

Chair's monthly report

This report covers the period 12 February until 12 March 2018.



First board meeting of 2018 held on 20 February. (Photo taken after we thanked Democracy Advisor Sibyl Mandow for her work for the board before moving to a new role in Council. Member Rob Thomas gave apologies for leaving early)

Highlights

Have your say month

A massive Council “Have your Say” month of consultation got underway on 28 February. This is the opportunity every three years to look in depth at Auckland’s 10-year budget. As part of this budget cycle local priorities for the next financial year 18/19 are also up for discussion.

Over the month the Board is hosting two public meetings, a hearing and four pop in sessions at local libraries. More details in Attachment 1.

International delegation

We hosted the first international delegation to visit Waitemata Local Board on 28 February. Hon Andrew Solomon Napuat Minister of Internal Affairs, Mrs Cherol Alanavibori Director General, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Mr Edward Kaltamat Director of Local Authorities from Vanuatu discussed local planning, funding and community engagement with board members.



Transport projects:

Karangahape Road Enhancement Project

The board has confirmed our strong support for this project to proceed.

We have however raised our concerns regarding the development response and project communications. We received reassurances that this joint AT and Auckland Council (with additional government funding) is being coordinated by the Development Programme Office (DPO) including the development response. This



will see to the planning, development and communication on the numerous projects in the precinct managed in a holistic way

The project team has now taken steps to progress a development response action plan with the K'road business association and to ensure the project is successfully delivered with minimal business disruption. Construction is due to start on this transformational and long awaited project at the end of 2018. The latest update is available on AT's website.

Consultation on a parking plan to maximise parking options in and around Karangahape Road once the enhancements project is complete is currently under consultation until 1 April. It looks to maximise parking availability and turnover by prioritising short stay parking and loading zone access in peak time.

AT has confirmed the following parking changes are proposed.

	Number of on-street car parks currently	Number of on-street car parks post-project
Off-peak hours	501	483
Peak hours	485	416

	Number of loading zones currently	Number of loading zones post-project
Off-peak hours	55	62
Peak hours	52	44

In addition, the parking plan has highlighted the opportunities for improving turnover of 70 existing car parks that are currently unrestricted and 53 car parks in an AT controlled car park on Upper Queen Street.

A parking plan to ensure the effective management of the available parking together with a package of assistance should respond to retailer concerns and allow the project to progress with the welcomed support from the KBA.

Waitemata Safe Routes update

Community Liaison Group meetings for the Richmond Road and Garnet Road routes got underway on 12 February. Both meetings were very well attended and the new process to review the design positively supported by the majority of attendees. The Community Liaison Groups have been established to:

- Ensure that those organisations or groups with an interest in the project are involved in its development
- Ensure the project accurately reflects community aspirations and delivers established objectives and design principles

I am the board's representative on both groups. Member Rob Thomas is also on the Garnet Road CLG.

Franklin Road upgrade

At the community liaison group meeting on 13 March Auckland Transport provided an update on progress so far:

Drainage:-

- 20 New stormwater manholes installed
- 40 New stormwater catch pits installed
- 440m of new Stormwater main installed in the middle of the road
- 350m of new catch pit leads installed



Vector ducting complete. New cabling installation in progress.

The new Wellington St/England St roundabout is expected to be completed in April 2018 (photo right). The design is the first of its kind in Auckland to incorporate traffic calming, cycle lanes, high quality materials and street greening. The project has an overall competition target of mid-2019. More project details on the AT website.

Further transport updates are available on the AT monthly report to the board.

Western Springs Native bush regeneration project

The Waitemata Local Board has a long standing community project to regenerate an area of native bush in Western Springs with improved tracks for bush walks. The consistent advice we've received is that before any track work can be undertaken the 80 year old pine stand behind the zoo needs to be removed because the trees are failing and pose a risk.

Details of the project are being finalised and will be made publicly available shortly (there will also be consultation on the



planting and track design) but I recently provided an update via Facebook because I received a complaint on 2 March that Council was committing "eco rape" by felling one of the pine trees. The Council arborist advised the work involved removal of a hazardous and 90% dead pine tree. The Council arborist logged this following a regular monthly inspection and organised the immediate removal without referring it to the board. The arborist has confirmed that the trees are well beyond their 80-year life expectancy and are declining rapidly with regular branch and whole tree failure occurring.

Regular maintenance and occasional removal of unstable trees is required for safety reasons with no viable alternative. The recent incident in Rotorua involving the failure of a tree that resulted in a death has highlighted the need to respond appropriately to recognized risks.

I am also advised that it is considered unlikely (as claimed by the complainant) that white-faced heron nest in the pines given the general lack of foliage and exposed nature of the trees. Tree works are generally only scheduled outside the nesting season unless required for safety reasons

Maintenance

Last month I reported on issues with the poor standard of maintenance that needs to be addressed in Waitemata.

Community Facilities has also undertaken to address the weeds in Rose Road Gully. (Photo right board member Adriana Christie attacks the weeds that are strangling native trees)



Emergency preparedness

Following the Emergency Preparedness workshop held on the 31 January at the Waitematā Local board office, a Waitematā Facilities Network workshop was held on 22 February to explore what facilities can contribute and what is needed as part of this network.

The outcome we are hoping to achieve from a Facilities Network in Waitematā is to empower our communities to enhance resilience to disasters and the impact of climate change:

- Support educational programmes to prepare our communities for disasters and the impact of climate change
- Identify key locations in our community as civil defence information centres

Meetings and workshops: 12 February until 13 March 2018

- Weekly chair's meeting held every Monday with the local board services team
- Board all day workshops on 13, 27 February and 6, 13 March
- Parnell Plan working group meetings on 12 February and 12 March
- Chair's Forum on 12 February and 12 March
- Ponsonby Business Association committee meetings held on 13 February and 13 March
- Domain Committee agenda run through meeting on 13 February
- Trafanz Executive Committee meeting on 14 February
- Monthly comms update meeting on 14 February
- Domain committee walking tour and business meeting held in Parnell on 14 February
- Grey Lynn business Association committee meeting on 15 February

- Heart of the City annual results presentation to local board members by Viv Beck, CEO on 15 February.
- Meeting on 16 February with Westfield, Newmarket Business Association, Auckland Transport, and Development Programme Office representatives to discuss potential upgrade of Nuffield Street
- Community Reference Group meetings for Garnet Road and Richmond Road held at Auckland Transport on 16 February
- Regional local board cluster workshop on 19 February
- Local board business meeting on 20 February
- Waitemata Facilities Network (Emergency Management) Workshop on 21 February at Ellen Melville Centre
- Grey Lynn Park Multipurpose Facility Briefing on 21 February
- Auckland Domain bus service briefing by Auckland Transport for the Domain committee and board members on 21 February
- Attended the governing body meeting on 22 February at the Town Hall for the swearing in of Councillor Josephine Bartley (photo right)
- Inner City Network Meeting on 22 February
- Franklin Road lights debrief meeting on 23 February
- Meeting on 23 February with the board's engagement adviser to discuss the 10 year budget consultation
- Catch up with Barbara Ward and Therese Colgan, Mt Albert Electorate Office on 23 February
- LGNZ Governance & Strategy Advisory Group meeting in Wellington on 26 February
- LGNZ roadshow briefing to local board members on 28 February
- Hosted the Vanuatu delegation at the board office on 28 February
- Meeting with Italian festival organiser on 28 February
- Morning tea for the departing Board's engagement adviser
- Meeting with Derek Handley, sponsor of Active Citizen on 1 March
- Comms meeting on 1 March
- Tour of the Auckland City Mission premises at 140 Hobson Street on 1 March and presentation on their project Mission HomeGround
- LGNZ Zone 1 meeting at the Town Hall on 2 March
- Leadership for Chairs programme: Session two on 5 March
- Meeting with the Herne Bay Residents Association on 9 March
- Local Board briefing by Healthy Waters on 35 year stormwater discharge consents
- Victoria Quarter transformation meeting with representative from Sugar Tree apartments on 9 March
- Franklin Road Community Reference Group meeting at Auckland Transport on 13 March



Events and functions: 12 February until 13 March 2018

- Go by Bike Day on 14 February at Silo Park (coffee and muffin provided by Auckland Transport)
- Opening of Pā Rongorongo - Citizens Information Hub at Griffith Gardens on 15 February (photo right the Mayor cutting the ribbon)
- YMCA Auckland City Stadium Re-Opening on 15 February
- Grey Lynn Business Association networking drinks on 15 February
- Spoke at the Bike to the Future bike ride and petition presentation to Auckland Transport organised by Generation Zero on 17 February (photo right)
- By-election day on 17 February celebrated the successful election of City Vision's Denise Roche (photo below)
- Celebrated Pride Parade on Ponsonby Road in the Glamstand at the invitation of the Pride Trust on 17 February
- Attended Myers Park Medley hosted by the Waitemata Local Board on 18 February
- Opening of the Fringe Festival on 19 February
- Auckland Foundation function on 21 February with guest speaker Celia Caughey, City Mission Trustee
- New Zealander of the Year Awards dinner on 22 February at the invitation of the University of Auckland
- Joined mana whenua and Cr Desley Simpson for the pouwhiri at the opening of the Volvo Ocean Race Village on 24 February (photo below)
- Repair Café hosted by Grey Lynn 2030 at Westerns Springs Community Hall on 24 February
- Waireka Festival and tour of the Sanctuary Gardens at Unitec on 24 February
- Japan Festival Opening at Shed 10 on 25 February
- Officiated at the Citizenship Ceremony at the Town Hall on 28 February
- Opening of the Lantern Festival on 28 February at the Auckland Domain (photo right)
- Opening of the Auckland Arts Festival Playground festival garden at Silo Park on 7 March



- International Womens Day breakfast hosted by Central City Library to watch livestreamed directly from Parliament in Wellington (hosted by the Minister for Women, Julie-Anne Genter), keynote speakers include Governor General Dame Patsy Reddy and former Prime Minister Helen Clark, in a conversation with Dr Gill Greer, Chief Executive of the National Council for Women.
- Speaker at Zonta’s International Womens Day celebration at Ellen Melville Centre on 8 March (Attachment 2)
- Eru Dangerspiel at the Playground, Silo Park at the invitation of the Auckland Arts Festival on 8 March
- 10 year budget consultation events
 - Presented to the Inner City Network Meeting on 22 February
 - Gave a presentation to Parnell Rotary’s breakfast meeting on 28 February
 - Attended Auckland Conversations: Transport on 28 February Bernard Hickey was joined by Auckland Mayor Phil Goff and a panel of industry experts to discuss and debate Auckland’s transport challenges and the potential solutions available.
 - Attended the Pasifika fono at Western Springs Community Hall on 5 March
 - Presented at the Grey Lynn public meeting hosted by the Board with the Grey Lynn Residents’ Association on 8 March (photo below)
 - Radio Interview with Julie Fairey on Red Alert Radio on the topic of the 10 year budget
 - Presented to the Grafton Residents Association monthly meeting on 12 March



Attachments

1	Have your say month: feedback time on issues and priorities for Auckland
2	Zonta Club supported by Auckland Council International Women’s Day March 8 2018 at Ellen Melville Centre

Have your say month: feedback time on issues and priorities for Auckland

A massive Council [“Have your Say”](#) month of consultation is underway ([28 Feb -28 March](#)). This is the opportunity every three years to look in depth at Auckland’s 10-year budget. As Aucklanders we have major decisions to make about how we fund the infrastructure needed to deal with the pressure of growth and bring existing services up to a sustainable standard for a world class city. As part of this budget cycle [local priorities](#) for the next financial year 18/19 are also up for discussion.

The Mayor is leading the regional consultation on what is also known as the draft Long-Term Plan (LTP) that determines the level of rates. You can respond to questions covering the proposed introduction of a [Regional Fuel Tax](#) to pay for improvements to transport and targeted rates to fund [protection of endangered species such as kauri](#) and the cleanup of our [habours, beaches and streams](#).



As the board representing the main area in Auckland without stormwater separation we are particularly focused on the long overdue infrastructure investment being brought forward by Council and Watercare to stop the flow of sewage into the Waitemata Harbour. The big question will be whether the wider region is willing to support with funding through additional rates.

Other plans that are out for consultation include the [Regional Pest Management Plan](#), [Waste Management and Minimisation Plan](#) and the refresh of the [Auckland Plan](#). The draft Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) budget that was “inadvertently” released in January by Auckland Transport with a massive reduction to the cycle budget, low prioritization of light rail and cuts to rail operating funds is now due out for consultation in April.



The AT Board has directed management to redraft the RLTP budget to more accurately reflect priorities that Council and the new Government give to walking and cycling, public transport and reducing carbon emissions. If the family friendly Bike to the Future ride organized by Generation Zero on 17 February is any indication there is strong local support for safe cycling infrastructure and funding for transport choice. At the same time we welcome that the new CEO of AT, Shane Ellison who attended the ride, has committed to the organization taking a fresh approach to community engagement and working with local boards so that mistakes are not repeated.

Further transport funding for projects like streetscape upgrades, safer speed zones and greenway connections is possible through the Board’s transport fund. We’ve got a question on



how we should allocate the approximately \$500k available per year. This is in the local board section of the [online feedback form](#) along with questions about our priority project, [Ponsonby Park](#), and funding the elimination of agri-chemical spraying, public facilities and further waterway restoration.

Details of consultation events and submission details on the Auckland Council website akhaveyoursay.nz.

A version of this post first appeared in the March [Ponsonby News](#).

[More on Waitematā Local Board priorities](#)

Each year we plan the projects and initiatives we will deliver in your local board area. These are based on our [2017 local board plan](#), which sets our three-year direction. We are seeking your input on our proposals for the 2018/2019 financial year.

We have recently consulted with you during the development of our 2017 local board plan. This plan has now been adopted and will guide our priorities for the next three years as we respond to more people choosing to live, work, visit and study in Waitematā.

We propose to focus on restoring key waterways, maintaining our community facilities and providing cycling and walking greenways. We will continue to activate and improve our local parks and to advocate for the development of a new civic space at 254 Ponsonby Road.

You have told us that you would like us to support the vulnerable and rough sleepers in the inner city. One way that the local board can support rough sleepers as well as cater for other visitors to the city centre is through awareness raising and provision of public facilities. We would like your input about whether we should contribute funding towards this.

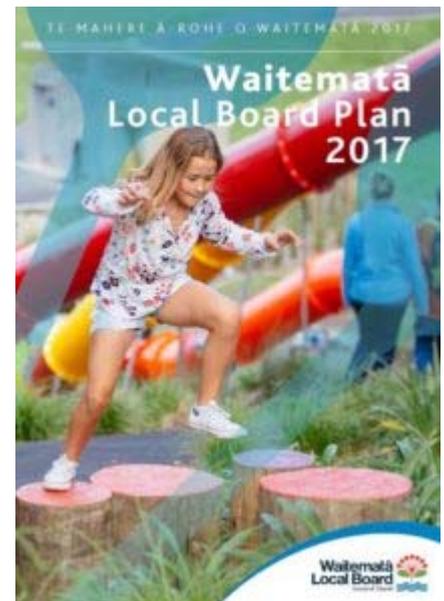
Hearing from you is important as it helps us understand the community's views and ensures that we deliver the projects and initiatives you value the most. We welcome your involvement as we finalise our proposed budget priorities for 2018/2019.

What we propose in the Waitematā Local Board Area in 2018/2019

We plan to invest \$41.5 million (\$7.4 million capex and \$34.1 million opex) to renew, maintain and operate assets in your local board area as well as provide other local initiatives.

Our priorities for the 2018/2019 budget include:

- Continue to improve and activate our local parks in line with the adopted [development plans](#). New areas of focus include creating a pathway, improving drainage and investigating the need for a playground at Basque Park. At Heard Park in Parnell we plan to upgrade onsite facilities to provide a more usable space for recreation and events.
- Restore Waiparuru, Waipapa and Newmarket Streams in collaboration with residents, community groups and iwi and partner with Albert-Eden and Puketāpapa Local Boards



to develop a protection and restoration strategy for Meola and Motions Creek catchments and the Three Kings to Western Springs Aquifer Initiative.

- Continue to improve our transport network by using our Transport Capital Fund to deliver safe and high amenity walking and cycling options, such as the connection from Newmarket to Parnell through the old Parnell rail tunnel, as set out in the Waitemata Greenways Plan 2013, streetscape improvements and slow traffic zones in residential areas.
- Raise awareness and enhance provision of city centre facilities based on a needs and gaps assessment. Examples include toilets, showers, lockers, drinking fountains and device charging stations.
- Work towards the elimination of agrichemical spraying at our local parks. Given financial constraints we propose to make Albert Park and Myers Park agrichemical spray free in 2018/2019.

Our key advocacy project

A full site civic and green space at [254 Ponsonby Road](#) will provide a much-needed area for the community's growing population.

We are seeking the Governing Body to include \$5.5m in the 10-year budget for stage 1 of this project. The first stage includes the delivery of a civic and green space, the repurposing of the existing canopy structure for markets and events and the development of public toilet facilities. Stage 2 will repurpose the existing building and improve the adjoining streetscape. Potential funding options for stage 2 include our Auckland Transport capex fund and other alternative funding sources.



What do you think?

Have we got our priorities right? Please provide [feedback](#).

- Do you support the 10-year Budget to include first stage funding to create a full site civic space at 254 Ponsonby Road?
- Should we expand our waterways restoration programme in 2018/2019 to include Waiparuru Stream (Grafton Gully) and partner with Albert-Eden and Puketāpapa Local Boards to develop a protection and restoration strategy for the Waitītiko, Waiateao (Meola and Motions Creek catchments) and the Three Kings to Western Springs Aquifer?
- How do you think we should prioritise our Auckland Transport capex fund over the next three years? Options include:
 - improved walking and cycling infrastructure though completing greenways routes, such as the connection from Newmarket to Parnell through the old Parnell rail tunnel
 - streetscape improvements
 - implement slow traffic speed zones in residential areas
- Do you support allocating funding towards raising awareness and enhancing provision of city centre public facilities? If so, what kind of facilities should we prioritise?

Attachment 1

- The elimination of agrichemical spraying may have some impact on the visual presentation of the parks and reserves. Do you support the local board allocating \$40,000 funding for agrichemical free weed control methods in specific parks such as at Albert Park and Myers Park in 2018/2019?

Feedback form [online](#)

Other ways to give feedback:

Visit the Waitemata Local Board office at 52 Swanson Street (off St Pats Square) to view hard copies of all the consultation documents. You are welcome to complete a feedback form at the office reception and drop in the submissions box.

Email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Post: You can complete the [AK Have Your Say feedback form](#) and send it to our freepost address:

AK Have Your Say
Auckland Council
Freepost Authority 182382
Private Bag 92300
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

Consultation events

Waitemata Local Board is partnering with the community to host two Have Your Say events so that we can hear your feedback. We also have a hearing style meeting scheduled:

- Thursday 8 March, 6-8pm, Grey Lynn Library Hall, 474 Great North Rd; with the Grey Lynn Residents Association
- Thursday 15 March, 6-8pm, Parnell Jubilee Hall, 545 Parnell Rd; with the Parnell Community Committee and the Grafton Residents Association
- Thursday 22 March, 3-5pm, Waitemata Local Board Office, 52 Swanson St. If you would like to present at the hearing please RSVP waitematalocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Social media

Comments made through these channels will be considered written feedback:

[Have your say on Twitter](#) Twitter: Comments using @aklcouncil and #akhaveyoursay
[Have your say on Facebook](#) Facebook: Posts on the facebook.com/aklcouncil – using #akhaveyoursay

Zonta Club supported by Auckland Council International Women's Day March 8 2018 at Ellen Melville Centre

Theme: Celebrating Change



Speakers:

Pippa Coom Chair, Waitemata Local Board
Michelle Kidd QSM Te Rangimarie Charitable Trust
Latayvia Tualasea Tautai National Council of Women – 100 years
Rez Gardi Young New Zealander of the Year for 2017

Zonta International Yellow Rose Recognition Award:

Roses will be presented in recognition of the dedication and initiative shown by women in their fields of expertise.

Dr Marilyn Waring CNZM Pioneer of Women, Zonta International Honorary Member
Leonie Morris Centre Manager, Auckland Womens Centre
Karen Donnelly Head Teacher, Eden Campus Teen Parenting Unit
Black Ferns Members of the 2017 World Cup Black Ferns Chelsea Alley, Rebecca Wood, Sosoli Talawadua, Selica Winiata

Greetings to everyone gathered here today. Thank you for the invite to speak on International Women's day. This is a great honour especially here in Ellen Melville Centre. A place dedicated to wahine toa that I was privileged to reopen with the Mayor in September last year after an extensive refurbishment. The rooms are named after civic leaders put forward by the National Council of Women including Dr Marilyn Waring who it is great to see will receive a recognition award at this event.

Attachment 2

The lounge downstairs is named after the Rt Hon Helen Clark. I was fortunate to hear the International Women's Day event livestream direct from parliament at a breakfast hosted by the Central Library this morning. The former prime minister was of course one of the inspiring keynote speakers. We also heard from Janet Hope the NZ District Governor for Zonta. I appreciated hearing about the kaupapa of Zonta. I thought Miss Clark spoke to Zonta's aim of empowering women through service and advocacy: As she said Never think that your little bit doesn't make a difference... it does.

I feel very energized and excited by the theme of the event today as there is so much change happening to celebrate. Change is not just in the air, it feels tangible and real that change is making a difference.

After election night last year I have to admit that I didn't pick the massive change that was about to happen to our political landscape- even the optimist in me thought the status quo had prevailed. It is absolutely wonderful that we now have a 37 year female prime minister who just happens to be pregnant and continuing her career. I acknowledge too the Minister of Women's Affairs Julie Anne Genter (also pregnant) and the change they and the 38% of parliamentarians who are now women are leading. To steal from Miss Clark again – it only happens by leaning in, opening the door and laying out the carpet for ourselves – we can't wait for the red carpet.

At local government level I also celebrate the change we are seeing since the super city came together in 2010 that has increased diversity and gender balance of elected representatives. 50% of local board chairs are now women. We celebrated the election last week of Josephine Bartley who acknowledged the Pasifika councilors who came before her included Eleitino (Paddy) Walker, who has a room named after her and was Auckland City Council's first Pasifika councilor. We are seeing more young women willing to put themselves forward like my colleague on the Waitemata Local Board Adriana Christie who is 27.

Janet Hope said this morning that young women are the agents of change. I gave a big cheer to that. On a daily basis I am impressed and inspired by the young women I am privileged to meet in my role who have the commitment, courage and vision to make a difference. A couple of weeks ago at the NZer of the year awards I met Rez Gardi one of the speakers today. I was sitting on a table of students from Auckland Uni juggling double degrees, social enterprises and fundraising.

It is these same young women who are starting out in careers with expectations of work place behavior and equal opportunities. My background is as a lawyer so I am "applauding" the long overdue shake up that is happening in the legal profession as a result of those willing to speak out and not accept the status quo – just probably a bit too early to celebrate change.

What I am definitely celebrating is the change in the career opportunities that women are choosing. I feel fortunate for the feminist education I received at Auckland Girls Grammar under the formidable Miss Poutney but even in the 80's there was no awareness that engineering might be a career option.

A particularly highlight engineering because one of my key roles on the board for the last 8 years has been to lead our transport portfolio. I work with many engineers and I'm constantly impressed with the number of women coming into the profession

They are leading the way in the change that is happening to Auckland right now – a change that is at times painful but I think worth celebrating. Auckland historically has been designed by male engineers, architects and planners in a way that excludes the needs of women and the most

Attachment 2

vulnerable. A city with transport choice and safe streets is a city that will work far more effectively for everyone .

I can't resist throwing in something about the humble bicycle – recognized as having done more for the emancipation of women than anything. I celebrate the change in Auckland of seeing more and more women enjoying their freedom and feeling safe to cycle.

I am grateful that the theme today has been celebration and an opportunity to focus on the positive. There are so many grim statistics of the ongoing struggle to achieve equality and equity for women. I've highlighted a few areas of change that are exciting me at the moment. I am sure our next speakers will bring to life many more.