
Ōrākei Local Board

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Ōrākei Local Board held in the Ōrākei Local Board Office, 25 St Johns Road, Meadowbank on Thursday, 1 May 2025 at 12:00 pm.

TE HUNGA KUA TAE MAI | PRESENT

Chairperson	Scott Milne, JP
Deputy Chairperson	Sarah Powrie
Members	Troy Churton
	Angus McPhee
	Penny Tucker
	Margaret Voyce

TE HUNGA KĀORE I TAE MAI | ABSENT

David Wong, JP

1 Nau mai | Welcome

Chairperson S Milne welcomed those present with a karakia.

2 Ngā Tamōtanga | Apologies

Resolution number OR/2025/50

MOVED by Chairperson S Milne, seconded by Member M Voyce:

That the Ōrākei Local Board:

- a) **accept the apology from Member David Wong for absence.**

CARRIED

Member P Tucker left the meeting at 12.01pm.

3 Te Whakapuaki i te Whai Pānga | Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Ngā Pakihi Autaia | Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

Member P Tucker returned to the meeting at 12.02pm.

Member A McPhee left the meeting at 12.08pm.

5 Annual Plan 2025-2026: local board consultation feedback and input

Hannah Gropper (Local Board Advisor) was in attendance to speak to the item.
Resolution number OR/2025/51

MOVED by Chairperson S Milne, seconded by Deputy Chairperson S Powrie:

That the Ōrākei Local Board:

- a) **receive consultation feedback on the proposed Ōrākei Local Board priorities and activities for 2025/2026.**
 - i) **note the overall support of respondents for the board direction and priorities.**
 - ii) **note the overwhelming support from respondents for continuation of board activities to improve waterways, water quality and natural environment.**
 - iii) **note the strong support for enhancing neighbourhood connections and increasing safety and emergency preparedness, such as through funding for Neighbourhood Support.**
- b) **confirm progressing investigation of a local targeted rate to maintain and repair seawalls, replenish sand, and extend stormwater outflows further offshore from Tāmaki Yacht Club to Achilles Point as supported in the feedback.**

- c) receive consultation feedback on regional topics in the Annual Plan 2025/2026 from people and organisations based in the Ōrākei Local Board area. Key themes from the feedback included:
 - i) a need for greater investment public transport and infrastructure.
 - ii) support for the bed-night visitor levy for the continuation of major events, noting that events will often require multiple sources of income.
 - iii) dissatisfaction with council costs and perceived wasteful spending.
 - iv) rate increase concerns.
 - v) preference for council to focus on core services.
- d) note that many of the key themes relate to dissatisfaction with council and excessive bureaucracy. The board would like to see more transparency in how budgets are developed, contracts allocated, and money spent.
- e) note that our community are concerned by the relatively low level of the Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC) and the fact that it has not moved in line with the overall rates take increase, and that it is unreasonable for citizens to pay more for council services just based on the value of their property and that an inequity has developed as our area becomes intensified with increased numbers accessing council services.
- f) refer to staff that feedback on changes to fees and charges indicate a low-level of understanding on what was being proposed and that this might provide opportunities for improvement in future consultations.
- g) note that the CCO reform was not included in the consultation. Our community is concerned at the Governing Body's ability to adequately resource those services that have now been brought in house such as economic development, property expertise and major events.
- h) note the continued lack of clarity over future dispensation of Fairer Funding and the potential to disproportionately penalise some local boards over others.
- i) confirm the following advocacy initiatives:
 - i) increased regional investment to waterways and water quality including improved capacity for Engineered Overflow Points, investment into the Waiatarua Reserve stormwater tunnel, the Newmarket Gully project, and more resource into separation from wastewater and stormwater infrastructures.
 - ii) progression of the Meadowbank Community Centre project, including investigation of multiple business models.
 - iii) accountability from finance on providing better and clearer information towards future budgets and allocations. Local boards cannot have certainty in making long-term decisions without reliable advice from staff, including Annual Budget and Fairer Funding.
 - iv) urge the Governing Body to emphasize the need to central government for more discretion over planning and developing bespoke plans for the Auckland region and local board areas.
 - v) urge the Governing Body to increase the UAGC to address an inequity that has developed as the overall rates take has increased and intensification has increased the number of people putting pressure on basic council services.
 - vi) continue to progress the Gowing Drive connection to Te Ara Ki Uta Ki Tai – the Glen Innes to Tāmaki Drive Shared Path, noting that this item is in the Regional Land Transport Plan.

CARRIED

Member A McPhee left the meeting at 12.11pm.

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

There was no consideration of extraordinary items.

12.22 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 ŌRĀKEI LOCAL BOARD
HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....