**Te Poari Kaitohutohu mō te Pokapū o te Tāone Nui o Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland City Centre Advisory Board**

**OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS**

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**Note:** The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
Auckland Council’s Draft 10 Year Budget (Long-term Plan) and the Draft Auckland 30 year Plan

Auckland City Centre Advisory Board Feedback

Introduction

The Auckland City Centre Advisory Board (ACCAB) is made up of representatives from the residential, corporate, tertiary education, tourism, retail, transport and property sectors. The Board’s purpose is to advise Auckland Council on achieving the vision and strategic outcomes of the Auckland Plan, the Long-term Plan and the City Centre Masterplan with regards to city centre issues. Additionally it advises on expenditure of the City Centre Targeted Rate.

The City Centre Targeted Rate (approximately $23 million per year) is collected from business and residential properties in the City Centre. The targeted rate is applied to either add value to already funded (by general rates) projects to enhance outcomes; or it may be used to wholly fund projects which deliver elevated service to the City Centre, in keeping with its importance to the region as a whole.

This feedback represents the views of the Board where we have been able to reach agreement. Some members will provide specific feedback from the groups they represent through the formal submission process.

1. The City Centre should be a focus for spending and development

When New Zealand’s largest city is thriving it creates benefits for the wider Auckland region and the country as a whole.

1.1 It plays a vital economic role as a hub for business and tourism.

- Spending in the City Centre in 2017 was over $195m, a 1.8% increase on the previous year\(^1\).
- The City Centre hosts cruise ships, which in 2017 added $234m of economic value to Auckland\(^2\).
- There are more than 110,000 jobs are in the city centre.
- Auckland City Centre generates over $16 billion per annum.\(^3\)
- There are 165,000 square metres of commercial real estate planned for delivery over the next five years and 7,000 residential units in the pipeline.

1.2 It plays a vital social role in bringing communities together:

- The City Centre population in 2017 was approximately 45,000. This was a 13% increase on the previous year (compared to 2.6% Auckland-wide population growth).\(^3\)
- It is becoming a weekend destination - the Public Life Survey undertaken in 2015 saw a 27% increase in weekend pedestrian foot traffic and a 12% increase in

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\(^{1}\) Marketview, Auckland City Centre Quarterly Activity Report, December 2017 Quarter. Note that this report is based on EFTPOS and credit card transaction data.
\(^{2}\) ATEED Auckland Index https://www.aucklandnz.com/auckland-index/visitors
\(^{3}\) Infometrics, Auckland City Centre (3 CAUs) Economic Profile https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/Auckland%20City%20Centre%20(3%20CAUs)
weekend stationary activities (i.e. where people are occupying/using a space rather than moving through it) compared to 2010.

- The number of people on Queen Street has doubled in the last five years.
- It accommodates two of the country’s eight universities. In 2016, the University of Auckland and AUT together had over 70,000 students and over 7,700 staff. This includes 10,877 international students⁴.
- It will host communities from around the world and locally in the new International Convention Centre.
- The number of café seats has increased by 41 per cent, or 3673 seats, in six years.
- Key social infrastructure is located in and adjacent to the City Centre, including the Auckland District Court, the High Court, and the largest hospital in NZ.
- Community groups assisting the transient and homeless citizens are highly active in the City Centre.

1.3 It plays a vital cultural role as a hub for the arts and culture

- Some of the country’s biggest arts festivals, concert venues, art collections, and creative and innovative industries are in the City Centre.
- Over 150 cultural events took place in the 2016-17 year. This year, the Diwali Festival attracted approximately 68,000 visitors and the Tāmaki Herenga Waka Festival over 31,000.
- The City Centre is home to over 100 art, culture and heritage venues⁵.

2. To thrive, the city centre needs people-centric transport and infrastructure.

2.1 Transport projects need to be scoped and funded to deliver quality public realm outcomes. Investment in people-centric infrastructure that supports business and helps to build healthy communities is important. The city centre is a great place for people to spend time, improving public amenity and public spaces is an important factor in this.

2.2 Additional investment needs to be made into improving the city centre’s west-east connections as well as support of the western area of the city over and above the planned investment in the downtown and waterfront areas. There has not been the level of investment made into the public spaces in this area despite many years of planning (via the Victoria Quarter Plan) and private sector developments in the area.

2.3 We support the Waitemata Local Board’s initiative to develop and implement a public amenities strategy for the city centre. Citizens should be made aware of public amenities such as toilets, places to rest, meet and study, access to water, lockers and showers, wireless connectivity and power.

⁴ UoA and AUT 2016 annual reports. This is the most recent data publicly available.
⁵ Counted from Eventfinda https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/venues/auckland-cbd/art-culture-heritage
2.4 We support council leveraging off private sector development, and events like Americas Cup and APEC. These activities provide great opportunities to invest in our waterfront and downtown area, maximising its accessibility and potential as a major asset for the people of the city. However, it is also important to invest in other projects that provide benefits for the growing City Centre population.

2.5 The city centre needs to focus on wellbeing as a marker of prosperity. We are interested in the Government’s view of prosperity being measured by wellbeing and cultural factors as well as economic. Increasing the wellbeing of communities and Auckland’s cultural capital needs to be planned and invested in adequately, the city cannot expect enhanced culture and wellbeing outcomes to just suddenly appear after quality infrastructure and transport is in place.

3. **To be sustainable the city centre needs to focus on long-term quality**

3.1 The city centre acknowledges the environmental issues that affect the wider Auckland region. We support a targeted rate for cleaning up our harbours, beaches and streams and a targeted rate for dealing with Kauri die-back with a), the rate being adequate to pay for the infrastructure needed over a ten year period and b), the rate being charged equitably between business and residential property owners.

3.2 We need to strike a balance between progress and pain.

- We believe that we need to solve the issues facing Auckland as quickly as possible and at the same time acknowledge and reduce wherever possible the pain it causes its residents, business and visitors.
- We are concerned about a city that stops working before we get to the end goal. We support initiatives run by Activate Auckland that focus on the people trying to live and work in a city under disruption.
- We encourage the council family to “do it once, do it right” and take a holistic approach to all projects. This means there needs to be an adequate budget to deliver great outcomes for the public realm with quality amenity in the long-term and the minimisation of disruption in the short term.
- Better co-ordination between the council family would help to avoid expensive rework and the cumulative impact of multiple disruptive projects. We have started to see better co-ordination but there is still more that needs to happen.
- We support a greater alignment between the objectives of council and its CCOs and any further efficiencies that can be gained across the council family.
- We notice operational budgets are not always adequate to support capital investment. For example, the Auckland Art Gallery.

4 **We support the continuation of the City Centre Targeted Rate and its purpose.**

- It has contributed significantly to the transformation of the city centre since 2004. We support its extension to 2028 to cover the full ten year programme although we cannot rely just on the CCTR to fund the city centre’s transformation given its role as a regional asset.
- As a board we are focused on quality briefs that achieve the objectives of the CCTR.
5 Regional Fuel Tax

We support a Regional Fuel Tax in principal recognising the need to fund the infrastructural challenges facing the city. We don’t think it will solve the congestion issues however, and there is appetite within the Board for further initiatives to address these.

6 Increase in rates

In principal, we support a general rates increase at a level that will allow Auckland to develop a world-class city utilising both supply and demand management practises. Some members will provide specific feedback from the groups they represent through the formal submission process.

7 Rating online accommodation providers

There are concerns amongst some members about the details behind this proposal. We would like to see more research on the impact this will have on residential properties to ensure the rate is applied equitably.

8 Initiatives of the Waitmatā Local Board

In general we support the initiatives of the Waitmatā Local Board and benefit from a close relationship through their membership of the ACCAB.

Auckland Plan

1. We support a long term approach as council considers the future of Auckland, therefore this is an important document.

2. We think it lacks targets and measures, and these would make it a more useful document.

3. We support the on-going investment in the City Centre with an increased focus on people, community and culture.
VICTORIA LINEAR PARK STAGE 1
HOBSON TO QUEEN STREET

AUCKLAND CITY CENTRE ADVISORY BOARD

March 2018
1.0 CITY CENTRE MASTERPLAN

VISION

Our 2032 vision is to deliver the first sheet of a city centre-wide blue-green open space network from the western waterfront and the Auckland waterfront down to Albert and Victoria Parks, and up to the Wynyard Quarter and the western waterfront. It will involve:

- Turning Dolly Street in the Wynyard Quarter into a linear park, connecting the quarter’s flagship Headland Park with Victoria Park to its northern end.
- Transforming Victoria Street into a high-quality green link that will connect Victoria and Albert Parks.
- Achieving better links for pedestrians and cyclists across Central City and better connection of the Domain to the city.

Key:
- The Domain to City Connections
- Victoria Green Link
- Queen Street Linear Park
- Queen Street/Waterfront Boulevard
- One Street (Future green link)
1.1 PROJECT SUMMARY

• PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE LONG TERM PLAN
• STAGE 1 OF THE PROJECT IS BETWEEN HOBSON AND QUEEN STREET
• PLAN FOR CONSTRUCTION ALONGSIDE THE CRL AOTEA STATION
2.0 STUDY AREA
3.0 OBJECTIVES

1. CREATE A POWERFUL STATEMENT FOR THE CITY CENTRE

2. HELP DRIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH & REGENERATION IN MIDTOWN

3. INCREASE AND ENHANCE GREEN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE CITY CENTRE

4. PROVIDE A CONTINUOUS CONNECTION BETWEEN ALBERT PARK AND VICTORIA PARK

5. PROVIDE A STRATEGIC EAST-WEST LINK FOR ‘MID-TOWN’

6. CREATE A PEDESTRIAN FOCUSED STREET

7. CREATE AN ACTIVE AND ENERGISED STREET ENVIRONMENT

8. INTEGRATE THE PUBLIC REALM REQUIREMENTS OF AOTEA STATION
3.1 WHAT WILL A LINEAR PARK DO?

1. STRUCTURING ELEMENT

2. IMPROVE ACCESS TO GREEN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HEART OF THE CITY CENTRE
3.1 WHAT WILL A LINEAR PARK DO?

3. EAST-WEST STITCH

4. COUNTER BALANCE
3.2 FROM STREET TO PARK

1. MORE THAN JUST A GREAT STREET
2. A SERIES OF ROOMS
3. AN EPISODIC APPROACH
4. A UNIFYING THREAD

GREEN

PLAY

RESPITE
4.0 OPPORTUNITIES

- **01** A PEOPLE PLACE
- **02** A GREEN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HEART OF MIDTOWN
- **03** A LANDMARK WALKING STREET
- **04** RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIP WITH AOHEMA STATION
- **05** CELEBRATE OUR CULTURE & IDENTITY
- **06** A PICTURE POSTCARD PUBLIC SPACE
4.1 CHALLENGES

01 PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT VERSUS PLACEMAKING ACTIVITIES

02 OVERCOMING CHALLENGING TOPOGRAPHY

03 AOTEA STATION REQUIREMENTS

04 SUPPORTING NEW NETWORK BUSES OVER THE SHORT TO LONG TERM

05 PROVIDING FOR CYCLING OVER THE SHORT TO LONG TERM

06 MAINTAINING ESSENTIAL ACCESS
5.0 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

A SERIES OF ROOMS
5.1 STRATEGIC CONTEXT

MOVEMENT - TRANSPORT NETWORK AND THE RELATIONSHIP TO THE PUBLIC REALM

HOW DOES THE LINEAR PARK PUT PEDESTRIANS ON TOP?

PUBLIC REALM RELATIONSHIPS & PUBLIC TRANSPORT

KEY
- Victoria Street, Union Park, Wellesley Street and Albert Street
- Bus Pronto/City Connect
- Nelson and Hobson Street Two Avenues
- Cyclway City Centre Feeder Route
- Cyclway Route City Centre Core
- Queen Street CIT and Pedestrian Mall
- Key Intersections
6.0 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

THE FRONT LAWN
RESIDENTIAL

DOWNTOWN
CIVIC

BELOW THE PARK
LANEWAYS

ABOVE THE PARK
COMMERCIAL / RECREATION

THE DINING ROOM
ENTERTAINMENT
7.0 EXISTING SITE CONDITIONS

EXTENT OF WORKS
7.1 LINEAR PARK CONCEPTUAL ARRANGEMENT

EXTENT OF WORKS

HOBSON STREET
FEDERAL STREET
ALBERT STREET
ELLIOTT STREET
QUEEN STREET
7.2 ACCOMMODATING HEAVY PEDESTRIAN FLOWS

> 2,000 / HOUR

> 20,000 / DAY

VICTORIA STREET EXISTING PEDESTRIAN VOLUMES, PUBLIC LIFE STUDY, GEHL ARCHITECTS, 2015/2016
7.3 ACCOMMODATING HEAVY PEDESTRIAN FLOWS

PEAK PEDESTRIAN FLOWS

01 Pinch points

02 Potential conflict between cyclists and pedestrians

03 Safe crossing for pedestrians across Elliott Street
8.0 CULTURAL INTEGRATION

KEY:
- CRL LINE
- CRL STATIONS
- ORIGINAL WATER COURSE
- URBAN PARKLAND
- 1840 SHORE LINE
- PA SITE
- MAHINGA-KAI
  (SEAFOOD GATHERING)
- EEL FISHING
8.1 TE ARANGA DESIGN PRINCIPLES

SAFE + EQUITABLE PUBLIC REALM
TE AO TANGATA

RANGATIRATanga AUTHORITY
MANA

WAHAROA
MAHI TOI

WAHOROTIU - RANGIPUKE
TOHU

URBAN FIT
WHARIKI

LIVING PRESENCE
AHI KA

NAMEING OPPORTUNITES
WHAKAPAPA

NATIVE ECLOGIES
TAIAO

MAURI TU

Waharoa - Key threshold moments
Opportunities for native vegetation
Stormwater slowing and infiltration

Placemaking Opportunities - Urban Activation
Tohu - connection to key landscape features
Connection to CRL

Reference to Wahorotiu

0 20 40 60m
9.0 ABOVE THE PARK
9.2 THE DINING ROOM
9.3 OUTSIDE THE STATION
Stage 2 – current scope

- Splashpad (completed)
- Mayoral Drive underpass and artwork
- Stormwater detention dam
- Queen/Mayoral Stairs
- Greys Ave Stairs
- Queen St. Entrance
Stage 2 - proposed scope

- Splashpad (completed)
- Mayoral Drive underpass and artwork
- Stormwater detention dam (alternative design)
- Queen/Mayoral Stairs