

Chairperson's Report

Roles

- Chairperson
- Council appointment to:
 - Kerr-Taylor Foundation Trust.
 - Mt Albert Grammar School Community Swimming Pool Trust
- Council Working Party member: Urban Development Bill

General update

- In November 2019, I was honoured to become the chairperson of the Board and look forward to the opportunities of bringing our communities to the forefront of our thinking and decision making. Below is my speech that set out my vision in November 2019.
- It has been a busy start to the electoral term with the new Albert-Eden Local Board taking office, electing a chair and setting its vision for the future. We have been receiving training, updates on work programmes and setting an early direction for the Local Board Plan. The Plan will be informed over the next 6 months by community views and from that we will develop a document that will set our direction for projects, funding and priorities over the next 3-4 years. It is an important piece of work for the Board and I encourage the community to look out for opportunities to have your say, meet us and submit your thoughts. It will be a better plan for it and is an opportunity for the community to shape the places and spaces that they live and work in. As part of this, I want us to reach widely to our whole community and this year I look forward to a stronger children's voice informing us.
- The summer season of events has started, and I encourage people to get out and enjoy the variety on offer in our parks including Movies in Parks, Music in Parks and our Out and About programme. These events are all free and add to the many other events on in the Local Board area run, and supported by the AELB including Brazilian Day Festival, Big Gay Out and more.
- The Kerr-Taylor Foundation Trust has opened its grant round for 2020. The Trust gives priority to helping those in need within the boundaries of the what was Mt Albert City. The Foundation's special interests includes helping people in need of physical, mental and spiritual support and applications are welcomed from individuals and groups. Applications close on 20 March www.kerrtaylor.org.nz/
- The Political Working Party appointed to develop Auckland Council's submission to the Government's Urban Development Bill has concluded its work. The Bill aims to release red tape and fast track development the urban setting, in order to progress housing at pace in Auckland. The bill whilst well intended has significant impacts at the local level and must change direction. The Council response, in general, is supportive. However the AELB have submitted and raised its concerns including but not limited to: the ability for Kāinga Ora to revoke reserve status on land, ignoring the rules set in the Auckland Unitary Plan, the use of the Public Works Act to take private land for housing developments, the ability to Kāinga Ora to use development contributions for parks on other infrastructure, make its own independent assessment of what open space communities may need, ignores the Local Board's statutory obligations and our key role in placemaking. The current Bill omits to include any reference to, or engagement with, local boards and therefore quashes our ability to fulfil our legislated obligations.
- The Board had a stand at the Brazilian Day Festival and sought community feedback on what it would like in the community going forward. This will help draft up the Local Board Plan.

Meetings / events attended

November events attended:

- ***/****Albert-Eden Schools Cultural Festival.

November meetings attended:

- Meetings with Mt Eden Community Association, Mt Eden
- ******Epsom Open Door Network, Epsom

December events attended:

- ******The Enchanted Walk official opening. Alberton
- ******Gardens for Health end of year gathering. Mt Eden
- Enviroschools end of year prizegiving
- *****Aotearoa Resettled Communities Aotearoa Block party. Alberton
- Pt Chev Homestead Gala and Christmas Market
- ******Harakeke for Adults, YMCA, Mt Albert
- ***/****Carols at Potters Park, Balmoral
- Bike Pt Chev Christmas, Coyle Park
- Epsom Community Market, Epsom
- ******Pop Up Sports, Potters Park, Balmoral
- CAB end of year celebration, Ferndale House, Mt Albert
- Ramblers, Rock Chote Tournament, Warren Freer Park, St Lukes
- Illuminate Night Market with Recreate. Ferndale House
- STEPS celebration

December meetings attended:

- Pt Chev to Westmere cycling and walking improvements project. Open Day. Pt Chev Library (attended 3 times)
- Kāinga Ora. Site visit to new homes in Waterview
- Kerr-Taylor Foundation Trust
- Auckland Zoo. Major re-development site visit
- Eden Rugby Club Executive
- Site visit to the Virngina Reserve, Eden Tce.
- Site visit and walk over with Save Chamberlain Park, Chamberlain Park

January events attended:

- ******Out and About. Kite Day, Heron Park.
- ***/****Brazilian Day Festival, Mt Albert War Memorial Reserve

January meetings attended:

- Political Working Party for the Urban Development Bill, Auckland Council
- Meeting with the Eden/Albert CAB Manager and Regional Manager

February events attended:

- Te Herenga Waka Festival, Auckland waterfront

February events attended:

- ******Out and About: Wild Child for pre-schoolers, Heron Park
- Waitangi Day ki Ōkahu
- ******Pt Chevalier Food Truck Night at the Pt Chevalier Community Centre

February meetings attended:

- Eden Park Trust Annual Meeting
- Afghani community

Other meetings, workshops and site visits with Council to fulfil my responsibilities and obligations as an Elected Member

**Speaking role at the event*

*** Albert-Eden Local Board funded/supported event.*



Albert-Eden School Cultural Festival



Epsom Market



Site visit to Chamberlain Park



Kite Day





Virginia Reserve's new playground



Carols at Potters Park



NZ Craft Market, Mt Albert War Memorial Hall



Bike Pt Chev, Coyle Park



Pt Chev AT consultation



Auckland Zoo redevelopment



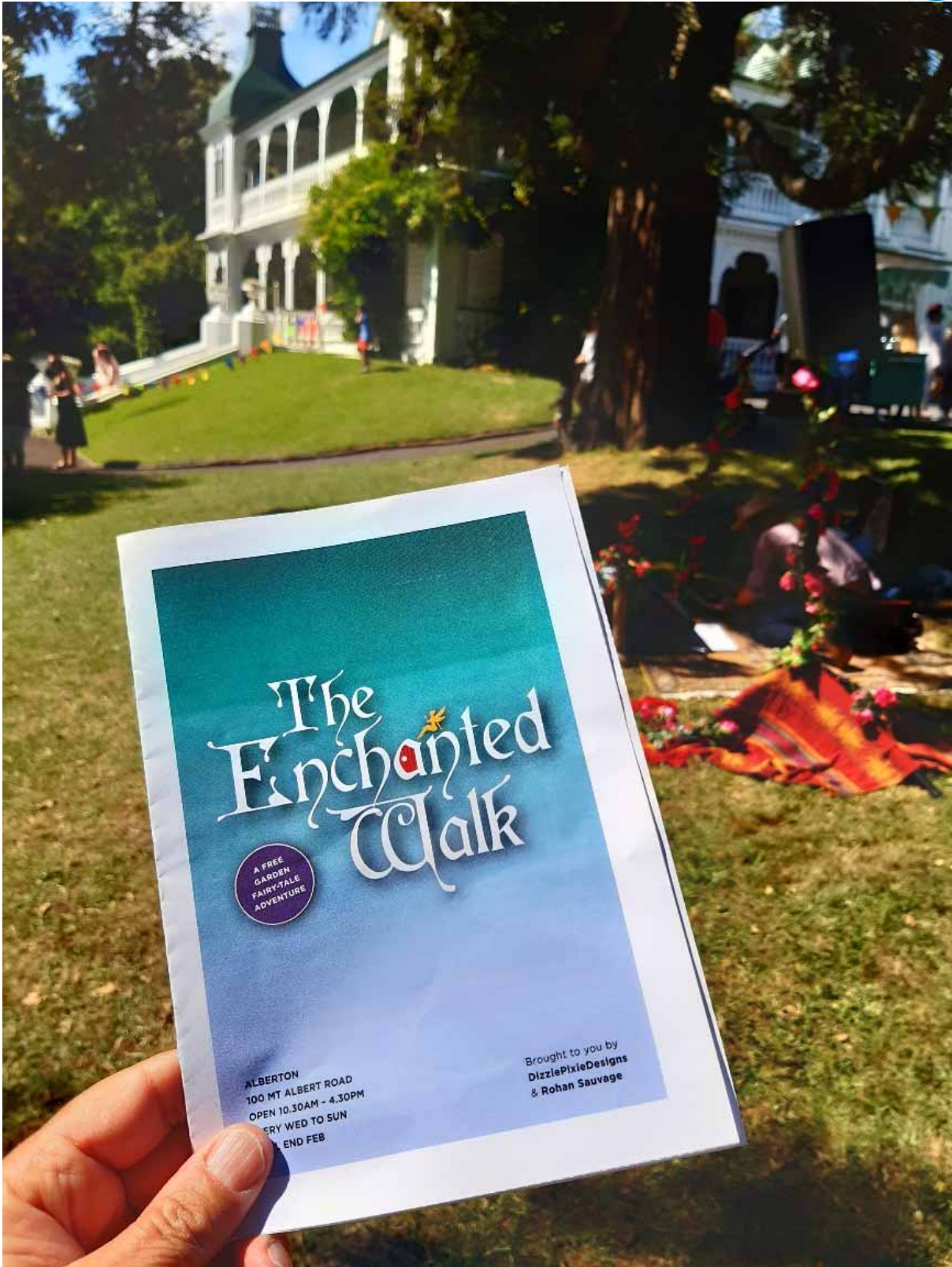
Kainga Ora redevelopments in Waterview



STEPS birthday celebration. With Roy Clements



Pt Chevalier Homestead



The Enchanted Walk. Funded through the Albert-Eden Local Board's Neighbourhood Arts programme. To date, 7,000 people have attended this free event at Alberton House.



Illuminate Night Market with recreate



Saving the bus stop for the 650 route to Coyle Park



Enviroschools presentation, Western Springs Garden Community Hall



Harakeke with Rewa.



Coffee at the Aotearoa Resettled Communities Coalition event, Alberton House. Thank you!



The way that bikes and scooters could be catered for, and parked safely off the footpath, in our Town Centres

Inauguration Speech, as Chair of the Albert-Eden Local Board

(25 November 2019)

Tēnā koutou Tēnā koutou Tēnā koutou katoa,

I acknowledge all 7 colleagues on the AELB, the community groups, family, friends and Council staff here tonight.

I thank you for your trust and support in me to Chair the Local Board for a term of from 2019-2021. I can assure you that everyday and every decision is one that is based on the best decisions for our community of 100,000 people, the local landscape and the environment in which we live, work and play.

We have much business to do, and over the next 3 years, I hope our board's legacy is one of a more engaged, more connected, governance arm of Auckland Council.

We cannot doubt there is challenge and lack of unity around a small number of projects. But I have spent the last 5 weeks working hard to find some solutions that are acceptable to all elected members around our table. I honestly believe that we have found a way forward that most of our community would agree to, in this unique situation. I also believe I am correct when I say we all want a connected community with good infrastructure. But I wholeheartedly believe that our new Board will work through those challenges constructively, and bring their A game everyday.

I do not plan to use my casting vote regularly, to vote decisions up, or vote decisions down. My hope is that we work through our options, keeping Community front of mind. With kindness and respect around the table, we will be able to achieve robust and positive decisions. Whether it is local libraries or parks, events or environmental projects, celebrating heritage, recreation or placemaking, supporting locals to shop locally, supporting groups to do what they do best, supporting appropriate development or planning for population growth in the area, all parts of our communities collective lives will be impacted by the decisions of Council. We need to make our spaces and places safe and ensure we meet the needs of our vulnerable communities, women, children and migrants. We must ensure fair access and good facilities. We must plan for climate change. Our aim must be to make Albert-Eden a place we can all be our best and we plan for a sustainable future for our children and future generations.

My whanau arrived on the shores of the Waitematā in 1842. We have been here ever since. I grew up in Epsom and went to local schools. I trained as a nurse and I now live in Waterview with my family. All the spaces and places that are important to me are part of Albert-Eden. My passion for strong community voice has spanned 2 decades. I grew my training wheels over opposition to a heliport development on the shores of the Waitematā and then challenged the outcomes and process over the Waterview Connection – a 1950's solution to transport planning. I felt I'd earned my stripes to be part of a louder community voice and entered Local Government in 2010. I still sit on several school Boards and contribute my governance, leadership and strategic skills for community benefit.

So to Rachel, Lee, Ben, Kendyl, Graeme, Chrstina and Julia – I look forward to creating the community we wish for those we represent, to open our eyes to opportunity for doing things in a new way and to advocate for our communities inside and outside Council. To our Governing Body members, we need you to speak with a regional voice to assist us to achieve our aims around the

Governing Body table too. And to the staff of Council, we look forward to your quality advice so we can make the best decisions.

Tangata ako ana i te Kāenga, te tūranga ki te marae, tau ana. So if a person nurtured in the community contributes strongly to society – let's make that happen. A contributing, stronger community and society for all.

Thank you

[Recommendation](#)

That this report be received.