Minutes of a meeting of the Waitematā Local Board held via Skype for Business on Tuesday, 5 May 2020 at 1.00pm. Either a recording or written summary will be uploaded on the Auckland Council website.

PRESENT

Chair
Richard Northey, (ONZM)
Deputy Chair
Kerrin Leoni
Members
Adriana Avendano Christie
Alexandra Bonham
Graeme Gunthorp
Julie Sandilands
Sarah Trotman, (ONZM)

ALSO PRESENT

Councillors
Cr Pippa Coom
Cr Desley Simpson
1 Welcome
Chair Richard Northey opened the meeting with a Karakia and welcomed all those present.

2 Apologies
There were no apologies.

3 Declaration of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.

4 Confirmation of Minutes
Resolution number WTM/2020/65
MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member G Gunthorp:
That the Waitematā Local Board:
 a) confirm the minutes of its ordinary meeting, held on Tuesday, 17 March 2020, as true and correct.
CARRIED

5 Leave of Absence
There were no requests for leave of absence.

6 Acknowledgements
6.1 Acknowledgements
The Waitematā Local Board acknowledge the commitment and restraint of the Waitematā community during the COVID 19 Pandemic, which has seen the country move to a lockdown. We also acknowledge and thank our front-line essential services workers in hospitals, supermarkets, police, transport, and Council staff and contractors on our streets and across our community.

We acknowledge the sacrifices the community made, the significant impact COVID-19 and the lockdown had on the community and businesses and the significant challenges and financial burdens many of our people face as the result of reduced incomes, job losses and business closures. Through your service, sacrifices and challenges, many lives have been saved.

Thank you to the community organisations that have mobilised as essential services to offer support and wraparound services to our most vulnerable communities.

7 Petitions
There were no petitions.
Note: Item 13 was taken at this point.

13 Attendance at local board meetings during the Epidemic Preparedness (COVID-19) 
Notice period

Resolution number WTM/2020/66

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member J Sandilands:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) note the temporary amendments pursuant to the COVID-19 Response (Urgent 
Management Measures) Act 2020 which allows members to attend meetings by 
audio-visual link, as of right and despite anything to the contrary in standing 
orders and to be counted for the purposes of quorum.

b) noting that during the life of the above Act, Standing Order 3.3.2 will in its effect 
be read Members who attend a meeting by electronic link will be counted as 
present for the purpose of a quorum. The member attending by electronic link 
can vote on any matters raised at the meeting.

c) amend its Standing Orders by including a new Standing Order 3.3.10 that reads 
as follows:

Attendance of non-members by electronic link

A person other than a member of the local board may participate in a meeting of 
the local board by means of audio link or audio-visual link if the person is 
otherwise approved to participate in accordance with Standing Orders Sections 
6 and 7.

d) amend its Standing Order 7.8.5 to provide discretion to the chair of the meeting 
to approve or decline Public Forum requests via audio or audio-visual link.

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

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<th>For</th>
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<td>Member A Avendano Christie</td>
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<td>Member J Sandilands</td>
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<td>Member ST Trotman</td>
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The motion was declared CARRIED by 7 votes to 0. CARRIED
8 Deputations

8.1 Deputations - Auckland and District Pipe Band

Benjamin McLaughlin was in attendance to address the meeting regarding the social and cultural benefits that the Auckland and District Pipe Band provides for the Waitemata local board area and greater Auckland region.

A powerpoint presentation was provided. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number WTM/2020/67

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Deputy Chairperson K Leoni:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the presentation and thank Benjamin McLaughlin for his attendance.

CARRIED

Attachments

A 5 May 2020 - Waitematā Local Board - Item 8.1: Deputations - Auckland and District Pipe Band, presentation

9 Public Forum

9.1 Public Forum – Wendy Gray – Auckland Tree Advocate

Wendy Gray, Auckland Tree Advocate was in attendance to address the meeting on her concerns regarding the loss of urban forest and tree protection in the local board area.

Documents were tabled in support of this item. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number WTM/2020/68

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member A Bonham:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the presentation and thank Wendy Gray for her attendance.

CARRIED

Attachments

A 5 May 2020 - Waitematā Local Board - Item 9.1: Public Forum - Wendy Gray - Auckland Tree Advocate, supporting documents

9.2 Public Forum - Keith McConnell

Keith McConnell, local resident was in attendance to address the meeting on his views in relation to the proposed rate increases and expenditure in the local board area.

A document was tabled in support of this item. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.
Resolution number WTM/2020/69
MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member G Gunthorp:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the presentation and thank Keith McConnell for his attendance.

CARRIED

Attachments
A 5 May 2020 - Waitematā Local Board - Item 9.2: Public Forum - Keith McConnell, supporting document

9.3 Public Forum - Cheryl Adamson - Parnell Business Association

Cheryl Adamson, General Manager of the Parnell Business Association was in attendance to address the meeting on the Association’s position regarding the Auckland Council’s rate increases.

Resolution number WTM/2020/70
MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member J Sandilands:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the presentation and thank Cheryl Adamson for her attendance.

CARRIED

9.4 Public Forum - Gael Baldock

Gael Baldock was in attendance to address the meeting on her concerns regarding Ngāti Whātua Orakei’s approval for the removal of the whole stand of pine trees at Western Springs Lakeside Park at its March 2020 meeting.

A document was tabled in support of this item. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

Resolution number WTM/2020/71
MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Deputy Chairperson K Leoni:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the presentation and thank Gael Baldock for her attendance.

CARRIED

Attachments
A 5 May 2020 - Waitematā Local Board - Item 9.4: Public Forum - Gael Baldock, supporting document

10 Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

11 Notices of Motion

Under Standing Order 2.5.1, a Notice of Motion has been received from Member A Bonham for consideration under item 14.
12 **Councillor’s report**

Resolution number WTM/2020/72

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member A Bonham:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the verbal update from Ōrākei Ward Councillor, Desley Simpson.

CARRIED

Note: Following the verbal update from Councillor Desley Simpson, the remainder of Item 12: Councillor’s report was taken after item 17: Local board feedback for inclusion in Auckland Council submissions to receive Councillor Pippa Coom’s written and verbal update.

14 **Notice of Motion - Member A Bonham - Incentivise a Climate Resilient Water Strategy**

Resolution number WTM/2020/73

MOVED by Member A Bonham, seconded by Member J Sandilands:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the Notice of Motion.

b) note the excellent work Watercare has done in ensuring a supply of water during this extended drought period without restricting water, its achievements in developing sustainable systems and its ongoing work to meet sustainability goals, including to be carbon zero by 2025.

c) recommend that Watercare urgently drive strategy around climate resilient water supply to manage the longer dry and wet periods expected in the region’s climate future, by providing subsidies, instalment payment options or other financial assistance to support home owners to install rainwater collection tanks.

d) recommend that Watercare promotes the installation of rainwater collection tanks and flow mitigation tanks to all its customers to increase domestic water retention.

e) recommend that Watercare promotes the installation of grey water systems in all new builds and housing renovations to reduce water consumption.

f) recommend that Watercare develop plans to significantly enhance water collection from new sources to complement the take from reservoirs, river water and aquifers.

g) advocate to Watercare to accelerate their research and action a circular waste model, the use of waste by-products (perhaps as fertiliser), and the possible use of treated water (in irrigation, or to replenish aquifers).

h) note that bore water consents are processed within the council resource consents unit while long term water planning is done by Watercare.

i) request information on how data on groundwater levels is collected and shared.

j) advocate for the inclusion of rainwater tanks for new builds as plumbing and drainage requirements as part of the building consent process.

k) recommend that Auckland Council Healthy Waters considers landscape planting for trees and groundcover that is resilient to drier environments and
looks to install on site rainwater collection tanks for localised water management in Council owned park assets when possible.

1) agree to forward these resolutions to all other Local Boards, Governing Body Members, and Watercare for action.

CARRIED

15 Local board decisions and input into the Annual Budget 2020/2021

Caroline Teh, Local Board Advisor – Waitematā was in attendance to speak to this report.

The Waitematā Local Board Annual Budget 2020/2021 advocacy list was tabled at the meeting. A copy has been placed on the official minutes and is available on the Auckland Council website as a minutes attachment.

The written submissions received on the Waitematā Local Board priorities for 2020/2021 were provided to the local board prior to the meeting and will be made available on the Auckland Council website after the meeting at the below link:

https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/topics-you-can-have-your-say-on/annual-budget-2020-2021/Pages/submissions-received-.aspx

Resolution number WTM/2020/74

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member J Sandilands:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the consultation feedback on the Waitematā Local Board priorities for 2020/2021.

b) receive consultation feedback on regional proposals in the Annual Budget 2020/2021 from people or organisations based in the Waitematā local board area.

c) receive the tabled Waitematā Local Board Annual Budget 2020/2021 advocacy list.

d) receive the tabled redacted annual budget submissions for the Waitematā Local Board area.

e) agree that further discussion of item 15: Local board decisions and input into the Annual Budget 2020/2021 be adjourned to 2.40pm on Tuesday, 12 May 2020 via Skype for Business once the proposed Auckland Council savings options have been made available to the local board for its consideration.

CARRIED

Attachments

A 5 May 2020 - Waitematā Local Board - Item 15: Local board decisions and input into the Annual Budget 2020/2021, Waitematā Local Board Annual Budget 2020/2021 advocacy list
Waitematā Local Board feedback on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport for 2020/21 – 2030/31

Carlos Rahman, Senior Local Board Advisor – Waitematā was in attendance to speak to this report.

Resolution number WTM/2020/75

MOVED by Member G Gunthorp, seconded by Member A Bonham:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) strongly support the government’s four proposed priorities for transport: safety, better transport options, improving freight connections and climate change.

b) support that consideration should be given for the integration of KiwiRail into Waka Kotahi, with the latter being tasked with moving goods and people on the most efficient and effective mode. At present it appears that Waka Kotahi has a sole focus on highway building, and does not consider rail as part of its analysis.

c) agree that safety focus on a national and local level should include:
   • safer speed programs, with gateway treatments and effective enforcement
   • separation of vehicles, mobility devices and pedestrians as a requirement of every new project without exception
   • better accessibility for children, older frail adults and people with disabilities.

d) recommend that clean and efficient mode types such as active modes – walking, unpowered and powered micro-mobility and electric buses and ferries should be highlighted.

e) support a shift to electric private vehicle as being preferable to the status quo of internal combustion engine private vehicles, however it will still have the same issues of congestion and production/end of life environmental costs.

f) support the promotion of electric vehicles, micro mobility vehicles, active transport and urban design which puts work, education and recreation within active transport distance.

g) support the government to lead investment decisions to support the rapid transition to a low carbon transport system, because of their extra powers, but should work collaboratively with local government, businesses and communities where they wish to go further.

h) support that projects should be assessed on their chances of being resilient to changes in sea level rise, greater storms and other effects of climate change, and including measurements in this area – for example, measuring how infrastructure would be at risk by climate change – so that climate change impact statements is not just about whether a project mitigates climate change, but can endure it.

i) recommend ensuring there are indicators for every desired outcome (healthy and safe people; inclusive access; economic prosperity; resilience and security; environmental stability) for each strategic priority to ensure optimal outcomes in all decision-making. For example, currently measurements for safety on the road seems to be disconnected from wellbeing and environmental outcomes. This might mean that a good outcome for safety is that pedestrians are physically restricted from crossing the road. A better solution that improves accessibility and the environment may be to narrow roads to slow traffic speeds and allow for more tree plantings.
j) suggest measuring the following:

- for strategic priority one: indicators to make the network safer include measuring the increase in safe pathways and separated cycleways and pedestrian areas. We would also like there to be measurement of increased number of pedestrian crossings and other road treatments that improve pedestrian safety.
- it is not enough to reduce road deaths and injuries if that means the public realm is less accessible, so would propose measuring proportion of children's journeys by private vehicle, foot, bicycle and public transport.
- for strategic priority two, economic opportunity is defined narrowly as getting to a job, rather than increasing individual and community spending power. We propose firstly then that disposable income of workers is measured after housing and transport costs is measured, and also to measure percentage of subsidies required on public transport routes to maintain frequent public transport.
- the usage of public and private inner city commuter car parking.
- how many people live within walkable catchment areas that include shops, parks, services, amenities, educational, employment and recreational opportunities and frequent transit to other areas with diverse employment, educational and recreational opportunities. This is a place-based approach that would indicate where people do not need to own private transport at all and still enjoy all aspects of life. Improved access to social and economic opportunities is very important to improve the health and safety of people as it includes access to exercise, in itself (with walkable or cyclable neighbourhoods) or by active or public transport modes to sports fields, swimming pools, dance studios etc. for physical exercise. Mental health is improved too by this access and also access to community centres, libraries and shops. Public transport availability and walkable neighbourhoods are also more resilient in difficult times as deliveries are easier, access to shops and services is much easier. They also improve economic prosperity as ongoing costs for employees are kept much lower than if a car is needed and reduces costs for businesses who are not obliged to provide so much parking and yet are still accessible to a large customer base. Measuring the number of passenger boardings using urban public transport services is a blunt tool as increases may be down to population growth rather than mode shift.
- Strategic Priority Three: We would propose measuring the economic sustainability of frequent transit networks, the amount businesses spend on transport costs and the cost of the transport sector as a percentage of GDP.
- Strategic Priority Four: Reduced greenhouse gas emissions from land transport. Why not include shipping as a comparison? There is also work being done on electric ferries that would also improve environmental outcomes and provide pleasant alternative passenger transport.
- it presumably goes without saying that the carbon emissions of the country as a whole are measured and reported on, before any offsetting arrangements or mitigations (like forestry) are taken into account.
- measuring, the network of electric charging stations could be useful. New Zealand has huge opportunities to expand renewable energy. It seems likely that there will be some trips that cannot be made by public or active transport. Car share may be a part of the solution and these could well be electric cars.

k) support the principles for investment and optimisation.
l) encourage and welcome that it is articulated that lead investment opportunities with regard to regional plans, and to ensure there is sufficient land for agriculture, for nature and there is capacity for the extra burden on the grid and water network.

m) propose decoupling budgets from the Transport Fund to ensure flexibility and focus on mode shift away from the private car.

n) encourage more investment in rail, with new sources of funding from the Crown.

o) support the ministerial expectations that NZTA proactively support mode shift to more sustainable means.

p) strongly support the direction to work collaboratively and innovatively with other organisations like Kiwi Rail, local government, private business, and researchers and in alignment with regional plans.

q) support the direction that value for money be considered in mode-neutral way.

r) support GPS monitoring and regular reporting.

s) support making land transport data available and also moving towards a standard system.

t) agree to delegate authority to Member Graeme Gunthorp and Member Alexandra Bonham to approve any minor corrections to its feedback.

CARRIED

17 Local board feedback for inclusion in Auckland Council submissions

Carlos Rahman, Senior Local Board Advisor – Waitematā was in attendance to speak to this report.

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member G Gunthorp:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) delegate authority to the chair to approve and submit the local board’s input into Auckland Council submissions on formal consultation from government departments, parliament, select committees, Local Government New Zealand, official agencies such as the Productivity Commission, and other councils.

b) note that the local board can continue to use its urgent decision process to approve and submit the local board’s input into Auckland Council submissions on formal consultation from government departments, parliament, select committees, Local Government New Zealand, official agencies such as the productivity Commission and other councils, if the chair chooses not to exercise the delegation sought in recommendation (a).

c) note that this delegation will only be exercised where the timeframes do not allow for local board input to be considered and approved at a local board meeting.

d) note all local input approved and submitted for inclusion in an Auckland Council submission is to be included on the next local board meeting agenda for the public record.

Resolution number WTM/2020/76

MOVED by Member A Bonham, seconded by Member J Sandilands, an amendment by way of addition:

Member A Bonham moved an amendment to the original recommendation as follows:
e) note that where input is requested from the local board that all board members are informed and given the opportunity to make comments and will also give at least one full working day to make comments on the draft final submission.  

CARRIED

The substantive motion was put.

Resolution number WTM/2020/77

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member G Gunthorp:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) delegate authority to the chair to approve and submit the local board’s input into Auckland Council submissions on formal consultation from government departments, parliament, select committees, Local Government New Zealand, official agencies such as the Productivity Commission, and other councils.

b) note that the local board can continue to use its urgent decision process to approve and submit the local board’s input into Auckland Council submissions on formal consultation from government departments, parliament, select committees, Local Government New Zealand, official agencies such as the productivity Commission and other councils, if the chair chooses not to exercise the delegation sought in recommendation (a).

c) note that this delegation will only be exercised where the timeframes do not allow for local board input to be considered and approved at a local board meeting.

d) note all local input approved and submitted for inclusion in an Auckland Council submission is to be included on the next local board meeting agenda for the public record.

e) note that where input is requested from the local board that all board members are informed and given the opportunity to make comments and will also give at least one full working day to make comments on the draft final submission.  

CARRIED

12 Councillor’s report

Resolution number WTM/2020/78

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member J Sandilands:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

b) receive the written report update from the Waitematā and Gulf Ward Councillor, Pippa Coom.  

CARRIED

18 Waitemata Local board feedback on the Rating of Whenua Maori Amendment Bill

Carlos Rahman, Senior Local Board Advisor – Waitematā was in attendance to speak to this report.

Resolution number WTM/2020/79

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Deputy Chairperson K Leoni:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) note the Waitematā Local Board Plan 2017 includes commitments to the objectives of ensuring that all members of the community have access to
shelter and warmth and to identify and protect places with heritage and distinctive character, both of which objectives would be advanced by this Bill.

b) note that the Waitematā Local Board is currently considering a draft Local Board Plan for the following three years which includes as its first outcome: That Maori are empowered and their identity and culture is visible, and that one of its objectives is: increased participation of iwi and non-affiliated Maori in decision-making.

c) note that the Waitematā Local Board area contains 9 Maori freehold land properties that were recognised from the 19th century and currently pay $166,000 in rates, none of which are in arrears. There is also one customary Maori land property - Watchman Island, and a property that was part of Ngāti Whātau’s Treaty of Waitangi settlement. The board recognises there are circumstances where it is appropriate to treat Māori land differently from general land.

d) note that the Board Chair and Deputy Chair have spoken with a number of local iwi leaders, from Ngāti Paoa, Ngāti Tamaoho, Te Akitai Waiohua and Ngāti Whātau Ki Kaipara, who have expressed their support for the Bill and for this submission.

e) strongly support the proposed Auckland Council submission on the Local Government (Rating of Whenua Maori) Amendment Bill.

f) record its understanding and appreciation that the Bill aligns closely with Auckland Council rating policies and that enactment of the Bill would have little effect on the rates charged on land owned by Maori that is located within the Auckland Council region.

g) support the Bill in part for reasons of seeking nationwide certainty and consistency in the treatment of Maori-owned land for rating purposes.

h) support the Bill in large part because it will provide financial relief and fairness to many Maori who are resident in Auckland but are currently being asked to pay inappropriate and excessive rates on land, particularly land located in the rohe of their iwi, that is located in the districts of other local authorities that have not developed and implemented rating policies that are as appropriate as Auckland Council has.

i) support Auckland Council’s submission to support the Bill’s provision to expand the categories of non-rateable Maori Land to include marae, urupa, meeting houses and land subject to a Nga Whenua Rahui covenant, because such land is clearly being used for general public and community benefit rather than private benefit.

j) support Auckland Council’s submission, and the Bill, to empower local authorities to write off such arrears as they think are appropriate. This will give Councils the same power as companies not to be required to carry unrecoverable debts on their balance sheet. It will also take the worry off Maori owners who find it impossible to make payments because the land is unproductive and / or subject to disputes between large numbers of communal owners.

k) support Auckland Council’s submission, and the Bill, to treat rating units of Maori freehold land that is used as a single economic or accommodation unit to be treated as a single unit for rating purposes. This would reduce the number of fixed annual charges applying to the land, that often increase the rating burden by multiple times. This provision is permitted and regularly used by Pakeha farmers and it is only fair to provide this relief to Maori land.

l) support the Council’s submission, and the Bill, to enable Maori freehold land to be apportioned on request into separate rating areas so that separate occupiers
of the land can be rated only for that portion of the land that they use. We urge that Maori be resourced to identify these areas where appropriate. The other benefit of this change would be to enable portions of the land used for public purposes such as nature conservation or for marae to be relieved of the rate burden.

m) support the Council’s submission to change the law to enable occupiers of Maori freehold land to access the rates rebate scheme by establishing them as ratepayers for their separate rating areas.

n) support the Council’s submission that land that has been returned as cultural redress under Tiriti settlements be non-rateable.

o) support Auckland Council’s submission, and the Bill, that Maori land that was inappropriately converted to general title under the Maori Affairs Amendment Act 1967 receive the level of protection and criteria for rateability as other Maori Land.

p) support Auckland Council’s submission to add to the Bill a provision that residents of Maori, such as papakainga, and public (rather than being described as “social”) housing that have a licence to occupy tenancy be legally able to access the rates rebate scheme. Auckland Council already provides such relief to such residents of retirement villages and it should be extended to such long-term Maori residents by law.

q) request that these resolutions are circulated to all local boards for their information.

r) agree to delegate authority to the Waitematā Local Board chair to approve any minor amendments and corrections to its feedback on the Local Government (Rating of Whenua Māori) Amendment Bill.

CARRIED

19 Urgent Decision - Waitematā Local Board feedback on Accessible Streets Regulatory Package

Carlos Rahman, Senior Local Board Advisor – Waitematā was in attendance to speak to this report.

Resolution number WTM/2020/80

MOVED by Member G Gunthorp, seconded by Member A Bonham:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) note the urgent decision dated 15 April 2020 to approve the Waitematā Local Board’s feedback on the collection of rule changes to support and improve accessible and affordable transport, safety and liveable cities known as the Accessible Streets Regulatory Package which will be appended to Auckland Council’s submission to the Waka Kohai New Zealand Transport Agency.

CARRIED
Urgent decision request of the Waitematā Local Board to alter resolution WTM/2020/57

Priscila Firmo, Democracy Advisor – Waitematā was in attendance to speak to this report.

Resolution number WTM/2020/81

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member A Avendano Christie:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) note the urgent decision dated 7 April 2020 to approve that resolution WTM/2020/57 be amended to change the start time of the Waitematā Local Board business meeting scheduled for 5 May 2020 from 4.30pm to 1pm.

CARRIED

Chair’s Report

Resolution number WTM/2020/82

MOVED by Member A Avendano Christie, seconded by Deputy Chairperson K Leoni:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the Chair’s report for the period March – April 2020.

CARRIED

Board member reports

Resolution number WTM/2020/83

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member G Gunthorp:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the written reports from Members A Avendaño Christie, A Bonham and G Gunthorp, and the verbal board member reports from Deputy Chair K Leoni and Members J Sandilands and S Trotman for the period March - April 2020.

CARRIED

Governance Forward Work Calendar

Resolution number WTM/2020/84

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member J Sandilands:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the governance forward work calendar May 2020 as attached to the agenda.

CARRIED
24 Waitematā Local Board Workshop Records

Resolution number WTM/2020/85

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member A Avendano Christie:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) receive the workshop proceeding records for the meetings held on 24 March 2020, 31 March 2020, 7 April 2020 and 21 April 2020.

CARRIED

25 Consideration of Extraordinary Items

There was no consideration of extraordinary items.

The meeting adjourned at 4.12pm
Minutes of a meeting of the Waitematā Local Board reconvened via Skype for Business on Tuesday, 12 May 2020 at 2.40pm.

PRESENT

Chair
Richard Northey, (ONZM)
Kerrin Leoni

Deputy Chair
Adriana Avendano Christie
Alexandra Bonham
Graeme Gunthorp
Julie Sandilands
Sarah Trotman, (ONZM)
Local board decisions and input into the Annual Budget 2020/2021

Trina Thompson, Relationship Manager, was in attendance to speak to this report.

Resolution number WTM/2020/86

MOVED by Chairperson R Northey, seconded by Member A Bonham:

That the Waitematā Local Board:

a) note from the consultation feedback on the Waitematā Local Board priorities for 2020/2021 that there was strong support for environmental, climate change and Access for Everyone proposals, for the restoration of the Leys Institute Buildings and for St Georges Bay Road and Faraday Street enhancements.

b) provide feedback on the proposals in the Annual Budget 2020/2021 consultation part 1 as follows:

i) support increasing the annual waste management targeted rate by $19.97 to recover the additional costs of recycling paper, cardboard and plastics

ii) support increasing the refuse collection targeted rate in former Auckland City and Manukau City to cover the cost of collection

iii) support continuing the Waitākere rural sewerage service and increasing the targeted rate to cover the cost of the septic tank pumpout service

iv) support replacing the swimming pool onsite inspection cost with an annual targeted rate.

c) confirm its One Local Initiative and its advocacy to secure funding, resource and support to deliver the community’s agreed vision and chosen design for Ponsonby Park, 254 Ponsonby Road as soon as practicable.

d) approve its top five advocacy initiatives as follows:

i) advocate to the Governing Body and Auckland Transport to take appropriate actions to halve our carbon emissions by 2030, and to be at net zero emissions by 2050

ii) advocate to the Governing Body, Auckland Transport, Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED) and Panuku to provide business continuity response and recovery plans through pandemics, extreme weather events, major disasters and emergencies, and all major transformation projects to include a business continuity plan and development response programme

iii) advocate to the Governing Body and Panuku Development Auckland to ensure Auckland Council actively builds or enables others to provide affordable housing through appropriate mechanisms and tools

iv) advocate to the Governing Body to prioritise Leys Institute for funding to retain, strengthen and reopen for library and community use

v) advocate to the Governing Body and Auckland Transport to include the revitalisation of St Georges Bay Road and Faraday Street in the list of Regional Land Transport Projects (RLTP) prioritised projects and seek the Governing Body to fund the streetscapes improvement as set out in the Parnell Plan vision document.

e) approve its other advocacy positions as tabled at the meeting.

f) note that since the Annual Budget 2020/2021 consultation was undertaken, the COVID-19 pandemic has exerted significant pressure on the council's financial situation, which will have flow on effects for the proposed budget for the 2020/2021 financial year.
g) support the decision of the Emergency Committee to grant relief to those ratepayers facing hardship by not requiring its May 2020 quarterly payment of the Accommodation Providers Targeted Rate and enabling residential and business ratepayers to postpone their May payment until the end of August 2020.

h) support council advocacy to Central Government to enhance its Rates Rebate scheme to assist low income ratepayers

i) note that the Emergency Committee has directed that a part 2 consultation will be undertaken to ask Aucklanders for their views on certain aspects of Auckland Council’s proposed ‘emergency budget’ and that the proposed council savings options are not yet available.

j) note that the Governing Body will now be making final decisions on the reprioritisation for the ‘emergency budget’ on 21 May 2020 and that the updated positions and savings options will be made available to local boards on the 14 May 2020 for formal input by 19 May 2020.

k) agree to adopt the following high priority in-principle views and forward them to the Finance and Performance Committee and the Emergency Committee to inform their consideration on budget options:

i) maintain Council spending and resources and avoid services cuts principally through the avenue of additional short-term borrowing, and exploring increased revenue streams and alternate funding vehicles

ii) maintain council staffing levels at the current appropriate level and ensure that there is budget provision for a ‘living wage’, look to reduce the use of consultants and outsourcing, and focus on enabling local jobs and employment to help boost economy.

iii) ensure a long-term view of potential savings is taken, including reviewing current commitments to identify which projects may deliver savings in the long term or where stopping would create longer term costs

iv) climate action analysis to be central to the process in considering savings so that climate emergency response is prioritised and such implications, benefits and trade-offs are understood

v) continue to care for the environment (water quality, biodiversity, pest control)

vi) protect service levels for libraries, pools, marae, community centres, community houses, recreation centres, playgrounds, parks, sports fields, green initiatives, climate change projects, cleaning streams, environmental partnerships, renewals and general activities that provide local jobs and help towards the recovery and mental and physical health

vii) refocus ATEED funding primarily towards the recovery as an economic development agency (including support for BIDs and town centres) while retaining a longer-term role for revenue generating economic activities such as films, and domestic eco-tourism

viii) prefer providing relief in the form of access to appropriate rates postponement policies and systems being made available for residents and businesses facing hardship rather than making significant cuts to many Council services and projects.

l) agree to circulate the following in-principle views to the Finance and Performance Committee and the Emergency Committee to inform their consideration on savings options:
i) acknowledge that local board funding is a small percentage of the overall council group budget but is a vital and highly responsive support avenue for a variety of community initiatives that help support resilient communities

ii) that the delivery of the four well beings – social, economic, environmental and cultural should continue to be “core” services for Auckland Council

iii) continue to focus funding towards building community capacity to support the recovery and ensure the inequity divide across the region does not worsen

iv) support for vulnerable communities such as the elderly, deprived/low income communities, youth and Maori/Pasifika communities should be maintained or enhanced through the Emergency Budget as they are disproportionately affected by health and economic emergencies

v) continue the existing value for money review to ensure cost effectiveness and efficiency gains of our services

vi) ensure all major transformation projects include business continuity plans and a development response programme to mitigate further financial pressure on local businesses

vii) limit the reduction of services or deferment of capital projects only to those whose priority is affected by controls on entry to New Zealand and restrictions on large-scale events

viii) investigate the use of local procurement and supporting local services/businesses and community organisations for the delivery of council projects and services.

m) note that at the 19 May 2020 Waitematā Local Board business meeting, we intend to agree formal feedback on the emergency budget proposed savings and ratings and revenue options for tabling at the 21 May 2020 Governing Body meeting.

CARRIED

3.03 pm

The Chair thanked Members for their attendance and attention to business and declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A MEETING OF THE WAITEMATĀ LOCAL BOARD HELD ON

DATE:......................................................................................

CHAIRPERSON:........................................................................