

Date: Tuesday 20 May 2025
Time: 10.00am
Meeting Room: Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Office
Venue: 1 - 7 The Strand
Takapuna

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board OPEN ATTACHMENTS

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Note: The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.

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**A resident's submission to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board on the issue of Anne's Streets
Trees to be considered by the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board on May 20, 2025.**

Recent incidents involving falls and narrow escapes in Anne Street because of the buckled pavements, exposed tree roots, rotting seed pods and leaf and branch debris are a stark reminder to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board of their duty of care to the public.

Reports from Council officers and responses to Official Information Requests from residents have failed to demonstrate that any risk assessments have been undertaken re human falls. Nor have they addressed Council's liabilities.

Anne Street is a busy urban street that is a pedestrian run to the supermarket and local shopping used by naval personnel, younger flat and boarding house dwellers and more frequently older people and those in mobility scooters.

I would again draw members' attentions to the duty of care placed on local authorities to mitigate known risks such as health and safety risks, and on adverse effects on proximate neighbours as identified by the High Court in 2018 (Plaza Investments Ltd v Queenstown Lakes District Council), a judgment that was not appealed.

Auckland Council's Vegetation in the Road Corridor Guidelines provides that the removal of trees will be considered in some situations including where there are safety issues and on-going damage to infrastructure. There is a continuing risk to human safety and damage to footpath infrastructure.

The last time the DTLB considered residents' requests for the removal of the two nuisance trees, identified as pests in Queensland, some members were persuaded by promises from Restoring Takarunga Hauraki to regularly clean tree debris. The reality is disappointing with residents still having to do the Council's job.

Residents have offered to replace at their own cost the two nuisance trees with appropriate native species as identified by Council arborists as the right trees in the right place at the right time. However, given health and safety issues, it could be considered preferable not to replace the trees if they take footpath space on health and safety grounds

This is a written submission to accompany the residents' deputation and I do not need to speak to it but would ask that it accompany Board papers on this issue.

Dame Judy McGregor.

30/04/2025.

Notice of Motion

Request to rescind the resolution to retain the large trees in Anne Street, Devonport and replace with two more suitable trees:

Submitted on Thursday 24 April, 2025

Attention: Trina Thompson, Local Area Manager, Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

In accordance with Standing Order 2.5, I hereby give notice that I wish to move the following motion at the 20th May, 2025 business meeting of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

Background:

1. Overview

- The **Devonport-Takapuna Local Board** (D-T LB) has been requested by the residents of Anne Street, Devonport to support the removal of 2 x schefflera pueckleri, commonly known as mallet flower trees growing on either side of the roadway. They are half way along the street opposite each other.
- At its business meeting held on 15 August 2023, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board received a Notice of Motion (together with attachments) signed by Member Wood and Member Gavin Busch as seconder. At the same Business Meeting, the local board received a presentation from Peter McNab and the Residents of Anne Street concerning the two trees (Resolution Number DT/2023/145).
- The 'Background' section of the Notice of Motion stated that:
 - the two trees were initially thought to be Queensland Umbrella trees and therefore classified as pest trees under the Regional Pest Management Plan (this identification of the name of the trees has now not correct);
 - the trees were the cause of flooding (because their leaves blocked nearby storm water drains, but also that the storm water drains were not being kept clear);
 - Auckland Council arborists had decided it was inappropriate to remove the trees; and
 - Auckland Transport and Auckland Council did not have formal policies in place for the management of trees along public roads.
- The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board was also provided with a document prepared by Council staff, titled 'Notice of Motion – Supplementary Information'. Link The Supplementary Information noted the following:
 - the role of the Local Board in making decisions to remove street trees;
 - the matters to be considered in making any decision to remove street trees (which include the regional policy framework (including the

Auckland Unitary Plan), local policy framework, the requirements in the Tree Owner Approval guide, specific arboriculture advice, flood management advice, and the estimated cost of removal and replacement of the trees).

- The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board resolved to request: “that the CEO of Auckland Council and the CEO of Auckland Transport be advised we wish to see the two trees growing in Anne Street, Devonport removed and replaced with two suitable native tree species” (Resolution Number DT/2023/147)
- The statutory responsibility for managing and controlling trees on roads is held by Auckland Council and, as a consequence, no action is required from the CEO of Auckland Transport.
- A subsequent report was brought to the D-T LB on 19 March 2024 where the following resolution was passed (Resolution DT /2024/20)
 - a) note the concerns raised by Anne Street residents regarding flooding in this location.
 - b) note that staff recommend retaining the two Anne Street trees as they: contribute to canopy cover, they are rare specimens, and that removal will not rectify the flooding in Anne Street as the street sits in a flood zone.
 - c) note that healthy waters has identified Anne street as a priority location for storm water improvements to address the flooding and that this project may require the removal of the two mallet flower trees that are of concern to residents.
 - d) note that this storm water project will be better understood in July once investigations and design has been completed.
 - e) note that it is not advised to remove the two Anne Street trees to be replaced with two natives in the case that these will need to be removed later as part of the storm water project.
 - f) note that the four existing catchpits on Anne Street have been placed on a ‘hot spot’ register and that cleaning of the grills takes place on a monthly basis.
 - g) note that Restoring Takuranga Hauraki (RTH) have generously offered to work with Anne Street residents and their ecological volunteers to undertake weekly catchpit clearing.
 - h) agree to retain the two trees on Anne Street and to review this decision once Healthy Waters reports back on the extent of the storm water project and the impact the trees are having on flooding on Anne Street.
- The Healthy Waters project is not making progress so there is no understanding as to when this aspect of the 19 March 2024 resolution will be finalised.

2. Further Information:

- An elderly resident of Devonport slipped on the footpath on one of the slimy fig like fruit. This lady was not injured but a local Anne Street resident helped her up and she was able to continue walking home. For the residents of Anne Street this is a real concern and the majority of residents want the trees removed more than ever.
- I have visited Anne Street and found at the time there were a large number of seed pods laying on the road and footpath
- Residents indicate that RTH are not able to be at Anne Street when qualities of leaves and seed pods are accumulated on the footpath and roadway.

3. Next Steps and Actions

- Rescind the motion of 19 March 2024'
- Allow the Anne Street community to put their views forward in relation to the variety of replacement trees;
- Replace the two schefflera pueckleri, commonly known as mallet flower trees with two other trees as per Option One of the report from the 19 March 2024 agenda.

Recommendations:

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) agree under Standing Order 1.10.1, to revoke Resolution number DT/2024/20 of 19 March 2024 in relation to the Decision to remove or retain the trees on Anne Street, Devonport
- b) note that there was uncertainty whether this was a Queensland Umbrella and it transpired that in fact these trees are two schefflera pueckleri, commonly known as mallet flower trees;
- c) note that Healthy Waters has completed the updated final concept design report for stormwater improvements in Devonport and have confirmed that no physical works are planned for Anne Street as part of the flood mitigation project at this time.
- d) request that staff at their earliest opportunity, remove the two Schefflera pueckleri trees even if it means Anne Street may be without trees in the planter area for a period of time;
- e) request that a line item is included in the 2025/2026 Devonport-Takapuna Work Programme for the removal and replacement of the two Anne Street Trees with an agreed budget of \$7,810.

Signature

George Wood

MOVER

Elected Member
Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

Signature

Gavin Busch

SECONDER

Elected Member

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

Attachments: Files from 2023 and 2024

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Attachment A

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board
15 August 2023



Notice of Motion - George Wood - Request to remove trees on
Anne Street, Devonport

File No.: CP2023/11204

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Whakarāpopototanga matua
Executive summary

1. Member George Wood has given notice of a motion that they wish to propose.
2. The notice, signed by Member Wood and Member Gavin Busch as seconder, is appended as Attachment A.

Motion

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) receives this Notice of Motion and its attachments;
- b) notes that Queensland Umbrella trees are included in the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan within the provisions of the powers the Council exercises under the Biosecurity Act; and
- c) requests that the CEO of Auckland Council and the CEO of Auckland Transport be advised we wish to see the two Queensland Umbrella trees growing in Anne Street, Devonport removed and replaced with two suitable native tree species.

Attachment B

Ngā tāpirihanga
Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A 	Notice of Motion - George Wood - Request to remove trees on Anne Street, Devonport	

Ngā kaihaina
Signatories

Author	Henare King - Democracy Advisor
Authoriser	Trina Thompson - Local Area Manager

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Decision to remove or retain the trees on Anne Street,
Devonport

File No.: CP2024/02359

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Te take mō te pūrongo
Purpose of the report

- 1. The purpose of this report is to respond to the Notice of Motion – Request to remove trees on Anne Street, Devonport (Resolution Number DT/2023/147, 15 August 2023) and enable the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board to take a decision on whether to remove the trees.

Whakarāpopototanga matua
Executive summary

- 2. At its Business Meeting on 15 August 2023, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board received a presentation from the residents of Anne Street seeking removal of the two trees. The Board also considered a Notice of Motion (together with attachments) and resolved to request that the CEO of Auckland Council and the CEO of Auckland Transport be advised it wished to see the two trees growing in Anne Street, Devonport, be removed and replaced with two suitable native tree species.
- 3. A number of factors are important in making the decision, including Regional Policy Direction; Local Policy Direction; Tree Owner Approval; Specific Arborist Advice; Healthy Waters considerations; the estimated cost of removal/replacement and Māori/community views.
- 4. After careful consideration of these factors, staff recommend retaining the two trees as outlined in this report. The reasons for this relate to the contribution of the existing trees to canopy cover, the rare nature of the tree species and Healthy Waters' advice that the removal of the trees will not rectify the flooding in the street. Healthy Waters refers to the street's location within a flood zone and considers that the prospect of flooding will remain even with the removal of the trees.
- 5. Opting to replace the trees with approximately eight native trees could potentially enhance the canopy cover on the street, resulting in a positive outcome. However, if the objective is to prevent flooding, staff advise against removing the trees, as per advice from Healthy Waters, which indicates that tree removal would not mitigate flooding in the area.
- 6. If, contrary to staff advice, the local board decides to remove the trees, then staff recommend the Local Board replace the trees with eight natives to maintain the same level of canopy cover. The costs of removal and replacement would also need to be funded by the Local Board from its Locally Driven Initiatives (LDI) CAPEX budget.

Attachment C

Ngā tūtohunga
Recommendation/s

That the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board:

- a) note the concerns raised by Anne Street residents, correspondence received from the Tree Council and information provided in this report;
- b) note the advice provided by Healthy Waters that the two trees on Anne Street in Devonport do not cause or exacerbate flooding in the area;
- c) agree to retain the two trees on Anne Street.

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Horopaki Context

7. At its business meeting held on 15 August 2023, the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board received a Notice of Motion (together with attachments) signed by Member Wood and Member Gavin Busch as seconder.
8. At the same Business Meeting, the local board received a presentation from Peter McNab and the Residents of Anne Street concerning the two trees (Resolution Number DT/2023/145).
9. The 'Background' section of the Notice of Motion stated that:
 - the two trees were Queensland Umbrella trees and therefore classified as pest trees under the Regional Pest Management Plan;
 - the trees were the cause of flooding (because their leaves blocked nearby stormwater drains, but also that the stormwater drains were not being kept clear);
 - Auckland Council arborists had decided it was inappropriate to remove the trees; and
 - Auckland Transport and Auckland Council did not have formal policies in place for the management of trees in roads.
10. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board was also provided with a document prepared by Council staff, titled 'Notice of Motion – Supplementary Information'. [Link](#) The Supplementary Information noted the following:
 - the role of the Local Board in making decisions to remove street trees;
 - the matters to be considered in making any decision to remove street trees (which include the regional policy framework (including the Auckland Unitary Plan), local policy framework, the requirements in the Tree Owner Approval guide, specific arboriculture advice, flood management advice, and the estimated cost of removal and replacement of the trees).
11. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board resolved to request: "that the CEO of Auckland Council and the CEO of Auckland Transport be advised we wish to see the two trees growing in Anne Street, Devonport removed and replaced with two suitable native tree species" (Resolution Number DT/2023/147)
12. The statutory responsibility for managing and controlling trees on roads is held by Auckland Council and, as a consequence, no action is required from the CEO of Auckland Transport.

Tātaritanga me ngā tohutohu Analysis and advice

13. Staff have identified three reasonably practicable options for the future of the trees: retaining them, removing and replacing the two trees on a one-for-one basis, or removing and replacing them with eight new trees.

Table 1

Consideration	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Intervention options	Removal of the two trees and replacing with two alternative native trees.	Removal of the two trees and replacing with eight alternative native trees.	Status quo – retention of the two trees.

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Consideration	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Approximate cost	Removal of two trees including traffic control \$1,500 Tree purchase and tree planting \$1,000 (\$500 per tree) Two-year aftercare maintenance \$1,000 (\$500 per tree) Possibility of engineering costs (alignment of kerbing) \$3,000 Total \$3,500 - \$6,500	Removal of two trees including traffic control \$1,500 Creation of engineered tree pits \$200,000 to \$400,000 (\$25,000 to \$50,000 per tree) Tree purchase and tree planting \$4,000 (\$500 per tree) Two-year aftercare maintenance \$4,000 (\$500 per tree) Total \$209,500 to \$409,500	Total \$0
Tree canopy cover	The area could be planted with shade-providing trees that have the potential to develop a larger canopy than the current trees. While this strategy promises a positive long-term outcome, it's important to note that the street will experience a temporary depletion of canopy cover until the new trees reach maturity.	Replacing the two trees with eight shade-providing trees will, in a relatively short span, confer similar ecosystem benefits to the local environment as the existing trees currently offer.	The current species (<i>Schefflera pueckleri</i>) is relatively rare (there are only three other known locations where this species grows in the Auckland Region) and mentioned in a book called Auckland's Remarkable Urban Forest by Mike Wilcox.
Canopy loss	Initially, the street would experience a reduction of 99 square meters in tree canopy. Staff estimate that it would take approximately 20-30 years for the newly planted trees to reach this level of canopy coverage.	Initially, the street would experience a reduction of 99 square meters in tree canopy. Staff estimates that it would take approximately five to 10 years for the newly planted trees to reach this level of canopy coverage.	No canopy loss.
Flooding	The presence or absence of the two trees is not anticipated to have a noticeable positive effect on flooding in the area.	The presence or absence of the two trees is not anticipated to have a noticeable positive effect on flooding in the area. However, it	The retention of the trees is not anticipated to be causing or exacerbating flooding in the area.

Decision to remove or retain the trees on Anne Street, Devonport

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Attachment C

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Consideration	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
		is expected that the introduction of eight new trees would impede the rapid flow of rainwater to the ground, potentially mitigating the impact of flooding.	

Framework relating to decisions about tree removal

Regional documents

14. At a regional level, there are several key plans and policies that provide direction for the management of street trees:
- Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part): Chapter E17. Trees in roads [Link](#)
 - Te Rautaki Ngāhere ā-Tāone o Tāmaki Makaurau: Auckland's Urban Ngāhere (Forest) Strategy [Link](#)
 - Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan [Link](#)
 - the Vegetation in the Road Corridor Guidelines [Link](#)
15. The Auckland Unitary Plan is a statutory plan made under the Resource Management Act 1991 ('RMA').
16. The Objectives and Policies of Chapter E17 'Trees in roads' provide for the protection of trees in roads that contribute to cultural, amenity, landscape and ecological values and an increase in the quality and extent of tree cover. This is to be balanced against the safe and efficient development, maintenance, operation and upgrading of the transport system and road network.
17. The Activity Table in Chapter E17 provides that the removal of any tree greater than 4m in height or greater than 400mm in girth in a road requires a restricted discretionary resource consent.
- Measurement of the trees has established that the larger of the trees is greater than 4m in height and both are greater than 400mm in girth. Therefore, removal of these trees will require a restricted discretionary resource consent.
18. Protecting mature, healthy trees is one of the principles of Auckland's Urban Ngāhere (Forest) Strategy. Auckland's Climate Plan also requires Council to ensure that publicly managed trees are not removed without clear justification.
- The Vegetation in the Road Corridor Guidelines provide that trees will not generally be removed from the road corridor to preserve views, remove shading or for the control of leaf litter. Removal of trees will be considered in some situations including when there are safety issues and on-going damage to infrastructure.

Local Policy Direction

19. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Plan 2023 includes an objective that "Canopy coverage is increased". Key initiatives of the Local Plan 2023 are to "Continue to support the delivery of the Devonport-Takapuna Urban Ngāhere Strategy" and "Support focus on appropriate planting and having the principle of having the right tree in the right place." One of the measures of success is "Our existing trees are protected, and our canopy cover continues to increase". [Link](#)

Tree Owner Approval

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board
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Attachment C

20. The Council Tree Owner Approval Guide [Link](#) states: "Decisions regarding removal of healthy, functioning street trees are made on a case by case basis by an Urban Forest Specialist. In determining whether the removal of a healthy tree is warranted, council will consider:
- The significance of the vegetation;
 - Whether the species of the tree is appropriate for its location, and whether it is a nuisance species tree;
 - Whether the tree's crown, stem or root growth habit has developed in a manner that would prevent continued healthy growth or is negatively impacting on other tree(s);
 - The impact of removal and replanting on the neighbourhood streetscape and the public benefit.
21. Below is a brief analysis of the matters referred to in the Tree Owner Approval Guide:
- The significance of the vegetation;
 - The two trees hold significance from a rarity perspective, being documented in the book 'Auckland's Remarkable Urban Forest' by Mike Wilcox. They are reasonably rare, with only three other known locations where this species grows in the Auckland Region. Considering the absence of any other trees on the street, the local canopy loss is also deemed significant from this perspective.
 - Whether the species of the tree is appropriate for its location, and whether it is a nuisance species tree;
 - The perception among some residents that the tree is causing flooding was not substantiated by Healthy Waters, who advised that the street, being in a flood plain, is expected to flood with or without the presence of the trees. In terms of the appropriateness of retaining the trees, it's noteworthy that the street lacks any other public trees, and canopy cover is essential to provide multiple benefits. Additionally, the tree in question is not listed as a pest in the Regional Pest Management Plan.
 - Whether the tree's crown, stem or root growth habit has developed in a manner that would prevent continued healthy growth or is negatively impacting on other tree(s);
 - Both trees are in good health and are not anticipated to pose any threats to infrastructure. There are no other trees.
 - The impact of removal and replanting on the neighborhood streetscape and the public benefit.
 - The removal of the two trees would result in a canopy loss of 99 square meters of tree canopy. Depending on the replacement planting choice, this canopy would be replaced in 20-30 years (if only two trees are planted) or in 5-10 years if eight trees are planted. The initial loss of the tree canopy will result in hotter road and footpath surface.

Specific Arborist Advice – Anne Street

22. The tree species are 2 x *Schefflera pueckleri*, commonly known as mallet flower. The previous identification of the species as *Schefflera actinophylla* (Queensland Umbrella) was incorrect. The actual (correct species) is not listed in the Regional Pest Management Plan.
23. The trees on Anne Street are mentioned in a book called *Auckland's Remarkable Urban Forest* by Mike Wilcox and are reasonably rare (there are only three other known locations where this species grows in the Auckland Region).
24. Both trees are mature and healthy trees. They are currently the only street trees in Anne Street and provide ecosystem benefits, including shading of the road surface, rain interception (slowing rain getting into the stormwater system), stormwater uptake (removing moisture from soils), carbon sequestration, air pollutant removal, oxygen production and bird habitat.



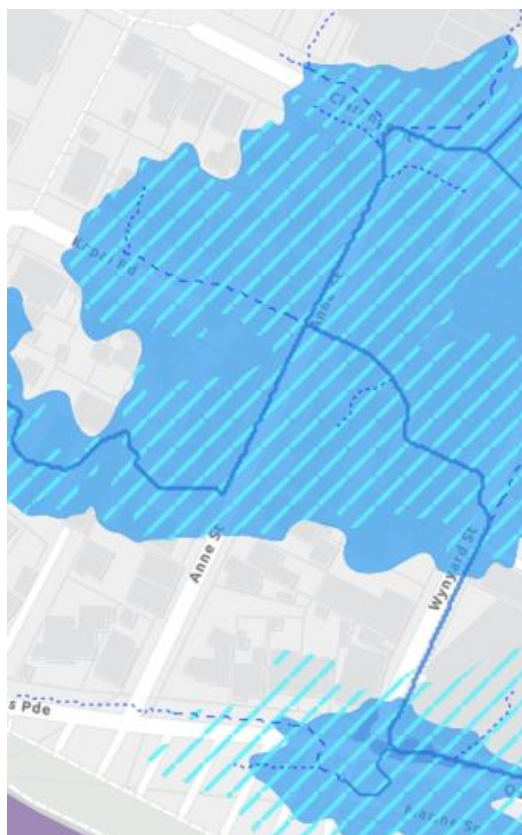
25. The existing trees have a combined canopy cover of 99m² (44m², 55m²).
26. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board area currently has a canopy cover of 16%, however one of the goals in the Auckland's Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy being to achieve 30% across the region by 2050. Removal of these trees will set back the achievement of that goal.
27. If a decision is made to remove the two trees in this street, in order to maintain the current progress toward achieving the canopy cover goal, it is recommended that funding be allocated to construct eight new tree pits in Anne Street to accommodate eight new large-grade trees.
28. This will provide, in a relatively short space of time, similar ecosystem benefits to the local environment that the existing trees provide. It is noted that the Local Board resolution (DT/2023/147) referred to two suitable native tree species. In order to provide the same benefits that the existing trees give, 8 trees will be required to replace the two existing mature trees.

Healthy Waters Considerations – Anne Street

29. Healthy Waters advise that flooding in the area will occur with or without the trees being present. The area has been classified as a flood plain (areas predicted to be covered by flood water during large rainfall events).
30. Anne Street is a low-lying street not much higher than the sea level, with a stormwater system that disperses into the sea. There is no permeable surface in Anne Street (except the tree pits), meaning that rainfall does not soak into the ground and has to run off into the stormwater system. When it is high tide, stormwater cannot flow into the sea, causing flooding during rain events.

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Attachment C

31. Healthy Waters advise that there are currently four catchpits outside 14 Anne Street and these catchpits have been placed on a 'hotspot cleaning register', which is the highest frequency available for catchpit cleaning.
32. This means Healthy Waters will clean the catchpit grills routinely once a month, as well as, before and after any heavy rain event. Healthy Waters anticipates that this will help decrease flooding frequency. However it will not remove the risk of the grills being re-blocked (when new debris, for example, washes onto the grills during a weather event).
33. Healthy Waters has also identified that the pipework in this area needs upgrading taking increased rainfall due to climate change and sea level rise into consideration, and their project team are currently in the early planning stages for a network improvement to increase pipe capacity. This is, however, only at a very early stage that involves assessing options.
34. Healthy Waters are currently in concept design (investigating options) for Anne Street, Huia Street, Spring Street, Queens parade, Garden Terrace, Kapai Road, Wynyard Street and Clarence Street and anticipates to be able to share the results in July 2024.

Community views

35. As noted above, at its 15 August 2023 meeting, the Local Board received a presentation from Peter McNab and the Residents of Anne Street concerning their desire to have the two trees removed. The Notice of Motion also included several media articles expressing local resident views.
36. On 24 August 2023, the Local Board received a letter from The Tree Council in response to the notice of motion regarding the removal of two street trees on Anne Street. The Tree Council strongly opposes the removal of the two trees and highlights several inaccuracies in

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the evidence presented. The identified trees, described as Queensland Umbrella Trees, are clarified as Umbrella Trees (were *Schefflera pueckleri* now *Heptapleurum calyptratum*), emphasizing their rarity and regional importance. The letter disputes claims that these trees are causing flooding, arguing that Anne Street is naturally flood-prone due to its low-lying location and stormwater drainage issues. The Tree Council underscores Auckland Council's policies, including the Urban Ngahere Strategy, which encourages increased canopy coverage. Removal of these mature trees would diminish the current canopy coverage in the area, necessitating costly replanting efforts. Additionally, the letter notes legal protections for street trees under the Unitary Plan and Resource Management Act, emphasizing the public support for urban tree protection. The Tree Council urges the Local Board to reconsider its decision, emphasizing the myriad benefits provided by the trees, and requests the Council's Asset Manager to consider these factors in the decision-making process.

37. From its regular community engagement, Auckland Council is aware that many in the community value mature trees and support their protection where possible.

Tauākī whakaaweawe āhuarangi
Climate impact statement

38. Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan supports the protection of important trees and seeks to ensure that publicly managed trees are not removed without clear justification.¹ Auckland's Climate Plan also supports Auckland's Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy.

39. The tree removal can be mitigated by the planting of eight new native trees in Anne Street.

Ngā whakaaweawe me ngā tirohanga a te rōpū Kaunihera
Council group impacts and views

40. The Auckland Council group has a well-developed strategic framework and set of policies that guide decision-making when considering the potential removal of mature trees, including:

- a. the Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in part): Chapter E17. Trees in roads;
- b. Te Rautaki Ngahere ā-Tāone o Tāmaki Makaurau: Auckland's Urban Ngahere (Forest) Strategy;
- c. Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan; and the Vegetation in the Road Corridor Guidelines.

41. These Auckland Council group strategies and policies have been considered by the Community Facilities staff when making the recommendation in this report.

Ngā whakaaweawe ā-rohe me ngā tirohanga a te poari ā-rohe
Local impacts and local board views

42. The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Plan 2023 includes an objective that "Canopy coverage is increased". Key initiatives of the Local Plan 2023 are to "Continue to support the delivery of the Devonport-Takapuna Urban Ngahere Strategy" and "Support focus on appropriate planting and the principle of having the right tree in the right place." One of the measures of success is "Our existing trees are protected, and our canopy cover continues to increase".

43. These Local Board Plans have been considered as part of the decision-making.

Tauākī whakaaweawe Māori
Māori impact statement

44. At this point, no consultation has been undertaken with iwi. If the decision is made to remove the two trees then the engagement with Mana Whenua would unfold as part of the resource consent application process (resource consent is required for removal of the two trees).

¹At pages 66, 134

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board
19 March 2024

Devonport-Takapuna
Local Board
Auckland Council

Ngā ritenga ā-pūtea Financial implications

45. In the 'Notice of Motion – Supplementary Information' Link it was initially estimated it would cost approximately \$3,500 to remove the two trees (including stump removals) and approximately \$45,000 to replace the trees.
46. Following a comprehensive analysis, the staff has revisited the costings and presented updated estimates, categorized by the necessity for engineering intervention. The detailed cost breakdown is outlined in table one. The projected cost for the removal of the two trees and replanting in the same spots, without engineering intervention, is estimated at \$3,500. However, if engineering intervention becomes necessary, the costs would escalate based on the number of required tree pits. The construction cost for one tree pit is anticipated to range between \$25,000 and \$50,000, contingent upon underground conditions such as the presence of underground services.
47. As the request to remove the trees is being made by the Local Board, the costs of removal and replacement would also need to be funded by the Local Board from its Locally Driven Initiatives (LDI) CAPEX budget.

Ngā raru tūpono me ngā whakamaurutanga Risks and mitigations

48. There is a likelihood that a decision to either remove or retain the trees will attract the attention of members of public. This risk will be mitigated by prior communications and additional measures to engage with the community.
49. The risk of the street flooding during floods remains present whether the trees stay or are removed due to the presence of the street in a flood plain. Some review of the improvements that could be made may be warranted although this would need to be assessed by the Healthy Waters Department in consideration of regional priorities.

Ngā koringa ā-muri Next steps

50. Following the local board's decision, staff will advise residents of the decision.
51. If a decision is taken to remove the trees, staff will need to engage with Mana Whenua and obtain resource consent (pending Mana Whenua feedback).

Ngā tāpirihanga Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Ngā kaihaina Signatories

Author	David Stejskal, Regional Arboriculture and Ecological Manager
Authorisers	Martin van Jaarsveld, Head of Specialist Operations Trina Thompson - Local Area Manager





Road Safety Improvements

Sunset Road, Sycamore Drive & Ramp Road

13th March 2024

Think
before
you print

Agenda

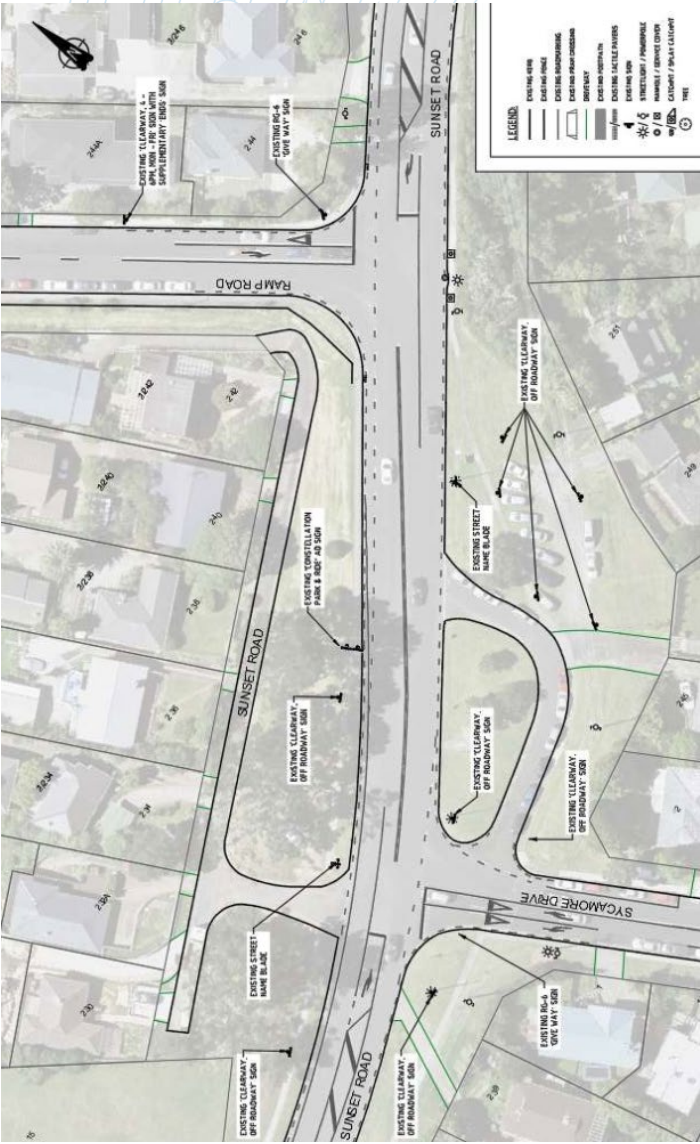
- 1. Investigation
- 2. Crash History
- 3. Optioneering
- 4. Next steps



Investigation

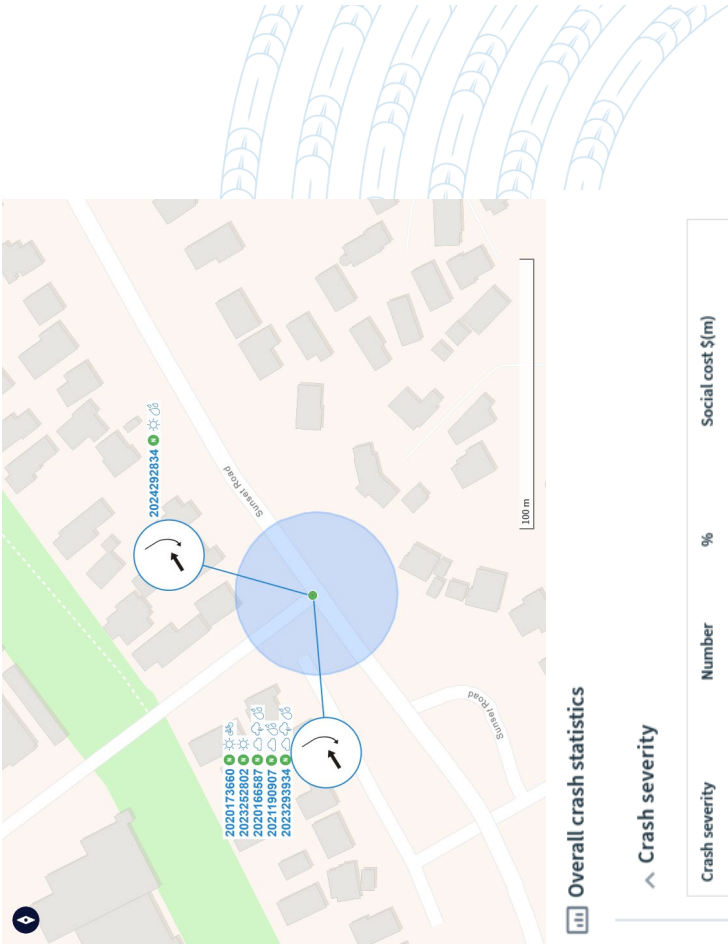
Average Annual Daily Traffic

- Sunset Road – 11,065
- Sycamore Drive – 5,507
- Ramp Road – 8,761



5 Year Crash History Sunset / Ramp

- All crashes were non-injury severity crashes.



Crash severity	Number	%	Social cost \$(m)
Fatal	0	0.00	0.00
Serious	0	0.00	0.00
Minor-injury	0	0.00	0.00
Non-injury	6	100.00	0.28
TOTAL	6	100.00	0.28



