

Whau bridge to connect New Lynn and Waterview

A new 80 metre bridge that will connect New Lynn and Waterview is part of a proposal for a walk and cycle shared path beside the rail corridor.

The bridge will cross the Whau just south of Portage Road and will be a key link in the shared path, which is part of a regional network of walk and cycle paths. The board has allocated \$2m towards the project with the balance coming from transport funding.

Board chair Catherine Farmer says the path is a much-needed local asset.

"A key priority of our recently adopted local board plan is ensuring Whau is well served by public transport, walkways and cycleways, ensuring that we can get to key places locally in 20 minutes."

Once funding is finalised, work on the bridge is scheduled to start before the end of 2015 and is expected to be completed by October 2016.



From left: Whau Local Board members Susan Zhu (deputy chair), Seumanu Simon Matafai, Catherine Farmer (chair) and Ruby Manukia-Schaumkel at the site of the proposed bridge, which will run alongside the rail bridge.

Greenways projects move ahead

The Local Board is moving forward on five projects from the Neighbourhood Greenways Plan.

- 1. Footpath construction at Craigavon Park:** will provide an essential link through Craigavon Park directly to Sister Rene Shadbolt Park and to existing trails in both parks. The next step is producing a detailed design of the track during January. Construction is expected to be completed by the end of March.
- 2. Greenways route from Holly St to Heron Park:** will create a link between Rosebank Road and Great North Road for school children and walkers and provide a recreational route. Next steps are working through preliminary concept designs with the Albert-Eden Local Board followed by more widespread community engagement next year.
- 3. Miranda Reserve connections:** will connect the proposed cycle routes between Wolverton/Tiverton streets and Blockhouse Bay Road with a link through from Busby Street. Next steps are consulting with the public on a concept plan before developing a more detailed design.
- 4. Rizal Reserve to Riverbank Road footbridge:** will provide better connections between Avondale and New Lynn. Next steps are consulting with stakeholders on a concept plan before developing a detailed design.
- 5. Riversdale Reserve perimeter footpath:** Next steps are developing a concept plan followed by community engagement.

You can view the draft Whau greenways plan at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/whau under Whau plans, agreements and reports.



Catherine Farmer, Board chair; Siyong Diao, Chairman Auckland Environmental Protection Association and Susan Zhu, Board Deputy Chair at the garden opening.

A new friendship garden opens in New Lynn

A new garden is blooming and has transformed the weed-filled waste land between Clark Street bridge and the New Lynn Community Centre car park. The garden is a great example of how a community group, in this case people from the Chinese community, with financial support from the local board and by working with other organisations such as Auckland Environment Protection Association and Gardens 4 Health can achieve a great result.

Board Chair Catherine Farmer says, "Our little garden with a big heart - He Māra Riki, He Manawa Nui - is a bright and colourful oasis right here in the street for everyone to enjoy."

At the garden opening last month, 50 guests celebrated the many great communities that make up the Whau. The board would like to see this project used as a blueprint for future community gardens.

Pick-up basketball coming to West Auckland

Spark, Steven Adams and the board announced in October that they are building a pick-up basketball court in Avondale Central Reserve.

The court at Avondale Central Reserve is a sister court to the Downtown Courts OKC in the United States and Steven Adams' local blacktop. The Avondale Court is one of five that Spark is building across the Auckland region, with others in Otamariki Park, Victoria Park, Pt England Reserve and Hooton Reserve.

Each new court will be a Spark WiFi hotspot, and as part of The Boroughs project, Spark is developing new interactive technology for the courts that will be unveiled early next year.

For updates visit: theboroughs.co.nz



Thumbs up for multisport courts at Brains Park

The new multisport courts at Brains Park, Kelston opened in the October school holidays to a big thumbs up from local youth. The board allocated \$350,000 for the project, which included installing volleyball, tennis and basketball courts, two futsal courts and a three-quarter sized football pitch.

Other work included resurfacing the artificial turf, and adding new fencing, footpaths and lighting. The courts will be used for training by West Auckland AFC in winter, and will be available for community use during summer.

Loving our new lane

The final section of the shared public space network at New Lynn's Merchant Quarter development is complete.

McCorquindale Lane, which connects Totara Avenue to McCrae Way, officially opened in September. It provides a new street frontage for the Mexicali Fresh restaurant, as well as a new vehicle and pedestrian connection to the new Totara Health Services building, McCrae Way apartments, New Lynn Library and the McCrae Way car parking building.

"McCorquindale Lane is the final piece public infrastructure investment in New Lynn's Merchant Quarter," says Catherine Farmer.

"But while the opening marks the end of a significant capital programme started in 2008 with the undergrounding of the rail line, it is just the beginning of New Lynn's journey to attract further private investment and realise its potential as a leading metropolitan centre."



Three lucky winners (clockwise from the top) are Larissa Kalike (Kelston), Dinesh Patel (New Lynn) and Gina Goodhue (Glendene) seen here with their loads of clean wood from Sparrows Firewood.



Whau Arts Festival activates Avondale spaces

The inaugural Whau Arts Festival was a fantastic success with over 800 people attending the three day event. Opened by Mayor Len Brown during Artweek 2014, the idea for the festival came from Whau the People, a non-profit arts collective and was sponsored by the board. Whau the People encouraged local artists to activate the vacant spaces in Avondale through poetry photography, visual art, sculptural installation, theatre and music.

Arts and creativity get a boost

A new contract supported by the board will promote arts and creativity in the Whau. The 2015 programme is being developed and will support arts activities and temporary events. Get updates and share your knowledge of arts activity in your neighbourhood by following 'Arts Whau' on Facebook or Twitter.

Let's clear the air winners and Proposed Air Quality Bylaw

The board sponsored a Let's clear the air competition which helped raise awareness about the importance of burning clean wood.

Board Chair Catherine Farmer says that air quality is an issue when people light fires to keep warm. "On cold days our air is heavy with wood smoke which harms us and our environment. Next year the new proposed air quality bylaw will be out for consultation. The future bylaw tackles Auckland's air pollution and will regulate the use and installation of open fire places and pre-2005 wood burners."

Auckland Council will consult with the government on the impact on Aucklanders of implementing the proposed bylaw to achieve the standards set by the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality. Further information will be available early in 2015.



Board Member Ruby Manukia-Schaumkel seen here with Reverend Palu Parent on her left and Matoto Fonua, Akoteu Vaevae Manava Trust Board Chair, at the Vaevae Manava Tongan Preschool in Kelston during Tongan Language Week in September. The theme Fakakoloa 'o Aotearoa 'aki 'etau Lea mo e Hiva Faka-tonga means Enrich Aotearoa with our Tongan Language, culture, dance, songs and heritage.



Utility boxes get a design makeover

An important outcome from the local board plan is cherishing Whau's local arts, heritage and culture. A fun way is through the bright and colourful artworks created by four artists and displayed on eight utility boxes all over the Whau. Passers-by are enjoying the many different designs which showcase the area's history and cultural diversity.

Jeremy Shirley's new design (pictured above) can be seen at Clark Street. It depicts New Lynn as a centre of growth with ambition and a multi-cultural heart. His earlier design which showcases the area's clothing manufacturing history can be seen at Cambridge Lane.

Local Board Plan now available online

The Whau Local Board Plan 2014 is now available online. You can download it from the Auckland Council website at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz under Whau plans, agreements and reports.

Events

Indian Kite Festival

Avondale Racecourse
Saturday, 17 January 2015

Movies in Parks

X-Men: Days of Future Past (M)

Brains Park, Kelston
Saturday, 7 February
7pm-10.30pm (Movie starts at approximately 8.30pm)

Music in Parks

Midge Marsden supported by Rick Byrant and the Jive Bombers and The William Brown Band

Blockhouse Bay Beach Reserve
Friday, 21 February, 6pm-9.30pm

Movies in Parks

Get on Up (M)

Riversdale Reserve, Avondale
Saturday, 28 February
6.30pm-10pm (Movie starts at approximately 8.30pm)





Movies in Parks combines with the annual Rhythm at Riversdale event. Be sure to be there early to enjoy the food stalls and live entertainment by local bands.

Whau Day Out

Eastdale Reserve
Saturday 21 March 2015

Feel free to join us at any upcoming Whau Local Board meetings.
For details please go to aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/whau or visit [facebook.com/WhauLB](https://www.facebook.com/WhauLB)

Find out more:

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