Whau Local 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.
Whau Local Board
27 May 2020

Whau Ward Councillor Report

General update / Executive summary
- Auckland Council’s 2020-21 budget remains the key issue for Governing Body this month as we respond to the challenges caused by the COVID-19 crisis. Good progress is being made on a proposal for public consultation.
- The consultation documents will be available through the www.akhaveyoursay.nz website from 29 May and I hope to hear from as many Whau residents as possible through this consultation.

Committee meetings and workshops
- 6 May Finance and Performance workshop
- 7 May Emergency committee
  - Response to 2019/20 Drought and approval of water restrictions. Water restrictions started on 16 May to help reduce demand for Auckland’s water.
  - Waka Kotahi Innovating Streets process adopted. Local Boards have the opportunity to put forward proposals to access this fund.
  - Submission to Government Policy Statement on Land Transport (GPS) 2021
  - Submission on Local Government (Rating of Whenua Maori) Amendment Bill
- 13 May Finance and Performance workshop
- 14 May Emergency committee
- 20 May Finance and Performance workshop

Events and other meetings
- 6 May Industry Leaders meeting – overview of the Annual Budget process and discussion of the economic outlook for Auckland
- 16 May West Lynn Gardans Board meeting
- 17 May Whau Youth Board meeting – Topics discussed included
  - Green Spaces
  - Recreational Facilities
  - Transport
  - Local Employment
  - School Leaver Opportunities
  - Youth Events
- 18 May New Lynn Business Association meeting – Reviewed 2020/21 budget and agreed to reduce the BID targeted rate by 4.5%. Reviewed annual Plan and the association’s COVID response.
- 19 May CAB Political Advisory Group meeting.
- 25/26 May Seniors Advisory Panel – Assessment of candidates meeting
- Discussions with Avondale Business Association and Rosebank Business Association who advise that business re-openings are progressing well.
- General constituent meetings
Whau Local Board
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Regional consultation topics

- Annual Budget consultation second round open from May 29 to June 19 2020. This is additional consultation made necessary by the changed conditions caused by COVID-19. Consultation material is to be confirmed by 28 May and will be publicly available from 29 May via www.akhaveyoursay.nz

Local issues

- Wolverton Culvert - Main works are expected to start on June 3 and while Auckland Transport’s traffic management plan will help, delays are expected during the works.

Disclosures

- I have accepted a position as a committee member for the West Lynn Gardens.

Recommendation

That this report be received.
https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/climate-news/121622396/auckland-drought-family-shocked-to-see-water-levels-at-waitakere-ranges-dam

People walking where the water reserves used to be.

READ MORE:
* Auckland drought: Water restrictions breached 69 times as dam levels fall further
* Thirty-five reported breaches on day one of Auckland’s outdoor water ban
* Auckland drought: Unprecedented water restrictions begin

Lorson decided to take photos of the dam, saying people needed to see just how bad the problem was as she was yet to see people taking it very seriously.


Report from NIWA stating that droughts are predicted to become more frequent in future.
"The drought will end when soil moisture levels return to normal. However, impacts of drought can continue for some time after that," he said.

Niwa’s climate projections indicate that drought was likely to become more frequent and severe in eastern and northern parts of New Zealand in the coming decades.

Auckland Water Supply against average:

Related news:
- Auckland set to break dry spell record
- Drought hits here, far and wide
- New Zealand Drought Monitor

[Image of Auckland Water Supply Update]

[Image of water levels in the Upper Mangaweka Reservoir in the Hanui Range (Darin Marklit) in the Hanui Range (Darin Marklit) in the Hanui Range]
Watercare - Water Situation Update 25 May 2020

Our dams rely on rainfall whereas our other two sources are relatively drought resistant. Since the start of the drought in November 2019, we have received 48.5 per cent less rainfall than normal. This is an extraordinary, record-breaking drought. The drought is why Auckland’s water supply is under pressure. Today, Auckland’s dams are collectively 42.9 per cent full. This compares unfavourably to the average for this time of year which is 76.6 per cent.

Please find attached a graphic that illustrates this rainfall deficit, which you can share on social media.

How can Auckland’s water supply return to normal?

We need significant rainfall over winter to return the water supply to normal.

If rainfall is needed to return Auckland’s water supply to normal, what is Watercare doing to manage the situation?

We are responding to the drought in three ways:

- **Increasing supply**: we have three projects underway that will increase supply by 36 million litres a day. See the Auckland Water Supply Update for details.
- **Improving network performance**: in addition to fixing leaks that are reported to us, we have crews proactively searching for leaks in our network.
- **Lowering demand**: we are urging our customers to reduce their water use and have set a target for the city.

Auckland’s drought most extreme in modern times

22 May 2020

NIWA meteorologist Ben Noll has compiled the following background information on the Auckland drought for use by journalists.

- This is one of the most extreme drought events for Auckland in modern times and similar to one experienced in 1993/94.
- Just 126mm of rain was recorded at NIWA’s Mangere weather station between 1 January and 21 May – that is 31% of normal. The normal period is 1981-2010 for January-May.
- NIWA data shows this is one of the most severe droughts since the early 20th Century.
- The origins of the drought began about 8000km away in the Indian Ocean late last year with a phenomenon known as the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD). The IOD is an atmospheric seesaw that impacts sea surface temperatures, rainfall, and wind.
- As weather systems tracked toward New Zealand from the west and north, they lacked moisture because of cooler eastern Indian Ocean seas caused by the IOD.
• In late 2019 and early 2020, a lack of atmospheric rivers, or plumes of moisture that extend to the mid-latitudes from the tropics, has limited heavy rainfall events. This was a factor that was prominent in New Zealand during early 2017 that led to several extreme rainfall events.

• As New Zealand headed into summer the IOD persisted and had some help from the tropical Pacific. Although the El Niño Southern Oscillation was neutral, there was a lean toward an atypical form of El Niño called Modoki. In this form of El Niño, ocean temperature anomalies are larger in the central tropical Pacific than the east, which has flow-on impacts on circulation patterns around the globe. This pattern has been present for the better part of the last two years. There are indications that Modoki events are increasing as part of the climate change signal.

• Tropical cyclone activity between November 2019-April 2020 was near normal for the SW Pacific and New Zealand saw two ex-tropical cyclones (Uesi, Gretel) miss the driest areas.

• The Southern Annular Mode or SAM began a two month run of positive values during February – a positive SAM is associated with more tranquil weather in the New Zealand region.

• Reduced rainfall and thunderstorm activity in the Coral Sea means that low pressure systems approaching from the west have not been able to tap into sub-tropical moisture, leading to less rain for New Zealand.

• NIWA’s climate change expectations suggest spring average rainfall decreases for northern New Zealand, including Auckland. When this is combined with increased temperatures (and therefore greater requirements of water by plants) it is likely to result in more visible regional impacts from water shortages and drought.

• Two significant climate features may develop in the next 3-6 months: a negative IOD and La Niña. These two features could give northern and eastern New Zealand better odds for seasonal rainfall, but not right away. New Zealand might begin experiencing these effects during the 2nd half of winter or early spring. In the meantime, longer than normal dry spells will remain possible during the month of June.