
Howick Local Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Howick Local Board held in the Howick Local Board Meeting Room, Pakuranga Library Complex, 7 Aylesbury Street, Pakuranga on Thursday, 21 March 2024 at 12.01pm.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Chairperson	Damian Light	
Deputy Chairperson	Bo Burns	Via electronic link until 3.07pm
Members	Katrina Bungard	Via electronic link until 12.59pm
	David Collings	Until 3.02pm
	John Spiller	
	Mike Turinsky	
	Adele White	
	Peter Young, JP	

TE HUNGA KĀORE I TAE MAI | ABSENT

Member	Bruce Kendall
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1 Nau mai | Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

2 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

Resolution number HW/2024/12

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member M Turinsky:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakaae / accept the apology from Member Bruce Kendall for absence.**

CARRIED

3 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Te Whakaū i ngā Āmiki | Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution number HW/2024/13

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member J Spiller:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakaū / confirm the ordinary minutes of its meeting, held on Thursday, 15 February 2024, as a true and correct record.**

CARRIED

5 He Tamōtanga Motuhake | Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

6 Te Mihi | Acknowledgements

6.1 Acknowledgement - Fa'anānā Efeso Collins

Resolution number HW/2024/14

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member M Turinsky:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whakamihi / acknowledge the sudden passing of Fa'anana Efeso Collins last month. He will be remembered as a champion for Pasifika communities across Tāmaki Makaurau and a fierce advocate for those he represented in South Auckland. Efeso's contribution to local politics began with a term as the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Chairperson in 2013, then two terms as an Auckland Council ward councillor, representing the Manukau ward from 2016 to 2022. Our heartfelt condolences go to his wife, daughters, and wider aiga.**

CARRIED

A minutes' silence was observed in honour of Fa'anānā Efeso Collins

6.2 Acknowledgement - East Auckland Business Awards

Resolution number HW/2024/15

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

a) **whakaihi / acknowledge and congratulate all the nominees and winners of the inaugural East Auckland Business Awards. A strong, prosperous local economy that everyone can participate in is vital to the well-being of the entire community. The 20,000 businesses within the Howick Local Board area contribute over \$9B to GDP and provide employment for over 70,000 people. These awards were a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of local businesses setting the standard of excellence in the business world. The Howick Local Board thanks Business East Tamaki and Howick Village Association for organising the awards as well as the judges for their careful consideration of the high quality nominees.**

- **Industry and Manufacturing: Leanne's Kitchen**
- **Professional Services: RSM Highbrook**
- **Innovation: Resonate Health**
- **Sustainability: Ecobags**
- **Healthcare: Resonate Health**
- **Retail: Poppies**
- **Hospitality: Daisy Chang**
- **Best New Business: Resonate Health**
- **Community Impact: KiwiHarvest**
- **Supreme Award Winner: Resonate Health**

CARRIED

7 Ngā Petihana | Petitions

There were no petitions.

Note: The Chair deferred Item 8 – Deputations until after Item 12 – Chairperson's Report

9 Te Matapaki Tūmatanui | Public Forum

There was no public forum.

10 Ngā Pakihi Autaia | Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

11 Governing Body Members' Update

There was no Governing Body Members' Update.

12 Chairperson's Report

Resolution number HW/2024/16

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member P Young:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whiwhi / receive the Chairperson's verbal update and written report, with the amendment of noting Member John Spiller's attendance at the Howick Youth Council event on Thursday 7 March.**

CARRIED

Attachments

- A 21 March 2024, Howick Local Board: Item 12 - Chairperson's Report - Chair Light's Updated Written Report

Note: Item 8 – Deputations was considered at this time

8 Ngā Tono Whakaaturanga | Deputations

8.1 Deputation - Grace Hogan of the Auckland Business Chamber

Grace Hogan of the Auckland Business Chamber was in attendance to present a deputation outlining the Young Enterprise Scheme - Tāmaki Makaurau Regional Awards programme that involves many of schools in the Howick rohe.

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

Resolution number HW/2024/17

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member M Turinsky:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whiwhi / receive the presentation from the Auckland Business Chamber.**
- b) **whakamihi / thank Grace Hogan for their deputation and attendance.**

CARRIED

Attachments

- A 21 March 2024, Howick Local Board: Item 8.1 - Deputation - Grace Hogan of the Auckland Business Chamber - Auckland Business Chamber's Presentation

The meeting adjourned at 12.59pm

Member K Bungard left the meeting at 12.59pm

Member P Young left the room at 12.59pm

The meeting reconvened at 1.10pm

Member P Young returned to the room at 1.11pm

13 Te Kete Rukuruku Tranche One - Site Selection for Māori Naming

Resolution number HW/2024/18

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member J Spiller:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) endorse the Te Kete Rukuruku programme and process for Māori naming of parks and facilities, noting that it supports the visibility of te reo Māori and seeks to capture and tell the unique stories of Howick and Tāmaki Makaurau.
- b) invite mana whenua to provide Māori names and narratives for the following 15 parks and four libraries, as shown in table one below. More detail is provided in Attachment A and B of the agenda report for clarity.

Table one

Site Name	Street	Sole or dual name
41 Tir Conaill Avenue / Thomas Road Recreation Reserve	41 Tir Conaill Avenue LOT 405	Sole
Baverstock Park	114R Baverstock Road, Flat Bush	Dual
Botany Library	Te Pātaka Kōrero o (Māori name)	Dual
Burswood Park	170R Burswood Drive, East Tamaki	Dual
Cyril French Park	16R Bronwylian Drive / Cyril French Road	Dual
Golfland Park	111R Golfland Drive	Dual
Highland Park Library	Te Pātaka Kōrero o (Māori name)	Dual
Howick Library	Te Pātaka Kōrero o (Māori name)	Dual
Mission Heights Bush Block Reserve	104R Jeffs Road	Sole
Mission Heights Reserve	104R Jeffs Road	Dual
Murphys Bush Scenic Reserve	160R Murphys Road	Dual
Murphys Bush Reserve (old Ostrich Farm)	231 Flat Bush School Road	Sole
Norwood Estate Park	34 Norwood Drive	Dual
Pakuranga Library	Te Pātaka Kōrero o (Māori name)	Dual
Ravello Rise Reserve	16R Ravello Rise	Dual
Riverhills Park	168R Gossamer Drive	Dual
Rogers Park	Clovelly Road	Dual
Silvana Park	285R Murphys Road	Dual
Valderama Reserve	Valderama Drive	Dual

- c) consider adopting Māori names as sole names for three parks and dual names for 16 sites as detailed in table one.
- d) acknowledge the intent for Auckland Council to enter a mātauranga agreement that commits council to upholding the correct use of Māori names, and to use them only for purposes that have a community outreach or educational purpose (non-commercial use).
- e) note that it is expected the Māori names will be adopted by the local board to enrich the stories of our parks and support the Māori language to be visible, heard, spoken and learned.

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

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
Chairperson D Light	Deputy Chairperson B	Member D Collings
Member J Spiller	Burns	
Member M Turinsky		
Member A White		
Member P Young		

The motion was declared **CARRIED** by 5 votes to 1.

CARRIED

Member D Collings moved an amendment to the original recommendation, as follows:

MOVED by Member D Collings, seconded by Deputy Chairperson B Burns:

That the Howick Local Board:

- f) direct officers to publicly notify the Board's intention to adopt sole or dual Te Reo Māori names as detailed in Table 1 - giving the public the opportunity to provide feedback, to be provided to the Board at the next practicable business meeting.

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

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
Deputy Chairperson B	Chairperson D Light	
Burns	Member J Spiller	
Member D Collings	Member M Turinsky	
	Member A White	
	Member P Young	

The motion was declared **LOST** by 2 votes to 5.

Dawn Bardsley – Naming Lead Māori Outcomes, Anahera Higgins - Head of Māori Outcomes, and Vinny Rongo – Te Reo Māori Programme Lead were in attendance to speak to this item.

14 **Local Board views on Notices of Requirement for Stages 3C and 4L of the Eastern Busway**

Resolution number HW/2024/19

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member D Collings:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) provide the following local board views on the Notices of Requirement for Stage 3 Commercial of the Eastern Busway. The Board:

- i) continue to support the Eastern Busway project as critical transport infrastructure for East Auckland, noting the significant potential benefits to public transport, private vehicles, walking and cycling.
 - ii) note the Board's previous feedback on the Burswood diversion (HW/2022/24) that the Howick Local Board "does not support the proposed Eastern Busway route, over the estuary and via the Burwood residential community at this stage, due to insufficient evidence to justify the proposal."
 - iii) reconfirm opposition to the Burswood diversion on the basis of the impact on the community, significant property acquisitions, and the functional and perceptual impact of routing public transport off the main arterial route.
 - iv) note with concern that the piece of land that serves as a buffer between the Burswood residential and business zones that was part of the justification for the new route is not part of this designation.
 - v) note with concern the potential negative ecological/environmental impact the Burswood diversion will have on the coastal marine area due to reclamation for the bridge structures.
 - vi) question the utilisation of the raised crossings giving priority to the buses over general traffic. Concerned the impact on the flow on general traffic on Burswood drive will be unnecessarily negatively affected and could impact Ti Rakau traffic as well. That negative impact on the general traffic flow may outweigh the benefit to the buses.
 - vii) note the feedback from local community and businesses regarding the noise, vibration and other construction impacts and request that the Eastern Busway Alliance take all reasonable steps to mitigate all negative impacts during construction and operation.
 - viii) request that the alterations to the Huntington and Ti Rakau Drives intersection consider requests from the local community to improve safety.
- b) provide the following local board views on the Notices of Requirement for Stage 4 Link Road of the Eastern Busway. The Board:
- i) continue to support the Eastern Busway project as critical transport infrastructure for East Auckland, noting the significant potential benefits to public transport, private vehicles, walking and cycling.
 - ii) support the proposed route through Guys Reserve and Whaka Maumahara Reserve on the basis that there is no acquisition or impact on private land and minimal long-term impact on public reserves through the use of a raised bridge.
 - iii) note that the location and delivery of the Botany station is a critical component that will significantly impact the success of the project.
 - iv) note the feedback from local community and businesses regarding the noise, vibration and other construction impacts and request that the Eastern Bus Alliance take all reasonable steps to mitigate all negative impacts during construction and operation.
- c) appoint Chairperson Damian Light to speak to the local board views at a hearing on the Notices of Requirement.
- d) delegate authority to the chairperson of Howick Local Board to make a replacement appointment in the event the local board member appointed in resolution b) is unable to attend the hearing on the Notices of Requirement.

CARRIED

David Wong – Senior Policy Planner was in attendance virtually to speak to this item.

Member J Spiller left the room at 2.03pm

Member J Spiller returned to the room at 2.04pm

15 Project Kōkiri - Setting priorities for Auckland Transport project and programme engagement

Resolution number HW/2024/20

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) provide the following views on the proposed work programme on which projects the local board requests Auckland Transport to:
- i) collaborate:
 - A) Local Board Transport Capital Fund projects: Bucklands Beach Safety Improvements, Bradbury Road speed calming, Picton St/Ridge Road intersection, Valderama Road pedestrian crossing, Michael Jones Drive speed calming, Paparua Road pedestrian crossing, Flat Bush Gravel Paths project.
 - ii) consult:
 - A) Flat Bush School/ Hikuawa Road intersection improvements;
 - B) Butley Drive pedestrian improvements;
 - C) Howick Town Centre Parking review;
 - D) Chapel Road/Town Centre Drive intersection (all projects in relation to this area);
 - E) Hollyford Drive/Aspiring Avenue signalisation;
 - F) Aviemore/Highland Park Drive roundabout.
 - iii) inform:
 - A) Half Moon Bay Vehicle Improvement;
 - B) Eastern Busway;
 - C) Low Emission Ferry Programme;
 - D) Minor safety programme projects including new footpaths (Gerywn Place, Baverstock Road, Hilltop/Redoubt Road), pedestrian improvements (Gills Road, Litten Road, Flat Bush School Road) and intersection upgrades (Ormiston Road/Valderama Drive);
 - E) Bus shelters (list of planned installations and progress updates);
 - F) NZTA Mill Road upgrade (including Murphys/Redoubt Road and Murphys Road/ Murphys Park Drive intersections);
- b) provide the following projects or programmes for Auckland Transport to consider for inclusion in future work programmes:
- i) completion of missing footpaths, especially in Flat Bush (beyond those priority locations in the LBTCF Gravel Project);
 - ii) footpath maintenance and upgrades.
- c) provide the following projects or programmes for Auckland Transport to review that are not supported by the local community:
- i) Selwyn/Cook Street pedestrian crossing, because of the negative feedback from the local business association and potential loss of parking.

CARRIED

Lorna Stewart - Elected Member Relationship Manager (AT) was in attendance to speak to this item.

16 Update on Watercare and Eke Panuku work programmes for Quarter Three (Jan - Mar 2024) and CCO Engagement Plans

Resolution number HW/2024/21

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member M Turinsky:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **whiwhi / receive the update on Council-controlled Organisation Engagement Plans and Watercare and Eke Panuku work programmes for Quarter Three (Jan-Mar 2024).**

CARRIED

17 Representation review and local board reorganisation

Resolution number HW/2024/22

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member J Spiller:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **provide the following feedback on the review of representation arrangements for the current 21 local boards (except for any matters specific to this local board that are addressed in a separate report). The Board:**
- i) **note that this is the first opportunity for formal feedback into a significant proposal that could change the shape of local government in Auckland for the next decade.**
 - ii) **note the difficult position of asking elected representatives to make decisions on the system that elected them.**
- b) **provide the following feedback on the proposal to reduce the number of local boards through a reorganisation plan noting that Governing Body has supported the development of a 15 local board model as described in this report. The Board:**
- i) **note that the Royal Commission into Auckland Governance recommended less, more power local councils but this was never implemented.**
 - ii) **note that there has been no evidence provided that a reduction in local boards will provide cost savings, efficiency gains, improved democracy or delivery of services. While there may be benefits, this has not been shown at this stage.**
 - iii) **note that under the current draft proposal, Howick Local Board is not expected to have its boundaries or representation altered.**
 - iv) **note that the majority of the deliverables under the Governance Framework Review have yet to be realised, including greater decision making for local boards. Changing the structure of the organisation before these have been implemented will likely result in further delays.**
 - v) **note that the proposed mergers are based on the easiest changes possible in the timeframe allowed, as opposed to the best outcome for communities of interest. If there is a desire for a reduced number of local boards then we should invest the time in making sure the outcome is optimised for success, not just speed of implementation.**
 - vi) **note that the legislative limitations on the maximum number of local board members means that some merged boards may have less representation than non-merged.**
 - vii) **note that merged boards may reduce the cultural and demographic diversity in representation.**
 - viii) **note that the significant variance in population between Local Boards isn't recognised in allocation of staff resources.**

- c) do not support a reorganisation plan for local boards proceeding to public consultation.
 - i) note the significant lack of public understanding of the role and purpose of local boards which will likely lead to a limited discussion.
 - ii) note the significant financial implications (estimated at \$210k) of a reorganisation consultation with no evidence of a financial benefit.
 - iii) recommend that Auckland Council first ensures that the public understands the current governance arrangements before being asked for feedback on what to improve.
 - iv) suggest that further discussions on reorganisation continue past the 2025 elections to allow for a greater focus on the financial and organisational benefits and risks.

CARRIED

Warwick McNaughton – Principal Advisor Governance was in attendance virtually to speak to this item.

18 Proposals for More Empowered Local Boards

Resolution number HW/2024/23

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member J Spiller:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) provide the following feedback on staff proposals for more empowered local boards, in particular the Board:
 - i) support the following aspects of the proposal
 - A) better strategic advice and information for local boards to make better decisions;
 - B) improved ability to raise funds;
 - C) increased decision making and accountability;
 - ii) provide ideas and examples of what more empowered local boards should be able to do, namely:
 - A) be more responsive to local needs, including the changing demographics of our communities.
 - B) be more accountable with more direct control over activities and programmes.
 - C) raise funding to deliver local priorities.
 - D) make better strategic decisions with improved advice and support.
 - E) greater decision making over local procurement.
 - iii) regarding the benefits, or otherwise of linking proposals for more empowered local boards with having fewer local boards.
 - A) note that all of the above is deliverable without reducing the number of local boards.
 - iv) support in principle the feedback provided by the Kaipātiki Local Board per resolution KT/2024/43, in particular:
 - A) d) i) - the ability for boards to localise service delivery
 - B) vi) - guarantees over local assets
 - C) vii) - greater control over dog access rules

CARRIED

Warwick McNaughton – Principal Advisor Governance was in attendance virtually to speak to this item.

19 Representation project – issues specific to the Howick Local Board

Resolution number HW/2024/24

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member A White:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) **note the complexity of elected representatives providing feedback on the system that has elected them. While efforts have been made to consult with members of the public, it is a complex issue and not everyone understands the role of the Local Board.**
- b) **receive the update on the result of public consultation on the matters that are discussed in this report, as tabled in the final minutes under Attachment A, and:**
 - i) **acknowledge and thank members of the public who provided feedback during the informal engagement period, in particular the Flat Bush Ratepayers and Residents Association who co-hosted a public meeting.**
 - ii) **acknowledge and thank staff for their efforts to provide an opportunity to gain informal feedback into this important discussion in a limited timeframe.**
- c) **provide the following feedback to address the non-compliance of the Botany subdivision with the 10 percent rule. The Board:**
 - i) **note that Flat Bush is a significant community of interest that deserves recognition and representation. Its recent and rapid growth has created different challenges and opportunities to the more established area of Botany.**
 - ii) **do not support Option 1 (add two members to the Botany subdivision)**
 - A) **this had limited support from the public.**
 - B) **this does not address the communities of interest that exist in Flat Bush.**
 - C) **may create a risk of one subdivision having significantly more influence than others.**
 - iii) **do not support Option 2 (shrink the Botany subdivision boundaries)**
 - A) **this does not address the communities of interest that exist in Flat Bush.**
 - B) **this would effectively eliminate the Botany community of interest and have a negative impact on their representation.**
 - iv) **do not support Option 3 (combination increase members and adjust boundaries)**
 - A) **this does not address the communities of interest that exist in Flat Bush**
 - B) **this would have a negative impact on the communities of interest within Botany.**
 - v) **do not support option 4a (Botany with three members and a new subdivision for Flat Bush with two members).**
 - A) **strong support from the public, especially those in the Botany area.**
 - B) **recognise the new and established communities of interest within the Flat Bush area.**
 - C) **request staff explore an alternative boundary that doesn't divide the Ormiston community of interest through Ormiston Road.**
 - vi) **support option 4b (Botany with two members and a new subdivision for Flat Bush with three members).**
 - A) **strong support from the public, especially those in the Flat Bush area.**
 - B) **recognises the new and established communities of interest within the Flat Bush area.**
 - C) **does not split Ormiston community of interest through Ormiston Road.**
- d) **provide the following feedback for changing the name of the Howick Local Board. The Board:**
 - i) **note the long historical connection of the Howick name with the local area.**

- ii) note that there is confusion within the community in regard to the Local Board area due to the connection to the town centre and subdivision of the same name.
- iii) note that the name Howick was supported through numerous public petitions in 2010, although the population has grown by nearly 30,000 residents (23 per cent increase) with changing demographics.
- iv) note that changing the name of the Howick Local Board will incur considerable costs
- v) do not support a change of name at this time but will continue to consider options and engage with the public on the possibility.

CARRIED

Warwick McNaughton – Principal Advisor Governance was in attendance virtually to speak to this item.

Attachments

- A 21 March 2024, Howick Local Board: Representation project – issues specific to the Howick Local Board - Representation Project Consultation Memo

20 Local board feedback on freshwater management in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland

Resolution number HW/2024/25

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member D Collings:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) whakarite / provide the following feedback:
 - i) in regard to the long term vision for freshwater in Tāmaki Makaurau, the Board:
 - A) request that the following 2040 Draft Long Term Vision Goals be moved forward to 2030:
 - 1) degraded freshwater systems and habitats are rehabilitated and restored so they support mahinga kai and threatened species to recover.
 - 2) measurable reductions in human induced sediment discharge have been achieved.
 - 3) new water structure and replacement of existing water infrastructure is resilient mauri-enhancing and where practicable nature-based.
 - 4) inspect/audit known aging wastewater infrastructure with a view of replacing it before it fails and contaminates waterways or coastlines.
 - B) request that the following statement be included in the vision for the Hauraki Freshwater Management Unit (HF MU):
 - 1) freshwater systems flowing through urban neighbourhoods are named, considered as vital habitat for native species, protected and, if necessary, restored for present and future generations.
 - C) request that the HF MU goals be broadened so they include special consideration of:
 - 1) the impact of increasing (and increased) freshwater flows into estuarine and saltwater receiving environments and commits to monitoring these.
 - 2) the adverse impact on freshwater streams when they run through disused landfills. The closed land fill at Greenmount also is at the start of a stream feeding into the Pakuranga Creek. This land fill holds the debris from the ICI chemical fire that ruined parts of the Tamaki Estuary.

- 3) the identification of highly degraded waterways and proposes interventions that will address the major factors that contribute to this degradation. Urgent need to address reasons freshwater bodies where water quality degradation is longstanding and continuing, including temperature pollution (from, for example, concrete channelling), pre-production plastic pellets (nurdles), postproduction plastics, sediment and other chemical pollutants entering the water through its' watercourse within the built environment.
 - 4) setting a goal that urban freshwater aquatic habitats and ecosystems be protected. Tāmaki communities should not have to wait for Council to identify the habitats as high value or degraded - protection should be the default.
- ii) in regard to the values and environmental outcomes, the Board:
 - A) support inclusion of resilience as a value in the AUP.
- iii) in regard to the Waterbodies where special management is required, the Board:
 - A) request that the following waterways be identified as significant and requiring special management:
 - 1) Glendowie Stream
 - 2) Omaru Creek
 - 3) Ōtara Creek, feeder creeks and Ōtara Lake
 - 4) Pakuranga Stream – at Cascades Falls (Botany Creek)
 - B) request that the criteria and process for identifying waterbodies that require special managing be published, and that these criteria should include waterways where threatened native species are recorded as present. For example, Glendowie Stream and Botany Creek. This could be included as a qualifying factor for special care, even if the area is not large, or not widely publicised.
- iv) in regard to achieving the vision and environmental outcomes for freshwater, the Board:
 - A) strongly support proposal to at least maintain the state of waterbodies where they are good and set ambitious targets to improve the health of waterbodies where they are poor.
- v) in regard to water quality, the Board:
 - A) agree with proposal to prioritise catchments across the region for fish passage remediation, noting the significant number of private barriers which may take some time to resolve.
 - B) support maintaining our existing regional standards for wetlands and streams where they are higher than the national standards, noting the very small amount of wetlands that still exist (4%) which require urgent and strong protection.
- vi) in regard to water quality, the Board:
 - A) support changes to water allocation in a phased approach to enable those impacted to have time to adapt, while ensuring that we protect the previous resource that is becoming more scarce.
- vii) in regard to other feedback, the Board note that the draft National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management Auckland consultation document, November 2023 has:
 - A) not identified by name, or included any of the freshwater streams, rivers (or Otara Lake), which flow into the Tāmaki River and Estuary, and has not identified any of those waterbodies as 'outstanding', despite their significance for local communities.
 - B) not provided full disclosure of how the listed "important fresh waterways" have been chosen, or explained how communities can advocate for local freshwater systems they value, to be added.

- C) prioritised the protection of currently healthy waterways over those in states of severe and continuing degradation. Such as the streams feeding Pakuranga Creek & Otara Lake.
 - D) omitted any mention of underground water sources within the Tāmaki Catchment.
 - E) omitted consideration of the special circumstances where freshwater systems are piped (or flow) through retired landfills that are situated on urban coastlines.
 - F) set vision statements for 2030 that provide minimal, if any, aspiration.
 - G) set comparatively constrained and narrowly focussed goals for the HFMU.
- b) note that there is a need to include greater reference to the impact of freshwater flow volumes on receiving saltwater environments, (the River and Estuary) especially due to rapidly increasing volumes of freshwater from intensifying urban neighbourhoods. This may also come under climate change, as increasing freshwater flows will heighten the impact of high tides on vulnerable coastlines.

CARRIED

Member P Young left the room at 2.55pm, and was not in attendance to vote on this item.

Member P Young returned to the room at 2.58pm

Member D Collings left the meeting at 3.02pm

Deputy Chairperson B Burns left the meeting at 3.07pm

21 Local board input to Auckland Council Submission on the draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024-34

Resolution number HW/2024/26

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member J Spiller:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) whakarite / provide the following views on the Draft Government Policy Statement on Land Transport 2024–34:
 - i) the Board note the extremely short time frames provided to consider the draft Government Policy Statement and respond, especially given the significant shift in direction on a range of topics.
 - ii) in regard to the Strategic Priorities, the Board:
 - A) urge caution against the provision of so many taxpayer funded EV charging stations. EVs may have appeared to be the answer to emissions and global warming however there is evidence of EV sales dramatically slowing overseas due to the cost of maintaining /battery replacement, lithium battery fires in vehicles and growing public awareness that the whole of life cost of producing EVs is detrimental rather than beneficial to the environment. Additionally, many major EV vehicle manufacturers are slowing production and focusing their technology investment into hydrogen powered vehicles.
 - B) support the proposed major Roads of National Significance throughout the country, and in the Auckland region in particular the Mill Road and the East West link.

- iii) in regard to Activity Class descriptions and funding ranges, the Board:
 - A) do not support “greater farebox recovery” as higher fares discourage usage, leading to higher congestion, emissions and safety issues. While public transport should strive to be cost effective, we should not lose sight of the significant public benefit gained through increased usage.
 - B) oppose proposed approach to funding maintenance of walking and cycling infrastructure, noting that the strict separation from other activity classes could lead to less cost-effective delivery.
 - C) oppose requirement for walking and cycling projects to have “demonstrated volumes of pedestrians and cyclists” given that evidence shows that lack of safe routes has a significant impact on current volumes.
 - 1) prioritisation of funding for walking and cycling projects should be on projects that will reduce congestion, focus on commuters, and/or improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.
 - 2) suggest that priority be given to completion of networks to provide the greatest benefits, especially those serving commuters and students.
 - D) note with concern that separation of public transport and active mode component puts at risk the ability to “dig once” and may lead to more expensive delivery. Requests that flexibility between activity classes be maintained in order to allow the efficient delivery of projects, renewal, and maintenance.
 - E) request that sufficient public transport funding is allocated to enable Auckland Transport to maintain existing services and delivery planned improvements, including new services that leverage infrastructure investment.
- iv) in regard to economic growth and productivity, the Board:
 - A) note the significant impact that congestion has on economic growth and productivity and encourage stricter focus on cost-benefit analysis to ensure that large projects are delivering the greatest positive outcomes.
- v) in regard to increased maintenance and resilience, the Board:
 - A) support increased funding for road maintenance.
 - B) support the funding for quicker and more efficient pothole repairs. This should be accompanied by an expanded road inspection monitoring programme to ensure potholes are dealt with early, both in the interests of keeping repair costs down, and in road safety.
- vi) in regard to safety, the Board:
 - A) do not support the significant reduction in funding for safety (approximately 40% less than 2021 GPS). In particular does not support the reduction in road safety funding for physical interventions.
 - 1) while more funding for behavioural change and enforcement is welcomed, physical interventions are sometimes required to protect vulnerable road users and local government should have the autonomy to make the appropriate decisions for their communities. This should be based on the specific needs of the site or location.
 - 2) for example, consideration should be given to gradually increasing the number of median barriers on highways and other major roads in the interests of reducing the incidence of head-on collisions between vehicles. Historical accident data should provide an indication of roads where this would be desirable.
 - B) do not support the significant shift away from Vision Zero and a safe system approach. Too many people are killed and seriously injured

- on our roads which requires an evidence-based, system-wide approach.
- C) support an increased focus on fines and enforcement but notes that these are insufficient in isolation to change behaviour and protect vulnerable road users.
 - D) note with concern that the draft GPS does not mention the specific safety issues related to pedestrians and cyclists, despite the rate of deaths and serious injuries for walking and cycling being 20 times greater per kilometre travelled in Auckland.
- vii) in regard to value for money, the Board:
- A) support the increased focus on value for money, which should enable more to be delivered.
 - B) encourage use of higher standard surface materials for major roads/highways to ensure the longest possible life. Higher initial cost should be outweighed by longer maintenance periods.
- viii) in regard to system reform, the Board:
- A) supports alternative methods of funding projects. RUCs for all road users are no doubt a more equitable way of funding that reflects road use.
 - B) supports acceleration of efforts to enable Time of Use Charging which could provide significant benefits for Auckland.
 - C) supports electronic and gated toll combinations where appropriate, as long as there are alternative routes, the cost of collection doesn't outweigh revenue received, and there is some dispensation for low-income earner personal tolls to get to work – especially if public transport is not practical for those people.
 - D) support the proposal to adopt a 10-year investment plan to bring NZTA into alignment with local government Long Term Plans (LTPs), to provide greater confidence and certainty to invest in long-term projects and deliver on a long-term transport infrastructure pipeline.
 - E) do not support the review of registration costs (MVR) for motorcycles. Instead, these should be significantly reduced as they are currently at a punitive level. Travelling by motorcycle rather than by a heavier vehicle helps reduce CO2 output, is less damaging to road surfaces, speeds up travel times, and provides an affordable option for many commuters.
 - F) support focus on reducing traffic management costs, noting the significant burden that this can put on community events (especially community-led activities), leading to less and smaller events.
- ix) in regard to major public transport projects, the Board:
- A) support the following priorities:
 - 1) the Eastern Busway; and
 - 2) the Airport to Botany Busway project.
- x) in regard to omission from the draft GPS, the Board:
- A) do not support the reduced focus on reducing climate emissions, noting that transport contributes over 43 per cent of Auckland's total emissions, with 86 per cent of this from travel by road.
 - B) note that there is no mention of an Integrated Transport Plan for Auckland (or similar) which has been included in every GPS since 2015. Given Auckland's significant impact on the social, economic and environmental outcomes for the country, it's vital that there is recognition for Tāmaki Makaurau.
- xi) in regard to additional feedback, the Board:
- A) do not support more NZ rivers being dammed for hydro-electric power production however is supportive of more wind farms or additional forms of renewable energy in acceptable locations as an

- alternative for creating additional electricity generation for the country, to future proof for more electric vehicles.
- B) note that the reference to excise duties on fuel being replaced by RUCs in one section whilst excise duties as a way of funding NZTA are still mentioned later in the document. This needs clarification however it may just be a timing issue.

CARRIED

22 Howick Local Board Workshop Records

Resolution number HW/2024/27

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member P Young:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) note the workshop records for the workshops held on 22, 29 February and 7, 14 March.

CARRIED

23 Hōtaka Kaupapa | Governance Forward Work Calendar

Resolution number HW/2024/28

MOVED by Chairperson D Light, seconded by Member P Young:

That the Howick Local Board:

- a) note the Hōtaka Kaupapa included as Attachment A of the agenda report.

CARRIED

24 Te Whakaaro ki ngā Take Pūtea e Autaia ana | Consideration of Extraordinary Items

There was no consideration of extraordinary items.

3.15 pm

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 HOWICK LOCAL BOARD
HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....