

Date: Tuesday 9 May 2023
Time: 1.00pm
Meeting Room: Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board office
Venue: 81 Hector Sanderson Road,
Claris
Aotea Great Barrier Island

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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10	Local board consultation feedback and input into the Annual Budget 2023/2024	
A.	9 May 2023 Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board, Item 10 Local board consultation feedback and input into Annual Budget 2023/2024 report, tabled item 10 – Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board input regional questions and advocacy.	3

Annual Budget 2023/2024

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board feedback on regional topics

Topic	Proposal	Support / Do not support	Local Board Input
Operating spending reductions	Maintaining the currently reduced number of public transport services (as of December 2022) for 2023/2024 to save \$21 million	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposal is counter intuitive to Auckland Council's climate change targets of moving more people towards using public transport.
	Reducing funding to Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to save a further \$27.5 million,	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aotea has recently completed its draft Destination Management Plan. This plan will require continued support from Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to be enacted.
	Reducing regional services such as community and education programmes, arts and culture programmes, regional events, economic development, and other social services activities such as homelessness funding, community empowerment and funding for youth centres to save \$20 million	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aotea community has provided strong feedback requesting the continuation of funding for regional community services. Arts and events along with elderly and youth programmes are fundamental to community wellbeing and mental health.
	Reducing local board funded activities across all boards to save \$16 million	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aotea is a remote island, and most community services are delivered locally such as community and recreation venues, elderly and youth programmes, art programmes, social services, health services and education services. Local board discretionary funding supports these locally led services and projects. Under the current proposal the board's discretionary opex funding would go from being \$714,000 to \$367,000. There are minimal council-provided services and assets on the island meaning no way to mitigate any of the budget reduction. Aotea community would be severely impacted twice with reductions to council-led services such as mowing levels and discretionary budget to support the community-led community services.
	Reducing regional contestable grants to save \$3 million	Do not support	

	No longer directly providing early childhood education services to save \$1 million	Do not support	
Amending Auckland International Airport Limited Shareholding Policy	To sell Auckland Council's shares in AIAL	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no long-term benefit in reducing council's current holdings.
Managing rates and debt	To increase rates by 4.66 percent.	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local board support rates being increased to align with inflation.
	To increase debt by \$75 million		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The local board supports increases in debt as appropriate for capital expenses.
	To reduce Natural Environment and Water Quality Targeted Rates.	Do not support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aotea community provided strong feedback to continue both targeted rates to maintain momentum and achieve gains.
Storm response	To increase rates by an additional 1 per cent to fund a storm response fund	Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local board suggests this funding be used to help mitigate the effects of climate change for storm readiness and well as recovery.
Other rates, fees and charges	To introduce a one-off fee for residents wishing to change bin sizes		
	To extend the food scraps targeted rate to new areas		
	To change which bus service are funded by the Climate Action Targeted Rate		
	To increase fee for swimming pool/spa pool fencing compliance targeted rate		
	To amend the Community Occupancy Guidelines		
	To review fees for bookable spaces in council managed pool and leisure facilities.		
	Any other rates, fees and charges		
Other Issues	Any other issues, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tūpuna Maunga Authority Operational Plan 2023/2024 		

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board feedback on related policies

Policy	Proposal	Support / Do not support	Local Board Input
Revenue and Financing Policy	Pause the Long-Term Differential Strategy (LTDS) for one year.	Do not support	
Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy	Amend the Māori Land Rates Remission and Postponement Policy to provide a partial remission of rates to general title papakāinga, where that land is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protected from being sold out of Māori ownership for the sole use of hapū/iwi (tribe). 	Support	

Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board key advocacy initiatives

Initiative	Description
Local employment	<p>The local board is advocating for increased localism within council procurement processes to enable local employment, business development, and practical on-island operational and capital project delivery. Local procurement contracts and local supply sourcing will strengthen local resilience and mitigate travel carbon emissions.</p> <p>In particular, the island has limited compliance monitoring based on-island. COVID-19 highlighted a resilience gap for the island when staff were unable to travel and review or enforce council policy. The local board is advocating for support to hire and train island-based compliance monitoring staff.</p>
Marine protection	<p>The Tīkapa Moana Te Moananui-ā-Toi / Hauraki Gulf is in ecological decline. Mana whenua and the community are calling for urgent action to protect our coastal waters from marine pests and overfishing. We are advocating for strengthened council support for the Hauraki Gulf Forum which promotes and facilitates integrated management and the protection and enhancement of the Hauraki Gulf.</p> <p>We will continue advocating to government agencies to implement Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari initiatives, including the Ahu Moana initiative.</p> <p>In keeping with the importance of marine protection in the Hauraki Gulf, we also advocate for an increase in budget and resourcing of council's own Marine Bio-Security Team. We cannot emphasise enough the importance of this Team in the monitoring and surveillance work they undertake in the Gulf and equally, having such a dedicated Team that can work in with other Regional Councils within the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park to develop plans and programmes specific to the safeguarding of our marine environment.</p>
Environmental protection	<p>Aotea is unique and a special biodiversity area. Biosecurity is imperative to safeguard our taonga. We have many iwi and community-led environmental projects such as Tū Mai Taonga and wetland restoration. We are advocating for continued Natural Environment Targeted Rate funding to maintain the good work they've achieved.</p> <p>Our landfill has closed and to minimize environmental impact we are working towards zero waste through community initiatives in reduce, reuse and recycle. We are seeking continued council support for community innovation in waste minimization.</p>
Transport infrastructure	<p>The recent storms have impacted the resilience of our roading network and coastal infrastructure. The local board acknowledges Auckland Transport for the work they have done in this space and advocates for continued investment on unsealed road renewals with the ultimate goal of sealing these roads.</p>
Alternative energy systems	<p>The local board is advocating for continued support in futureproofing alternative energy systems of council, community and Auckland Transport facilities. This includes projects like service centre micro-grid, Claris Airport renewable energy system, emergency water supply system and to provide public electric vehicle charging facilities alongside the electric bike charging unit.</p>
Visitor levy	<p>Aotea / Great Barrier Island has an increased level of local tourism since COVID-19 which may continue for some time. The local board is closely following Rakiura / Stewart Island with their experience of a visitor levy. With the Tātaki Auckland Unlimited Destination Management Plan nearing completion and as new information on various visitor levies emerge, the local board is advocating for continued staff support to investigate a visitor levy to respond to the impacts of tourism.</p>