

## Whau Local Board

# OPEN MINUTES

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Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Whau Local Board held in the Whau Local Board Office, 31 Totara Avenue, New Lynn on Wednesday, 5 May 2021 at 11.15am.

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### PRESENT

<b>Chairperson</b>	Kay Thomas	
<b>Deputy Chairperson</b>	Fasitua Amosa	
<b>Members</b>	Catherine Farmer	
	Ulalemamae Te'eva Matafai	Via Skype for Business
	Warren Piper	
	Jessica Rose	Via Skype for Business
	Susan Zhu	

### ABSENT

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## 1 Welcome

Chairperson K Thomas opened the meeting, welcomed those present and members attending via Skype for Business.

## 2 Apologies

There were no apologies.

## 3 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

## 4 Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

## 10 Local board consultation feedback and input into the 10-year Budget 2021-2031

Resolution number WH/2021/45

MOVED by Chairperson K Thomas, seconded by Member S Zhu:

**That the Whau Local Board:**

- a) **receive consultation feedback on the proposed Whau Local Board priorities and activities for 2021/2022 and key advocacy initiatives for 2021-2031.**
- b) **receive consultation feedback on regional topics in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 from people and organisations based in the Whau Local Board area.**
- c) **approve its advocacy initiatives for inclusion (as an appendix) to its 2021/2022 Local Board Agreement as follows:**
  - i) **provide site identification and delivery of the Whau aquatic and recreation facility.**
  - ii) **increase regional resourcing to support the Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy, other ways to increase urban tree cover and advocating to central government to strengthen tree protection rules.**
  - iii) **support the Unlock Avondale Programme and deliver the Avondale multipurpose community facility.**
  - iv) **develop a new multi-storey park-and-ride facility in New Lynn to realise the recommendations of the New Lynn Urban Plan, and noting the previously identified and increasingly urgent issues with parking capacity around the New Lynn town centre – Auckland’s only transport-oriented development.**
  - v) **advocate for additional resourcing to implement the remaining parts of Te Whau Pathway, noting that the majority of funding from the government’s “shovel ready” initiative will be allocated to sections in the Henderson-Massey Local Board area.**
- d) **note that in the context of a five per cent rates increase the Local Board Transport Capital Fund (LBTCF) is proposed to be reinstated and support this proposal, but note that this reinstatement will not necessarily enable the local board to implement any new projects this triennium as it does not account for the money from the previous triennium’s LBTCF that the board lost due to the “emergency budget” in 2020 despite assurances from Auckland Transport that it could be carried forward.**

- e) provide the following input on regional topics in the proposed 10-year Budget 2021- 031 to the Governing Body:
- i) note that submitters from the Whau Local Board area indicated some of the highest levels of support throughout the region for the proposed investment package including the 5 per cent one-off increase in general rates for the 2022 Financial Year (question 1)
  - ii) support the proposed investment package
  - iii) note that submitters from the Whau Local Board area were generally supportive of the climate change proposal (question 2)
  - iv) reiterate its support as previously expressed on the need for significant investment on climate change to ensure that Auckland Council can implement the findings of Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan and the recommendations of the Climate Change Commissions recent draft advice to government and ensure that temperature increases are kept below 1.5 °C
  - v) reiterate its support as previously expressed for the water quality proposal (question 3), noting that submitters from the Whau Local Board area were generally supportive of this proposal (at least in part)
  - vi) express serious concerns about the community investment proposal (question 4), reiterating its previously resolved feedback (resolution WH/2020/150 of 2 December 2020) that:
    - A) the local board's view [is] that cutting operational expenditure, including local community services and the maintenance, operations and renewals of our community assets, will have the most significant and most visible impact on those who are the most vulnerable.
    - B) the Whau Local Board area has relatively few community assets and relatively high levels of deprivation, and it would be devastating for our communities if assets were lost, or services reduced or fundamentally changed, particularly in the context of COVID-19 and its economic and social impacts.
    - C) the local board sees the retention of a permanent, fixed physical presence for our community services (including local board offices) as critical to maintain a high level of service and retain the trust and confidence of the community
    - D) Auckland has an aging population and the local board supports reducing barriers to participation for our older residents and for those with disabilities, and is concerned that possible changes associated with this proposal, which might include replacing asset-based services with "pop-up" or online/technology-based initiatives will have the opposite effect.
  - vii) acknowledge that a majority of submitters from the Whau indicated support for the community investment proposal, but noting that this proposal attracted the highest level of opposition of any proposal other than the investment package (question 1), that there appeared to be a certain degree of misunderstanding of the policy amongst a significant minority of those who indicated for support for it, and that submitters from the Whau indicated amongst the lowest levels of support for this proposal across the region
  - viii) note that the Whau Local Board area – while not geographically isolated – straddles two legacy council areas and has relatively few assets for its size and population and no assets that could be considered surplus to

requirements, with significant community infrastructure tending to fall within neighbouring local board areas

- ix) reiterate its view as previously stated in resolution WH/2020/150 of 2 December 2020 and prior to that during consideration of the Emergency Budget that asset sales are its least preferred financial lever
- x) note that deprivation is particularly relevant, as the most deprived members of the community are those least likely to be able to access the sorts of services provided by our community assets privately
- xi) note that there is currently only one aquatic facility for the whole of West Auckland and note that Whau has long been identified as the appropriate site for a new facility – now pushed out to the outer years of the Long-term Plan
- xii) reiterate its support as previously expressed for the proposal around the extension of the Natural Environment Targeted Rate (question 5, part 1), noting that submitters from the Whau Local Board area were generally supportive of this proposal (at least in part)
- xiii) note that significant feedback was received was received from residents of the Whau Local Board area in support of enhanced tree protection and, further to the local board’s advocacy point noted as c) ii) above, request that:
  - A) the Governing Body include \$2.54 million in Year One of the Long-term Plan to progress a Plan Change to review Schedule 10 of the Auckland Unitary Plan to increase tree protection across Auckland, support the Ngahere Strategy and tree cover across the region.
- xiv) support increased investment in Māori outcomes and note that Auckland Council will not be able to deliver on its stated commitments to Māori without significant investment.

**CARRIED**

## 11 Decision-making responsibilities policy

Resolution number WH/2021/46

MOVED by Chairperson K Thomas, seconded by Member W Piper:

**That the Whau Local Board:**

- a) endorse the draft Decision-making Responsibilities of Auckland Council’s Governing Body and local boards policy.

**CARRIED**

11.17am

The Chairperson 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 WHAU LOCAL BOARD HELD  
ON

**DATE:**.....

**CHAIRPERSON:**.....