ, the Auckland Chamber of Commerce and City Rail Link Limited.

Events

20. Auckland Pride Festival: Activate Auckland collaborated with the Auckland ART Gallery, FAFSWAG and the Auckland Pride Festival to launch their interactive documentary at the Auckland Art Gallery on 7 February 2018. The launch was free and open to all, it was very successful, with full capacity reached within 20 minutes of the doors opening, the overflow spilled into Albert Park which became a secondary viewing platform.
21. Toi Māori Arts and Fashion: Activate Auckland funded the art and fashion section of the Waka Festival that featured over 40 Māori artists during the three day event (27-29 January 2018). Lightboxes were used to showcase work in the public realm, further promoting the event. There were free performances, talks and workshops. Over 800 people attended on the first day alone.
22. O'Connell Street activations: To support O'Connell Street businesses a number of activations are being planned over the next few months, including Fiesta on O'Connell in early March 2018 and Walk on O'Connell in May, as part of the Auckland Writer's Festival programme.

Griffiths Gardens – Pā Rongorongo/Information Hub

23. The Information Hub will be officially launched on 15 February 2018, by Mayor Phil Goff and Viv Beck (representing the Auckland City Centre Advisory Board).
24. The space has been collaboratively designed by Auckland Council, Satellite Media and Angus Muir Design.
25. The first artist in residence is FAFSWAG, who will be activating the exterior digital wall art, as well as the physical and digital spaces during February 2018.

For the Love of Bees Project

26. Three community events were hosted on 14, 20 and 29 January 2018.
27. The Rongoā Garden will be celebrating the arrival of three pou later this month, which pave the way for establishing an environment to bring traditional Māori culture, gardening techniques and healing knowledge into the city centre.

Tactical urban interventions

28. Projects currently underway include:
 - Federal Street Shared Space – working with Sky City
 - Federal Street Contraflow Cycleway – working with Auckland Transport
 - St Paul Street – working with Auckland Transport and the Auckland University of Technology

City Rail Link Limited

29. Britomart: The construction of the City Rail Link tunnels through the Commercial Bay site will continue until mid-2018, The latter half of the year will see the excavation of the tunnels across Lower Queen Street – forming the connection to the existing tracks.
30. Albert Street: For the duration of 2018 the tunnel box will be excavated and formed along Albert Street (between Wyndham Street and Customs Street), joining up with the tunnels at the edge of Commercial Bay. Towards the end of the year the first section of Albert Street will be reinstated.
31. Aotea Station: Enabling works are beginning in March 2018. The first step is the removal of canopies from buildings along the western side of Albert Street, between Wellesley Street and Victoria Street. Buildings affected are the AA, Manhattan Apartments, SkyCity and Auckland Council. From August 2018-April 2019 underground utilities will be re-located in this section of the street.

Aotea Quarter

32. The Aotea Quarter Destination Strategy was finalised in November 2017. An additional development Response Plan (aligning with the Quarter Plan work), looking at how to ensure the area keeps lively and thriving during the City Rail Link works, is also complete. This Plan will be put on hold until development dates in the area have been confirmed.
33. Auckland Transport's updated signage manual is complete. Aotea Quarter may be a pilot for the new signage. City Rail Link Limited and Auckland Council are working with Auckland Transport to address temporary wayfinding needs during construction in the area.
34. Council is starting to work with venues in the Quarter to develop activations and projects that align with the strategic recommendations of the Destination Strategy. An activation partnership between the Auckland Art Gallery, Activate Auckland and the Auckland Pride Festival has already been successfully completed.

Cycle Network

35. Quay Street segment of the Tāmaki Drive Cycleway: Construction started 8 January 2018. It includes construction of a two-way cycle path, continuing from the existing path on the northern side of Quay Street to just before the Strand where it will tie back into the 'share with care' cycle path along Tamaki Drive.
36. Tāmaki Drive cycleway: The project is currently at the end of the preliminary design phase and will shortly start detailed design, subject to NZTA funding approval. An arborist report is being prepared considering affected trees on either side of the road.
37. Nelson Street Cycleway: Construction of stage 2 of the Nelson Street Cycleway, from Victoria Street to Pakenham Street East in Market Place, and Pitt Street from Beresford Square to Hobson Street, is expected to be completed by the end of November 2017. The final section to Quay Street is being delivered as part of Westhaven to the City Stage 2.
38. Westhaven to City (Stage 2): The preferred option is a bi-directional cycleway on Market Place, Customs Street West and Lower Hobson Street. General traffic on the Market Place section would be restricted to one direction. Public consultation closed on 2 October 2017, however a final decision on the proposal has been delayed due to streetscape improvement opportunities that have come through the consultation. Auckland Transport is exploring these opportunities further and seeking possible additional funding.

39. Victoria Street Cycleway: Detailed design for the Beaumont Street to Hobson Street is currently being reviewed, with construction expected in the second half of 2018. This cycleway links to a number of existing and proposed cycle facilities; including Franklin Road, Victoria Park (through to Wynyard Quarter) and Nelson Street.

Wynyard Quarter Redevelopment

40. Tiramarama Way (east-west pedestrian laneway between Halsey Street and Daldy Street): Construction work commenced November 2017. Works are progressing well and it is anticipated that the laneway will be complete by mid-2018. The work is being undertaken by Panuku Development Auckland.
41. Wynyard Central: Construction work is ongoing on the last two stages of this Wills Bond residential development, comprising eight townhouses and 80 apartments. Completion is due mid-2018.
42. 132 Halsey Street: Construction work is ongoing on this Wills Bond residential development of 51 apartments with ground floor retail. Completion is due mid-2018.
43. 30 Madden Street: A new residential development of 91 apartments, maisonettes and penthouses, with ground floor retail and hospitality spaces, is due to commence mid-late 2018.
44. 10 Madden Street: Construction work on Precinct's third commercial building is due to commence mid-2018.
45. Park Hyatt Hotel: Construction is ongoing on this Fu Wah development. The hotel is due to open the first quarter of 2019.
46. Watercare Pump Station: Construction work is still ongoing. Works are due for completion March/April 2018.

Delivery

Project	Delivery stage	Comments
Downtown public spaces	Design and consultation	The Downtown Public Spaces project is progressing in conjunction with other projects in this area. Integration with the seawall project is being planned by the programme team and the technical consultants.
Britomart streetscapes	Design and consultation	Planning is underway for Stage 3. Work will be coordinated with the Downtown Programme as well as planned private developments.
Skypath	Feasibility and investigation	Auckland Council is continuing to work with the NZTA on progressing SkyPath. Options to deliver SkyPath and SeaPath together are being considered.
Myers Park upgrade (stage two)	Design and consultation	Following the project review, changes in scope and budget were workshopped with the advisory board and Waitematā Local Board

		<p>in November 2017.</p> <p>Reports on the proposed changes will be presented to the advisory board and the Local Board in March 2018.</p>
Karangahape Road Streetscape Enhancement and Cycleway	Design and consultation	<p>The project team is in continuing dialogue with the Karangahape Road Business Association committee to better understand their concerns.</p> <p>There is ongoing work to mitigate disruption effects in collaboration with the Business Association, community reference group, businesses and the wider community.</p> <p>The first newsletter is due to be released shortly.</p>
Poynton Terrace	Design and consultation	<p>Consultation with project neighbours closed in early February 2018.</p> <p>Engagement with mana whenua is ongoing.</p> <p>Construction drawings and storm water analysis is currently being reviewed; with construction due to begin in May 2018.</p>
Federal Street upgrade (stage two)	Design and consultation	<p>Public consultation on the concept design closed in December 2017. The feedback report is being finalized and is due to be released in March 2018.</p>
Hobson and Nelson Street upgrades	Feasibility and investigation	<p>Phasing and planning options for both streets are being assessed.</p>
Beach Road Māori artwork	Construction	<p>Installation of the sculptures is planned for late March 2018. With an official opening happening soon after.</p>
O'Connell Street public art	Construction	<p>Resource consent has been obtained.</p> <p>Detailed design is due for completion by the end of February 2018.</p> <p>Fabrication and installation is planned for March/April 2018.</p>
Freyberg Place	Feasibility and investigation	<p>Auckland Transport is progressing the project to change the status of Freyberg Place.</p>