

# Summary update on city centre projects and initiatives to 29 June 2018

## Programming

### Downtown Programme overview

1. The seawall consent is on track for public notification on 16 July 2018. This is the first major consent for the programme, with the remaining consent applications on track to be lodged with Auckland Council by the end of the third quarter of 2018.
2. JFC Limited are undertaking test trenches along the northern footpath of Quay Street, as part of the utilities investigation which will inform the design of the seawall and the Quay Street upgrades. This will be ongoing for the next few months.
3. Engagement is continuing with key stakeholders, such as the local boards, to raise awareness of the programme and alert them to upcoming consultation. The communications strategy is due to go live on 18 July 2018 and will signify the start of the public consultation process for the programme.
4. Work continues on the coordination and governance of an optimal programme of works in the Downtown area, noting construction interdependencies between the seawall, transport, streetscape and private sector works.
5. The transport network strategy and temporary traffic management strategy will be presented to the board at the 18 July 2018 meeting.

### Downtown Streetscapes workstream

6. The streetscapes workstream for the Downtown Infrastructure Development Programme covers the section of Quay St from Lower Hobson Street in the west to Britomart Place in the east. It considers the integration of public realm with transport and active modes of transport.
7. The concept designs for the Downtown Public Spaces project for the Quay Street upgrade (including the Britomart East bus interchange) will be reviewed with the board at the 18 July 2018 meeting. The board's feedback will be sought on the design outcomes being pursued.

### Midtown

8. Auckland Transport is progressing the business case for the Wellesley Street Bus Improvements Project, which includes the streetscape and amenity upgrade for Wellesley Street. The Auckland Council and Auckland Transport teams are currently reviewing the project concepts and integrating phasing of both the Victoria Linear Park and Wellesley Street projects with the City Rail Link development.
9. Auckland Council and Auckland Transport are initiating the development of the business case for the Victoria Street Linear Park, including consideration of phasing sections alongside the City Rail Link works on Victoria Street.

### Learning Quarter

10. Work on the Albert Park Caretaker's Cottage and band stand started 14 May 2018 and is expected to take 16-18 weeks to complete.
11. Safety improvement work around the Chris Booth sculpture on Victoria Street is complete and the site will soon be re-opened.

12. Path improvements and signage are in the final design stage, with delivery anticipated by December 2018.
13. The pavement on St Paul Street has been built out. Road treatment and the installation of temporary street furniture (PlaceKit) pieces is underway with completion anticipated at the end of July (the start of semester two).
14. Auckland Transport is progressing the process to permanently resolve Alfred street as pedestrian mall.
15. A destination plan is underway for the quarter led by the Learning Quarter Working Group and Activate Auckland. This will seek to maximise economic and cultural opportunities presented by events such as graduations.

## **Homelessness**

### **Policy project: Kia whai whare tātou katoa**

16. Kia whai whare tātou katoa (regional cross-sectoral homelessness plan): This plan is being developed through a series of workshops with sector leaders (completed in May 2018), and the wider sector in August 2018. Engagement with central government and non-government agencies has been very positive with consistent recognition that a coordinated, collaborative approach is required to address this problem.
17. Other work to inform the development of this plan includes research with people at risk who have lived experience of being homeless, along with frontline services providers. Council is also working with key agencies to map the system of responses to homelessness, to identify gaps and opportunities for collaboration.
18. Local board workshops were held through May and June 2018, and workshops with the key advisory panels will be held in June and July 2018. The workshops involve identifying collaborative actions for the first annual action plan. The policy project is actively supporting new and expanded initiatives to address homelessness.

## **Housing First**

19. Due to the advisory board's early July 2018 meeting, there is no update on Housing First statistics this month.

## **James Liston Hostel**

20. Work started on the refurbishment of the Hostel on 28 June 2018. The refurbishment is due for completion mid-2019.

## **The Auckland City Mission: HomeGround**

21. At the 28 June 2018, Auckland Council's governing body approved the 10-year budget which includes \$475,000 to help the Auckland City Mission to cover the development and consent processing fees for the redevelopment of its Hobson Street site.
22. Early in June, the Mission received a commitment for \$16.7 million from central government, towards addiction treatment as part of the HomeGround facility. This brings the funding for the project to \$66 million, of the \$75 million budget.

## **Public amenities**

23. At the 27 June 2018 advisory board meeting the process around formalising a council response to public amenity provision in the city centre was discussed.
24. Auckland Council's Chief Planning Office is investigating options for including this policy work within a current strategy.

25. The Waitematā Local Board have funded a trial of showers for rough sleepers at the Ellen Melville Centre. This will start on 5 July 2018. Showers, along with wrap-around support from the Auckland City Mission, will be available 7am-9am Monday and Thursday mornings. The trial is set to run through July and August 2018. Additional options are being explored.

### **City Rail Link Limited**

26. 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.
27. 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.

### **Cycle network**

28. Quay Street: Construction is progressing according to plan. Work is taking place along the northern side of Quay Street between Plummer Street and The Strand. Completion is expected by the end of July 2018.
29. Tāmaki Drive cycleway: The project will start detailed design in July 2018. Funding has been signed off by Auckland Transport and is now with the New Zealand Transport Agency for approval. A pre-lodgement meeting has taken place and is anticipated that the resource consent application will be submitted in July 2018.
30. Nelson Street Cycleway: Construction of stage 2 is now complete. The final section to Quay Street is being delivered as part of the Westhaven to the City cycleway stage 2.
31. Westhaven to City (Stage 2): An integrated streetscape/cycleway project is being investigated for Market Place and Customs Street. This is as a result to consultation feedback received late 2017. We expect to decide on an option in mid-2018. Further consultation may be required following the decision.
32. Victoria Street Cycleway: Detailed design for the Beaumont Street to Hobson Street section is currently being reviewed (including an urban design review). This cycleway links to several existing and proposed cycle facilities; including Franklin Road, Victoria Park (through to Wynyard Quarter) and Nelson Street.

### **Notable city centre maintenance underway**

33. Karangahape Road streetscapes – planting has been completed along the road.
34. Emily Place – there is currently an increased frequency of people drinking late at night and leaving empty bottles and litter. The residents have been in touch with the police. Council contractors are managing the clean-up daily.
35. Albert Park – the replanting of annuals in the floral display gardens surrounding the water fountain has been completed.
36. Myers Park – bollards have been replaced, the anti-slip netting has been repaired on the landing of the steps at the Greys Ave entrance and the splash pad has been turned off for the winter. There has been an increase in the frequency of the daily cleaning of the toilets.
37. Symonds Street Cemetery – contractors have stepped up maintenance of the Cemetery and the issue around litter and general maintenance has improved. They are also ensuring that there are no new camps being set up on a permanent basis around and under Grafton Bridge.

## **SkyPath**

38. The Auckland Transport Alignment Project v2 has noted the SkyPath project as being one of the funded cycle projects along a state highway corridor. SeaPath is also noted.

## **City centre public art**

39. The transformational Wynyard Quarter Public Art Plan is underway with a curator developing a master brief for the works. These pieces will be delivered in alignment with the development of the quarter. The first site being scoped is the intersection of Madden and Daldy Streets.
40. The concept design for a contemporary piece of art at the southern end of Federal Street is underway. This piece will enhance the shared space environment being created in this area.
41. A series of workshops have been held to identify public art opportunities for the Victoria Linear Park. This is recommended as the highest priority for the investment in the City Centre Public Art Plan.
42. Engagement has begun with the Ferry Basin and Quay Street projects to scope opportunities for public art works within the designs. This area was first recognised as a priority for investment in the 2012 Quay Street Public Art Plan and was re-emphasised in the 2018 City Centre Public Art Plan.

## **Wynyard Quarter redevelopment**

43. Tiramarama Way (east-west pedestrian laneway between Halsey Street and Daldy Street): Work is now complete; the formal street opening took place on 29 June 2018. The work was undertaken by Panuku Development Auckland, the contractor was Downer.
44. Wynyard Central: Construction work is nearing completion on the last two stages of this Willis Bond residential development, comprising eight townhouses and 80 apartments.
45. 132 Halsey Street: Construction work is ongoing on this Willis Bond residential development of 51 apartments with ground floor retail. Completion is expected Spring 2018.
46. 30 Madden Street: A new residential development of 91 units, with ground floor retail and hospitality spaces, is due to commence in Spring 2018.
47. 10 Madden Street: Construction work on Precinct's third commercial building is due to commence in Spring 2018.
48. Park Hyatt Hotel: Construction is ongoing on this Fu Wah development. The hotel is due to open in Autumn 2019.
49. Watercare Pump Station: All works, including commissioning and final connections, will be completed by the end of July 2018.
50. Daldy Street upgrade: Work includes extending the Daldy Street Linear Park from Pakenham Street to Fanshawe Street and creating a neighbourhood park at the corner of Pakenham and Daldy Streets. Work is expected to start in late July/early August 2018, with anticipated completion by the end of 2019.

## **Activate Auckland**

### **Supporting business**

51. Business Pac (business support package) continues to be offered to businesses on Karangahape Road, ahead of the enhancement project.

### **Development Response**

52. Activate Auckland is working with Auckland Transport and the Karangahape Road Business Association to deliver a development response programme for the upcoming enhancement project. Activate Auckland is embedded in the project team and participated in the pop-up project hub (12-19 June 2018) which allowed the community to learn more about the transformation underway.
53. Activate Auckland is working with Auckland Transport to deliver development response activities within the Downtown Programme.
54. The Emerging Auckland website, including a library of over 30,000 photos detailing the changes within the city centre over the last decade, is being integrated with the council website. This will provide a digital home for Development Response and the ongoing transformation of the city. Plans for interactive maps are underway, this will make the website a great development response tool.

### **Griffiths Gardens/For the Love of Bees**

55. Five successful community events were hosted at Griffiths Gardens and other city centres locations by the for the love of bees team in June 2018. This included film screenings, bee school and lunchtime classes.

### **Pā Rongorongo**

56. There have been nearly 700 visitors since the space opened on 13 March 2018.
57. Various community groups serve free food every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday evening to people in need.
58. Several groups regularly donate produce to the community fridge, these include the Salvation Army, New World, Auckland Council's Nourish Cafe and private businesses. The City Centre Residents Group donates funds towards the purchase of food. Jen Fuemana, Pā Rongorongo's kaimanaaki (host), coordinates the community fridge
59. Starting in July there will be a new community pantry to store goods that don't need to be refrigerated
60. Pā Rongorongo's kaimanaaki (host), continues to plan activations in the Pā. These include upcoming collaborations with Auckland Library for Suffrage 125, Artweek, Heritage Festival, Matariki Festival and the French Embassy.

### **Aotea Quarter**

61. Activate Auckland met with the French Embassy and Aotea Quarter venues (Auckland Live, AUT, Auckland Library, Auckland Art Gallery) to discuss collaborating on Novembre Numerique (Digital November). This is a global event and will be the first time New Zealand has been involved in the programme. There will be a month-long series of activations around digital technologies in the public realm. Activate Auckland will be hosting a French artist at the Pā Rongorongo during November.
62. Activate Auckland will fund an external Powerpoint for the central library to make activations outside the front of the library easier in future.

## **Events**

63. Activate Auckland is supporting the following events: Matariki Maori Film Festival, Heritage Festival, Artweek and Suffrage 125.
64. A film showcasing the city centre's pedestrian laneway circuit has been released. It features the Auckland Design Office's Ludo Campbell-Reed and Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development's ambassador, Rachel Hunter. So far, the video has reached 3,700 people.

## **Tactical urban interventions**

65. Projects currently include:
  - Federal Street Contraflow Cycleway – has been completed in collaboration with Auckland Transport. The project is a trial and changes will be made as necessary
  - Federal Street Shared Space – working with SkyCity and Auckland Transport. The first stage of interim traffic calming and pedestrian amenity trial has been installed
  - St Paul Street – working with Auckland Transport and the Auckland University of Technology. The turf has been laid and the street graphics are due to be completed by the end of July 2018
  - Alfred Street – working with Auckland Transport and the University of Auckland. The temporary solution has been installed and will stay in situ until the permanent solution of declaring the street a pedestrian mall has been completed. A University-led planting day is being organised to coincide with Eco Day in August 2018
  - Eastern Viaduct – PlaceKit installed to complement Panuku Development Auckland's temporary picnic table installation. The pieces provide seating and coastal plant varieties are being trialled in the planters
  - Sale Street / Wellesley Street intersection – a concept design is with Auckland Transport for feedback and approval
  - Exchange Lane – planning underway for a temporary upgrade
  - Lorne Street pancake parklet – maintenance works scheduled early July 2018.

## Delivery of city centre targeted rate-funded projects

Project	Delivery stage	Comments
<b>Downtown Public Spaces</b>	Design and consultation	<p>Concept design is underway for the long-term outcome of the Downtown Public Space project, including integration with the redevelopment of the Downtown Ferry Terminal. It is anticipated that this will be completed by late-July 2018.</p> <p>There is strong integration with the Quay Street West project, allowing the themes and narrative of the Downtown Public Space to flow through to Quay Street.</p> <p>Planning for the relocation of piers 3 and 4 is not delaying the design of the Downtown Public Space. Following the completion of the concept design, a parallel concept will be produced that will allow for a smaller portion of the Downtown Public Space to be built ahead of American's Cup.</p> <p>Activate Auckland is assisting with development response programming.</p>
<b>Britomart Streetscapes</b>	Design and consultation	<p>The next phase of the Britomart Streetscapes project – stage 3 Galway Street (between Commerce and Gore Streets), will be delivered as part of the Downtown Programme.</p> <p>Preparation for the procurement of the design team is underway, with design expected to commence early August 2018.</p>
<b>Myers Park Upgrade stage 2</b>	Design and consultation	<p>Planning is underway for the re-design based on the approved reduced scope. A revised programme and cashflow forecast is also being developed.</p> <p>Staff are continuing funding discussions with Community Facilities. Healthy Waters have advised that their funding will not be prioritised for this project as it does not increase storm water management capacity.</p>
<b>Karangahape Road Streetscape Enhancement and Cycleway</b>	Design and consultation	<p>There has been good progress with detailed design, this is now 60 percent complete.</p> <p>Engagement continues with the Design Reference Group and the Karangahape Road Business Association. The current focus of engagement is on the placement of street furniture and the content of project collateral.</p> <p>The pop-up project space was open from 12-</p>

		18 June 2018. It was an innovative opportunity for residents, businesses and visitors to engage with the team and find out as much information as possible. The team enjoyed a number of robust discussions and were delighted with the number of new stakeholders they were able to take through the plans. There were over 400 visitors.
<b>Poynton Terrace</b>	Design and consultation	Enabling works are scheduled to start on 23 July 2018, and construction on 30 July 2018.
<b>Federal Street Upgrade – stage 2</b>	Design and consultation	The detailed design phase has commenced and is expected to be completed by end of 2018.
<b>Hobson and Nelson Street upgrades</b>	Feasibility and investigation	Phasing and planning options for both streets are being assessed.
<b>Freyberg Place</b>	Feasibility and investigation	Auckland Transport is progressing the change in status of the square; from a road to a pedestrian mall. The public consultation closes 1 July 2018. Feedback will be assessed and there will be an opportunity for submitters to express their concerns regarding the proposal in a special meeting, if they so choose. A decision on the proposal is expected by the end of August 2018.
<b>O’Connell Street public art</b>	Complete	The art work was installed on 28 June 2018. The O’Connell Street upgrade project is now complete.