Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Maungakiekie Tamaki Local Board

7-13 Pilkinson Road,

Panmure,

Auckland 1072

18 May 2020

By email: tracey.freeman@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz. Copies to ASSCC Committee.

**RE – May 26 MTLB Business Meeting – ASSCC Deposition**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the Maungakiekie Tamaki Local Board members with feedback and our thoughts on the future of Waikaraka Park.

We have built a very good relationship with the Maungakiekie Tamaki Local Board for many years, which is consistent with our engagement and relationship with all local government entities over our 50+ year history as a club based at Waikaraka Park.

We are encouraged to see our input and key aspects of our stakeholder engagement process reflected in the proposed Waikaraka Park Master plan. We know very well our activity as a speedway racing club has been caught up and confused with wider Auckland discussions to do with our sport which has probably held back the aspirations of other Waikaraka Park stakeholders and community users since the last Waikaraka Park Concept Design process in 2015. This disruption has been disappointing for all concerned.

However, we believe our inclusion into the Reserve Management Plan engagement process and open approach to working with other stakeholders has resulted in a better master plan and overall result for all park users.

Our association with Onehunga began in 1961 when stock car racing in Auckland moved from the Epsom Show Grounds to Gloucester Park for a number of years before we needed to move to make way for the Mangere Bridge roading project. The move to Waikaraka Park in 1967 allowed us to make use of the fantastic facilities and build a new racetrack. At that time, it was the biggest and fastest speedway track in New Zealand and with the grandstand and other public facilities Waikaraka Park quickly became an icon of our sport. To this day, the Waikaraka Park speedway track is known as a ‘drivers track’ and still rated as one of the important speedway racing facilities in New Zealand.

We know the park is important to a lot of different groups, however we politely acknowledge it is our sport that has given the park a unique identity. Through our club’s activities over the last 53 years, Waikaraka Park has become known as a place associated with motorsport nationally and internationally. No doubt you would have heard the jingle on the radio when we advertise our events, but for ‘motorsport people’ the connection and appreciation of Waikaraka Park goes a lot...
further. Today, a simple Google image search with only the words ‘Waikaraka Park’ will bring up results dominated by images of speedway racing.

Since 1967, we have hosted 21 New Zealand Speedway Championships, 20 New Zealand Grand Prix and 30 North Island Speedway Championships at Waikaraka Park which have filled the old grandstand many times over.

We have conservatively estimated the number of spectators that have made use of the condemned grandstand to watch speedway events at Waikaraka Park since 1967 is easily in excess of 1 million people. The original planners and builders of the park and grandstand back in the 1930’s would surely be heartened to know how well utilised and loved the old grandstand has been by the people of Auckland and New Zealand.

Since the closure of the grandstand our spectator capacity has been constrained and spectator experience at Waikaraka Park significantly diminished and we have been seeking a resolution to that particular issue since 2014. We are aware the current Auckland Council Community Facilities Resource Consent application to demolish the grandstand (supported by our club) is now before the Environment Court with hearings set down for June 17 – it seems there is a way to go yet before this issue and its effects on our spectator capacity and comfort is resolved completely, but we are encouraged by the proposed masterplan indicating a new grandstand structure at some point in the future which we suggest should be sooner than later.

To do with our detailed feedback into the Waikaraka Park Masterplan stakeholder engagement process, we have drawn on the independent work our club has been involved in since mid-2018. We have built on the detailed engagement we undertook with Regional Facilities Auckland during 2017. The outcome of that process was a clear understanding of the immediate and future growth needs for our sport and detailed planning and analysis of how that plan would overlay onto Waikaraka Park. The work from that time had visibility within Auckland Council and was widely accepted as a good plan.

The RFA process, however, was very introspective in as much as there was no scope to look at how the proposed speedway plan could benefit the park and other community user groups. As often mentioned, it is in our DNA to make our facilities available and provide opportunities for other community groups.

Without unpicking the good operational analysis and planning work contained in the RFA plan, we have kept working and have looked for every opportunity to overlay and include the functional requirements of the wider park and opportunities for other community groups and greater utilisation into our future planning.

This is consistent with the direction of Sport NZ, Aktive and Sport Auckland’s focus on investment into multi use and smart recreation facilities.

Many sports clubs and community organisations spend a lot of time fund raising to build a facility with little understanding of the ongoing operational costs to maintain and renew facilities. We are in a fortunate position because our sport puts more ticket paying ‘bums on seats’ than many professional sports organisations. We have a long standing and loyal revenue stream which is currently constrained by the sad state of repair of the buildings at the park, but if unleashed with new facilities would certainly be able to contribute toward ongoing maintenance and renewals as well as providing for greater community utilisation and activation.
It makes perfect sense to us that the park, local sports organisations and community users benefit from our ability to attract revenue and we are supportive of the acknowledgement of our detailed analysis and inputs into this process and look forward to a brighter future as a key stakeholder at Waikaraka Park.
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board
26 May 2020

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Ward Councillor Report
April – May 2020

General update / Executive summary

- **Emergency Budget** process: Emergency Committee considered draft Annual Budget 2020/21 to go out for consultation.
- Applications to the first tranche of Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency’s Innovating Streets for People pilot fund:
  - First tranche included Onehunga Mall Crossings and Intersection Improvements project (Panuku).
  - Second tranche to include Local Board projects.
- Emergency Committee considered reappointment of directors to Tāmaki Redevelopment Company Limited.
- Emergency Committee approved mandatory Stage 1 water use restrictions in response to Auckland’s ongoing drought.
- Received updates from AT about AMETI and Glen Innes Cycleways Project.
- Continuing to respond to constituent queries regarding the transition from Alert Level 4 to Alert Level 3 and Alert Level 2, particularly the re-opening of Auckland Council services.
- Continuing to assist local food banks and food providers.
- Providing support to rough sleepers and the homeless community.

Committee meetings and workshops

- Tūpuna Maunga Authority hui (28 April)
- **Emergency Committee meeting** (30 April):
  - Appointment of District Licensing Committee for 2020-2023.
- Governing Body meeting (30 April)
- **Emergency Committee meeting** (7 May):
  - Approved mandatory Stage 1 water use restrictions to come into force in response to the ongoing drought in Auckland.
  - Endorsed Auckland Transport’s applications to the first tranche of Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency’s Innovating Streets for People pilot fund.
  - Approved Auckland Council’s draft submission on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport and the draft National Rail Plan.
- **Finance and Performance Committee/Tūpuna Maunga Authority joint hui** (13 May): Annual Budget 2020/2021
- Finance and Performance Committee workshop (13 May): Annual Budget 2020/2021 - Feedback
- **Emergency Committee meeting** (14 May):
  - (Confidential) Considered the reappointment of directors to Tāmaki Redevelopment Company Limited.
- Appointments and Performance Review Committee (18 May): CE Interviews
- Governing Body / Independent Māori Statutory Board Joint Meeting (19 May)
- Confidential Finance and Performance Committee workshop (20 May): Annual Budget 2020/2021
- **Emergency Committee meeting** (21 May):
  - Annual Budget 2020/21 consultation part 1 – received local board feedback.
  - Rates Postponement for properties affected by COVID-19.
  - (Confidential) Emergency Budget Proposal for Consultation.

Ward Councillor Report – 26/05/2020
Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board
Business meeting Tuesday 26 May 2020

Upcoming Meetings
- 27 May: Extraordinary Finance and Performance Committee: Annual Budget 2020/2021
- 27 May: Extraordinary Governing Body meeting- Annual Budget: Mayoral Proposal and Decision-making

Events and other meetings
- Weekly Tāmaki Whānau Collective Group meetings.
- 29/04/2020: Local Board Chairs Briefing with Chair and Deputy Chair of the Finance & Performance Committee.
- 05/05/2020: Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Extraordinary Business Meeting
- 05/05/2020: Briefing to Planning Committee Chair and Deputy Chair on NZTA Innovating Streets fund submission.
- 05/05/2020: Catch up with Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Chair
- 08/05/2020: AT Briefing on Glen Innes Cycleway projects.
- 08/05/2020: Hui with Rakau Tautoko about regional and local kai.
- 11/05/2020: Disability Advisory Panel virtual assessment centre briefing.
- 12/05/2020: Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Workshop: NZTA Innovating Streets fund
- 12/05/2020: Reconvened Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board Business Meeting
- 12/05/2020: Update briefing from AT officers about AMETI.
- 15/05/2020: NZTA Innovating Streets fund Q&A session with AT to discuss process
- 19/05/2020: Penrose Business Association meeting – to discuss Penrose Business Survey

Constituent Issues
- Ongoing transport issues: request for a pedestrian crossing on Caen Road for students of Panmure Bridge School; lack of street lighting along Point England Walkway; congestion issues on Aprana Avenue, Merlon Road and Pilkington Road, Glen Innes; request to build new pathway from Carbine Road to Sylvia Park Shopping Centre for students; narrow streets in Castledine Crescent, Glen Innes; Elstree Ave works (on hold due to COVID-19); complaint about yellow lines on West Tamaki Rd; safety issues at entrance of Edmund Hillary Retirement Village.
- Penrose Business Association concerned about timing of roadworks.
- Queries about Watercare’s management of the ongoing drought.
- Complaint about overflow into Omaru creek. Watercare confirmed this was stormwater runoff while stormwater network being upgraded.
- Assisting local food banks
- Queries about library openings under Alert Level 2.
- Queries about dog walking rules.

Media Reports

Innovating Streets projects agreed by Auckland Council:

Onehunga Community News column: https://onehunga.co.nz/

Recommendation
That this report be received.

Ward Councillor Report – 26/05/2020