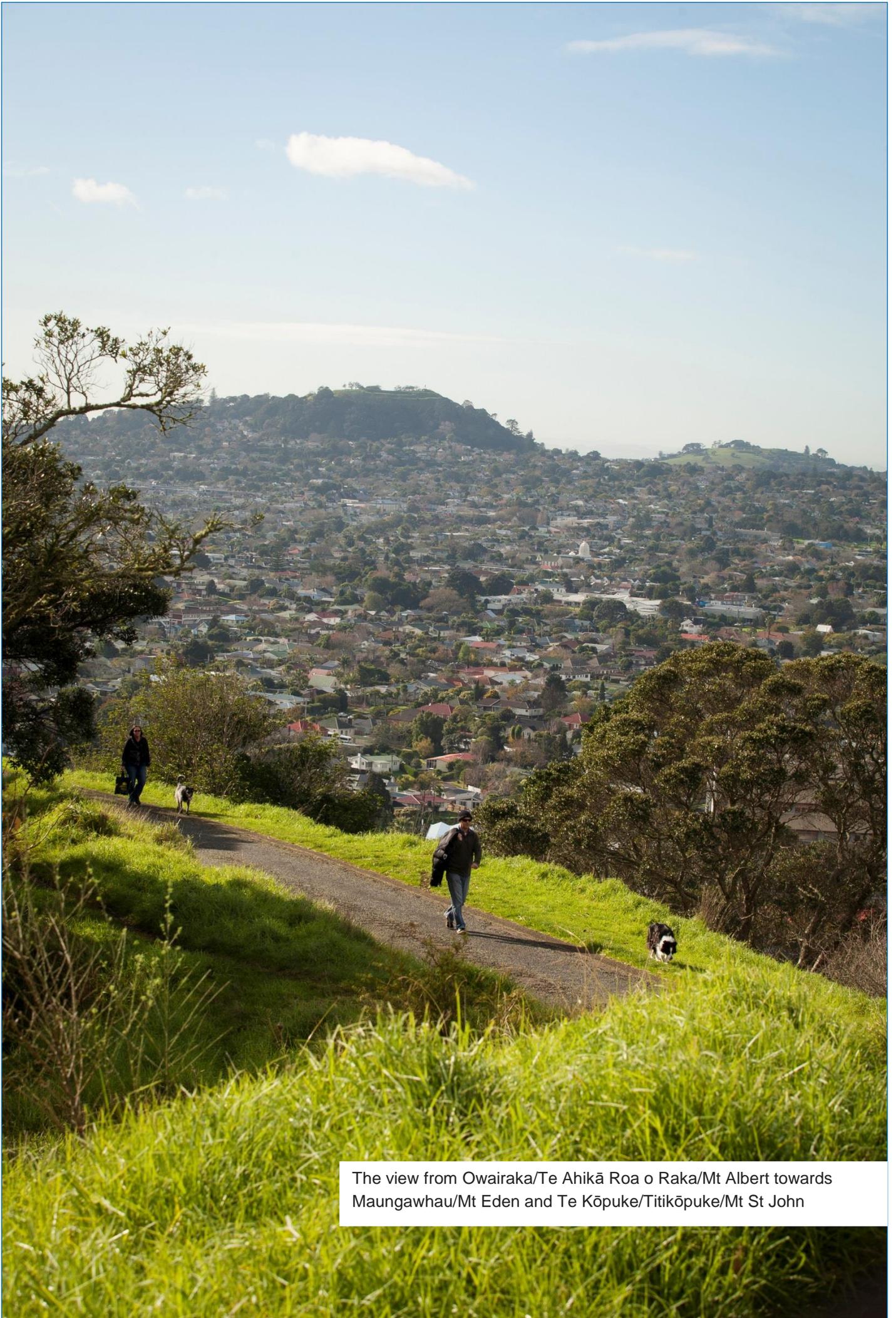


# Albert-Eden Local Board Progress and Achievements Report

July 2016-December 2017





The view from Owairaka/Te Ahikā Roa o Raka/Mt Albert towards Maungawhau/Mt Eden and Te Kōpuke/Titikōpuke/Mt St John

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On the cover: Performers at the Albert-Eden Schools Cultural Festival 2017

## 1 Message from the chair



The Albert-Eden community continues to thrive, bringing a richness of diversity and culture for us to celebrate. As we approach the end of the first half of the electoral term, it is an appropriate time to reflect and celebrate the significant achievements we've made together over the last 18 months. This report outlines how we've given life to the 2014 local board plan, building on those foundations to produce the 2017 local board plan.

Some of our key achievements include:

- starting construction of the Mt Albert town centre streetscape upgrade
- running a number of events to bring together our community, including Carols at Potters Park, Albert-Eden Schools Cultural Festival, Movies in Parks and Music in Parks, Anzac Day services and citizenship ceremonies
- upgrading the sports fields at Gribblehirst Park and Nixon Park to a hybrid turf, and completing comprehensive redevelopment at Potters Park, Sandringham Reserve, Eric Armishaw Reserve and Heron Park
- holding the second Albert-Eden Business Awards to celebrate the contributions our businesses make to the local economy
- approving a site design for the Central Community Recycling Centre in Western Springs, which will provide the public with a centralised point to drop off reusable and recyclable items, and learn about waste reduction and sustainable practices
- completing a heritage rock wall identification and condition assessment study. This information will enable us to prioritise funding for maintaining and protecting this heritage
- completing traffic calming, pathways and lighting in the board area using our Transport Capital Fund.

Adopting the Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017 was a highlight of this 18-month period. We received over 1000 submissions on the draft version, and we thank you for taking the time to give us your feedback. We are proud to have such an engaged community and have taken on your feedback when finalising the document.

The next 18 months will be as busy as ever, and we look forward to working with you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Haynes', written in a cursive style.

Peter Haynes

Chair – Albert-Eden Local Board

## 2 Albert-Eden Local Board members



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### 3 Achievements

The Albert-Eden Local Board continues to work hard to set the direction and priorities for our board area identified during the development of our local board plan. We work closely with Auckland Council and council-controlled organisations staff who deliver the board's work programme, projects and initiatives. The board's six priorities are all designed to contribute towards the betterment of our community and to making Albert-Eden a great place to live, work, visit and play.

The six identified priorities outlined in the Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2014 are:

- Proud, connected and secure communities.
- A better and bigger range of recreational experiences.
- Thriving town centres and a growing local economy.
- A community that values its environment.
- Our heritage is cherished and protected.
- People can move safely and easily around Albert-Eden.

This report summarises the board's key achievements from July 2016 to December 2017.

During this time the local government elections resulted in two new board members, and the thorough process of updating our local board plan. We have built on the foundations laid in the 2011 and 2014 versions, and our vision and priorities for the Albert-Eden area continue. You can read more about our new local board plan at [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/alberteden](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/alberteden).

## 4 Proud, connected and secured communities

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Our people are connected to their communities, have a sense of pride and belonging and are involved in the future of our area.

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The Auckland Council-wide change to a community-led approach is embedding. As a board we continue to enable communities to be empowered: providing access to support and resources, and the opportunity to learn new skills. This means you can design and deliver what you want and need in your community.

Many projects are delivered by our amazing network of volunteers or volunteer organisations, who make a valuable contribution by providing social services, works in parks, caring for our streams or delivering events.

We have a diverse mix of people in our area, made up of increasing numbers of young people, elders, migrants and people with all levels of ability. Celebrating this diversity highlights the richness it brings to our community and increases connection, involvement and belonging.

The 2017 local board plan continues to acknowledge the importance of this theme under the outcome 'Albert-Eden has a strong sense of community'.

### Community empowerment

The board supports groups in a number of ways: networking and connection opportunities, advice, capacity building, process support and grants. A challenge we face is how to maintain ongoing relationships with and support for groups, and what tailored support is required to enable groups to thrive.

The board has funded a community-led place-making project in Pt Chevalier. The aim is to spark a positive response to local community concerns about antisocial behaviour and safety in the Pt Chevalier town centre, and was developed in collaboration with key stakeholders to implement a collective vision for a vibrant and inclusive town centre. The project is gaining momentum and we look forward to the next phase of town centre activation and community involvement.

An ongoing community-led project is Gribblehirst Community Hub and Auckland Central Community Shed. These two groups hold community leases in a building in Gribblehirst Park, Sandringham, and have established themselves as hubs of creativity, learning and skill-sharing.

The board has supported the Albert-Eden Youth Board, which has undertaken recruitment and induction of new members, held a successful 'Speakers' Corner' of community leaders and delivered a youth postcard campaign to support engagement on the draft local board plan.

Safety is a concern which has increased in importance over the past few years. The board has supported a migrant leaders' forum to bring together community and business leaders from a cross-section of Asian communities in Balmoral/Mt Roskill, working with the NZ Police Asian liaison officer and the Puketāpapa Local Board.

The board has funded local activities and services through our contestable community grants programme, and provided accommodation funding support for venue hire.

Grants go towards a range of community, art and culture, sport and recreation, and environmental projects. These two grants programmes combined provide over \$250,000 of funding annually for community groups, and are an important way the board supports grass-roots projects. In the 2016/2017 financial year almost 100 groups were successful in receiving funding. The board is reviewing how we allocate our funding, focusing on reaching groups who are unaware of our programme and providing guidance to unsuccessful applicants.

One example of a project funded through the community grants programme is the Mt Albert Inc website, developed by the Mt Albert Residents Association (MARA). It is a neighbourhood website featuring Mt Albert news and community information on the suburb's history and the issues that impact on daily life.

Local filmmaking student Yung Chen working with filmmaker Hank Snell on three short films for the project Mind You.



The board has also partnered with groups by providing funding towards the following community-led events:

- Brazilian Day Festival, January 2017
- Crave Cafe Street party, March 2017
- Sandringham Street Festival, October 2016 and 2017
- Big Gay Out, February 2017
- Neighbours Day Aotearoa, March 2017.

One of our challenges is supporting the capacity of community groups to deliver events. We are looking to partner with more groups, to support community events in our area.

## Diversity

The board has focused on celebrating diversity and fostering unity in our community. This focus has affected our work in many areas, such as working with migrant groups applying for community grants funding, increasing migrant business capacity, and greater involvement of migrant businesses in the Albert-Eden Business Awards.

Completing research on how to enable inclusion and diversity is helping us inform future programming. We are already progressing research on parks and open space as places of community engagement, setting up a project on small enterprise mentoring and development for ethnic women, and working with local artists to develop a project to raise awareness of the diverse experience of mental health.

## Arts and culture

The board is proud to support art and culture in the community, and recognises their value in fostering identity and pride, and building relationships. Increasing the capability of our talented artists adds to the skills and knowledge within our community. The board continues to support the arts brokers to work directly with local artists, and has now also moved to a three-year funding agreement to enable longer-term thinking and planning.

The arts brokers have added mentoring and capability-growing to their work, along with curating a series of community-led art projects, such as:

- Bloom: A group of residents, associated with SPiCE (Sandringham Project in Community Empowerment), came together with Edendale School to create a large floral sculpture. Thousands of flowers were threaded together to create a striking floral installation in a tree in Sandringham Reserve.
- Creative Kids on Air: Ronnie Mackie and his team of schoolchildren put together five 15-minute radio shows for the children's radio show That's The Story. Ronnie taught the children how to plan, storyboard, write and produce 75 minutes of radio show, which were heard by around 80,000 people New Zealand-wide.
- A Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with One Step: This project is a partnership between artist Tiffany Singh and the Auckland Resettled Community Coalition (ARCC), based in Mt Albert. It highlighted the role ARCC plays in strengthening refugee voices for better resettlement outcomes, and redefined the understanding of what it means to be a part of the resettled community. Interactive repurposed dinghies shared the

stories of the community and the artwork was exhibited initially through 2017 Headlands Sculpture On The Gulf, followed by an iteration at the Maritime Museum.

- Mind You: Filmmaker Hank Snell is working with local filmmaking student Yung Chen to make three short films about mobility, advocacy and relationships.

The board is proud to have given a home to a number of pieces in the Auckland regional public art collection. A large new piece by artist Judy Millar is planned for Heron Park, Waterview, along Great North Road, and is due to be installed in early 2019.

## Events

The board has focused on providing more events for our community to attend. You told us we need more activation of our spaces, and we recognise the impact events have on our sense of connection, belonging and pride in our area. The board has supported the community to run events outlined in the section 'Community empowerment' above, and to hold the following events:

- Kids in Parks/Out and About programme of activities in parks and reserves
- Carols at Potters Park, for Christmas 2016 and 2017
- Albert-Eden Schools Cultural Festival in 2016 and 2017
- Movies in Parks and Music in Parks in 2016 and 2017
- Anzac Day services in Mt Albert and Coyle Park, and funded Mt Eden, Pt Chevalier and Epsom services
- regular citizenship ceremonies to welcome our recent New Zealand citizens
- events to celebrate and recognise the hard work of our volunteers and civic leaders, including a Local Heroes Awards evening in June 2016, Justice of the Peace appreciation event in May 2017 and a Community Grants recipients event in July 2017.

## 5 A better and bigger range of recreational experiences

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Creating great opportunities for all to enjoy our parks and community facilities.

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Our area boasts some fantastic parks and open spaces. It is a board priority to ensure they are well maintained and provide safe and fun experiences for everyone. During this period, the board has upgraded a number of our parks and their amenities.

The board has overseen several exciting projects in Waterview, using funding from the New Zealand Transport Agency to alleviate the effects of the Waterview Connection Project on the community. These include developing new parks, upgrading existing parks, walkways, playgrounds and landscaping.

The board also recognises the value of encouraging active and healthy lifestyles through sport and recreation. We continue to upgrade our recreation and aquatic centre, and our sports fields' turf, lighting and changing facilities.

Our 2017 local board plan continues to acknowledge the importance of this theme under the outcomes 'Our parks are enjoyed by all' and 'Our community spaces are well used by everyone'.

### Parks and open spaces

The board's top priority project is implementing the Chamberlain Park Master Plan 2015. Our vision is to increase access to activities in the park, by reconfiguring the golf course, constructing a new local park, sports fields and pathways, and restoring Waititiko/Meola Creek.

Funding for the neighbourhood park development has been secured and is progressing. The board has advocated for funding through the long-term plan process to reconfigure the 18-hole golf course to nine holes, and to build a platform for two sports fields. We will continue to work to achieve the vision of the master plan and enable increased access and use of this valuable open space for the wider community.

The board continues to face challenges when looking at changing the mix of uses within a park. The community is not one homogenous group; it has a variety of perspectives and needs. This has come to the fore during the Chamberlain Park Master Plan implementation, and progress has been paused for a judicial review of the board's role and the consultation process for the master plan.

Comprehensive redevelopment has been completed in Potters Park, Sandringham Reserve, Eric Armishaw Reserve and Heron Park. Potters Park already has a popular splash pad, and a new playground and basketball court opened in April 2017. The Sandringham Reserve upgrade, a collaboration between the board and SPiCE

(Sandringham Project in Community Empowerment), includes a new playground, picnic tables, benches and mosaic tiles at the entrance to the park. It was opened in September 2016. Eric Armishaw Reserve now has a new playground and path connections to Waterview, and was opened in November 2017. Heron Park has new paths and drainage upgrades. New stairs featuring the words 'matuku moana' (white-faced heron), lead down to an off-leash dog area.

Upgrades and renewals have been completed at Delphine Reserve, Harwood Reserve, Melville Park, Braemar Park, Fowlds Park, Nixon Park and School Reserve. The board has made a significant investment in upgrading parks and playgrounds over the last seven years, and the new challenge facing us is ensuring these great assets are maintained in the long term.

The board funded 'Magical Park' in Coyle Park and Heron Park. This app game used augmented reality to transform open park spaces into a digital fantasy land, using 3D digital images via a smartphone or tablet.

### State Highway 16/20 projects

The following projects have been completed around the construction of the Waterview tunnel and the state highway 16/20 connection:

- Eric Armishaw Park boardwalk, connecting to Great North Road, was opened in October 2016
- Waterview Reserve skate park and BMX track opened in November 2016
- Waterview Heritage Trail
- Murray Halberg Park steps and paving
- Waterview Shared Path was formally opened in November 2017. This includes the naming and formal opening of a number of bridges: Mokomoko Bridge, named after the native copper skink; Tuna Roa Bridge, after the longfin eel; Raupo Bridge, after the bulrush plant; and Te Whitinga, which means the crossing. A connection was also made between the shared path and Trent Street, Avondale.

For the design of the Waterview playground, Auckland Council, the board and the Well-Connected Alliance received the 2016 New Zealand Planning Institute award for Best Practice in Consultation and Participation Strategies and Processes.

The remaining budget, which is shared with the Whau Local Board, has been allocated to the following projects:

- Anderson Park improvements
- development of a Te Auaunga (Oakley Creek) middle catchment action plan and its implementation
- a summer carnival at Kūkūwai Park
- Holly Street to Heron Park boardwalk.

A skateboarder at the opening of Waterview Reserve skate park, November 2016



## Sports fields and facilities

The following sports upgrades have been completed:

- Gribblehirst Park and Nixon Park have been upgraded to a hybrid turf. These parks have the first full-sized hybrid pitch in Australasia available for community-level sport
- two new tennis courts have been opened at Epsom Girls Grammar School, through partnership funding between the board and the school
- lighting at Walker Park
- walking and cycling connections to Gribblehirst Park from Begbie Place, and from Nixon Park to the northwestern cycleway.

The following sports field upgrades are being planned or are under construction:

- The Phyllis Reserve upgrade is underway, and includes new field surfaces, changing rooms and toilets, car park and lighting
- The Windmill Reserve netball courts resurfacing is underway and expected to be complete by early 2018
- hybrid turf at Fowlds Park, which the board has agreed to. The project will move into design and public consultation in 2018.

Unforeseen issues often arise after a project has begun. This has occurred in the upgrade of Phyllis Reserve, particularly around managing the development of contaminated land and the location of a floodplain in the proposed car park. Working with sports groups and council staff will enable us to reach good solutions when we meet obstacles such as these.

## Community and recreational facilities

- We continue to support our libraries in Pt Chevalier, Mt Albert and Epsom; council-delivered community centres in Pt Chevalier and Sandringham; community-delivered centres in Mt Albert and Epsom; and the Citizens Advice Bureau in Mt Albert, to provide crucial core services and programmes.
- We have granted community leases to groups at a number of locations. We continue to focus on providing fit-for-purpose spaces for groups, increasing the use of space, and sharing skills and knowledge between groups.
- We work closely with the YMCA and Belgravia Leisure, who run programmes at our council facilities at the Mt Albert Community and Recreation Centre and Mt Albert Aquatic Centre, respectively.

## 6 Thriving town centres and a growing local economy

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Our centres are well supported by local people and are attractive destinations for visitors. Our business areas play a key role in growing the local economy.

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Local economic development contributes to creating vibrant village centres that are accessible, people-friendly and attractive to everyone. Our town centres are the champions of economic growth and help create dynamic entertainment, retail and commercial centres. Each centre has its own unique sense of identity and gives our community a sense of the local within a large metropolitan city.

We have been building our relationships with Business Improvement Districts in Kingsland, Mt Eden, Dominion Road and Uptown, and business associations and social enterprises in Sandringham, Balmoral, Greenwoods Corner, Pt Chevalier and Mt Albert. Our vision is for these groups to have a clear sense of direction and to be independent and financially sustainable.

Many town centres are developing a signature event which focuses on delivering economic outcomes and contributes to those areas being thriving and attractive. One example is the Halloween Candy Crawl organised by Mt Albert Business Association in October 2017 which brought families into shops in the town centre on a fun treasure hunt. We are working on doing a stocktake of economic activities in each town centre to assess their individual needs and how we can best support them.

The 2017 local board plan continues to acknowledge the importance of this theme under the outcome 'Albert-Eden has thriving town centres and a growing local economy'.

### Town centres

The board completed the upgrade of Pt Chevalier plaza and held an official opening in July 2016.

The board has focused on the upgrade of the Mt Albert town centre streetscape for a number of years, and is pleased that construction is now underway. The upgrade includes:

- more trees, landscaped garden areas and a pocket park on the corner of Mt Albert and New North roads
- better lighting and signage
- a consistently wider footpath through the town centre with new street furniture and drinking fountains
- a new pedestrian crossing
- a raised cycleway, new cycle racks and improved connections through the town centre
- more bus shelters, seating and a wider footpath improving connections between bus and rail, including the Outer Link to the Western Line

- better pedestrian connections to the Mt Albert train station
- better management of stormwater run-off through increased planting and landscape design.

Works will be complete in early 2018. Next, the board will start planning for the town square development. The upgrade has resulted in disruption in the short term for local businesses and their customers so we have worked closely with businesses, Mt Albert Business Association, Mt Albert Residents Association and Auckland Transport to try and mitigate the impact during this phase. We look forward to the completion of the project and the vibrancy it will bring back to Mt Albert.

The board is also undertaking town centre planning for Pt Chevalier (in addition to the plaza upgrade), Greenwoods Corner and Sandringham. This will inform capital works in future years.

### Local economy

The board has delivered a number of projects to celebrate and support local economic development:

- The second Albert-Eden Business Awards was held on 16 May 2017. The top awards went to Satya Spice and Chai Lounge, which won the People's Choice Award, and YMCA Mt Albert Recreation and Community Centre, which received the Supreme Award.
- The arts brokers worked with business associations to hold events to activate town centres during the British and Irish Lions rugby tour. Kingsland hosted a dance troupe, and Mt Eden and Dominion Road hosted seven singing performances by choirs, groups and solo performers.
- The board is fostering its relationships with business associations and provides financial support for projects which build their capacity. Examples include the Dominion Star Business Awards, run by the Balmoral Chinese Business Association; Mt Eden Village heritage walks; and a communications and marketing co-ordinator for Mt Albert.
- The board continues to work with partner organisations such as the Chinese New Settlers Services Trust. Together we held a series of business information and start-up workshops to connect migrant business owners with vital service providers and with each other.



Albert-Eden Business Awards 2017 Supreme Award winner  
YMCA Mt Albert Recreation and Community Centre

## 7 A community that values its environment

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Our community leads Auckland with innovative approaches to sustainable living and takes an active role in caring for our natural resources.

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The board recognises the great work done by volunteer groups and others to protect our unique natural environment. To support this, we prioritise initiatives that promote and protect healthy, sustainable natural environments. During this period, the board has delivered a number of projects to enhance and protect the local environment, as outlined below.

The board has also been actively involved in discussions on large-scale environment projects. This includes advocating for the separation of the combined stormwater and wastewater system, increased protection of our awa (rivers) from development under the new Unitary Plan stormwater rules, and numerous infrastructure upgrades to improve freshwater and coastal water quality.

The Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017 continues to acknowledge the importance of this theme under the outcome 'We respect and protect our environment'.

### Sustainability initiatives

The board approved the site design for the Central Community Recycling Centre at 956 Great North Road. The centre is a collaborative project with the Waitemata and Puketāpapa local boards, and will be a centralised point to drop off reusable and recyclable items and learn about waste reduction and sustainable practices. We are currently preparing for resource consent, before beginning construction. The site poses some challenges, particularly with traffic access, existing leases on site and protecting a heritage archway, which is a great feature.

The Eco-Neighbourhood project has grown to 13 groups in Mt Albert, Mt Eden, Eden Terrace, Owairaka, Sandringham and Waterview. A group consists of six or more neighbours who want to adopt sustainable practices and increase resilience within their homes, lifestyles and neighbourhoods. An Eco-Neighbourhood group decides what sustainable living actions they wish to undertake. The focus for future years of the programme is to extend into new areas such as Epsom and Greenlane.

### Ecological restoration

The board continues to support local groups in weed control, planting and naturalisation in Te Auaunga/Oakley Creek, Waititiko/Meola Creek. We wish to thank St Lukes Environmental Protection Society (STEPS) and Friends of Oakley Creek for their years of dedication to restoring our awa and surrounding environment. A number of groups working on the maunga (mountains) and in our local parks make a valuable contribution to the

health of these areas, including Friends of Mangawhau, Conservation Volunteers NZ, Rasheed Memorial Trust, Te Mahurehure Marae, Bluegreens Community Group and Owairaka Ratbaggers.

The board approved the Te Auaunga (Oakley Creek) Action Plan in June 2017, and is working to develop a strategy for the whole length, along with the Whau and Puketāpapa local boards. We are also in the planning stages of developing a similar document for Waititiko/Meola Creek with the Waitematā and Puketāpapa local boards.

A five-year pest management programme is nearing completion in Almorah Rock Forest. This unique ecosystem is a hidden gem of our area, and the evaluation of this project will guide our next steps towards ongoing protection and management.



## 8 Our heritage is cherished and protected

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We understand, appreciate and record our natural history and heritage buildings.

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Albert-Eden has a rich built and natural heritage that contributes to our distinctive identity and promotes community pride. The board is committed to protecting both built and natural heritage and encouraging public involvement in celebrating the rich history of the area. A lot of the work we do to achieve our parks and environmental outcomes also benefits our natural heritage, for example completion of the Waterview Heritage Trail and the Almorah Rock Forest pest management programme.

The board continues to work towards greater protection of the built and natural heritage as well as its promotion and appreciation. During this period, we have:

- Held two exhibitions as part of the Heritage Festival 2016: highlighting and showcasing the history of trams/light rail in Auckland, and showing the history of the proposed motorway alongside Dominion Road, and the area's history as a city-fringe suburb.
- Completed historic heritage evaluations of high-priority buildings which are not scheduled sites. These sites were identified through the pre-1944 field survey and the Albert-Eden Heritage Study (2013). This information has been included in the regional planning process, to enable formal protection of significant sites.
- Hosted an event to celebrate 150 years of local government in Mt Albert. Held at Ferndale House, originally built in 1865, the event brought together civic leaders, historians and community members who enjoyed a photography display and a garden party in the grounds of the house.
- Completed a series of hikoī/guided walks on Maungawhau/Mt Eden, led by mana whenua (Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei). These walks enable participants to explore the cultural significance of the maunga, and were tailored for new migrants to learn about our local history.
- Updated and completed heritage walk brochures for Balmoral and Sandringham, Owairaka/Mt Albert, and Maungawhau/Mt Eden.
- Completed a heritage rock wall identification and condition assessment study. This information will enable us to prioritise funding for their maintenance. Work has already been identified for renewing the Melville Park rock wall.

Our 2017 local board plan continues to acknowledge the importance of this theme under the outcome 'Our natural and cultural heritage is valued'.



Mount Eden Bowling Club, the home of Mount Eden Bowls, established 1896

## 9 People can move safely and easily around Albert-Eden

We have access to well-connected and safe transport choices.

The board continues to actively represent the interests of local residents and businesses. We are proactive in working with Auckland Transport, the council-controlled organisation responsible for Auckland's transport services, to deliver positive transport outcomes for the area.

The board generally delivers projects, and advises on regional Auckland Transport initiatives through:

- advocacy as a key stakeholder on projects, and membership of liaison groups for transport projects in Albert-Eden
- direct-funding of projects it considers to be priorities for the community through a dedicated Transport Capital Fund.



Walking and cycling on Waterview  
Shared Path

During the reporting period, the board has delivered the following projects through its Transport Capital Fund:

- completion of a path in Eric Armishaw Park that links the new playground to the shared path
- traffic calming in Cricket Avenue in Mt Eden and Lancing Road/Truro Road in Sandringham
- road marking and crossing points in Waterbank Crescent and Herdman Street in Waterview
- walkway lighting in Anderson Park.

The board has started work on the following projects:

- pedestrian bridge at Owairaka Park, in partnership with the Puketāpapa Local Board
- road safety improvements at the intersection of Mt Eden and Normanby roads.

A future transport priority to be funded through the board's Transport Capital Fund is a shared path through Chamberlain Park, as part of implementing the Chamberlain Park Master Plan.

The board conducted a survey in the Carrington Road area to determine community perceptions of traffic speeds and safety concerns. Based on the results of that survey it has also agreed to fund a range of traffic calming activities through the Transport Capital Fund. This project includes measures such as threshold treatments, wayfinding and give-way signage, roundabouts, kerb build-out, pram crossings and pedestrian refuges. Auckland Transport can now progress to consultation and construction.

In response to community feedback, the board continues to work closely with Auckland Transport on public transport, cycling infrastructure and parking-related matters as well as addressing general maintenance of roads, footpaths, lighting and storm water.

The board has taken a leadership role on some transport topics, including organising a traffic calming seminar for local boards. The participants shared and discussed best-practice approaches to dealing with the impact of traffic speeds and through-traffic in our suburban neighbourhoods.

Finally, we continue to advocate to the governing body and Auckland Transport to ensure roading and public transport keep pace with the growth in our area. As part of the annual plan process, we have advocated to the governing body and Auckland Transport for light rail as the best mass transit solution for central Auckland.

The Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017 continues to acknowledge the importance of this theme under the outcome 'Travelling around Albert-Eden is safe and easy'.

## 10 Consultation, engagement and representation

The role of the board is to represent its communities and advocate on behalf of the community on issues of interest.

The board values its communities' thoughts and opinions and is committed to staying connected to residents, businesses and groups. As elected members we attend public meetings and meet regularly with individuals, community and sports groups. We put time and effort into keeping up to date with local social media pages and news sources, and always attempt to respond to and resolve issues you raise. We value the relationships we hold with you and look forward to building on those.

Formal consultation processes also enable us to better understand your views, and get closer to you and listen. In the past 18 months, the board ran engagement activities for the following projects:

- Albert-Eden Local Board Plan 2017. This comprehensive programme included four themed Have Your Say Events and one general event, for board members to hear directly from you. The Albert-Eden Youth Board engaged with children and young people and gathered a substantial amount of feedback. Household summaries of the plans were delivered to mail boxes in the area, and a strong online presence allowed you to read the draft document. This resulted in over 1000 submissions, and we appreciate you taking the time to share your views.
- The 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 Annual Plans.
- The arts brokers held two meetings and an open call-out for projects.
- Chamberlain Park Master Plan 2015 information session, April 2017.

The board provided feedback on many Auckland Council projects and documents, such as:

- draft Community Access Scheme guidelines
- Housing for Older People Partnering Proposal and proposed policy
- Central West Community Needs Assessment and Facilities Investigation
- Auckland Plan refresh
- Citizens Advice Bureau services review
- draft Takaro: Investing in Play document
- draft Air Quality Bylaw for Indoor Domestic Fires
- review of Rates Remission and Postponement Policy
- Auckland Council maintenance contracts
- Easter Sunday trading rules
- Auckland Council Governance Framework review
- proposed direction of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan

- proposed direction of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

The board has also contributed to Auckland Council feedback to external documents such as:

- New Zealand Government's Clean Water Package 2017
- Auckland Transport's Election Signs bylaw
- Justice and Electoral Select Committee's Inquiry into the 2016 local authority elections
- New Zealand government's Urban Development Authorities discussion document
- Remuneration Authority's consultation document Local Government Review.

The board has also been involved in the planning and consultation of large-scale projects in the area, such as Housing New Zealand, HLC and Unitec developments.

### **Working with Māori**

Delivering on Auckland Council's commitment to Māori at a local level is a priority for our board. We have a good working relationship with some mana whenua groups, particularly through environmental and parks development projects like the Waititiko/Meola Creek restoration in Chamberlain Park and the development of the Te Auaunga (Oakley Creek) Action Plan. We are building our connection with Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Ngā Maungarongo in Mt Albert.

In June 2017 the board resolved to begin developing relationship agreements with mana whenua in our area, to formalise the foundational governance relationships and act as a way of documenting each party's intention to work together respectfully and positively. We look forward to developing these agreements, or building and fostering relationships in other ways, with the 13 iwi organisations that have ties to our area.



A drone view of Howlett Reserve and Motu Mana Marine Reserve, Waterview



Albert-Eden Local Board members  
Back row: Rachel Langton, Benjamin Lee, Graeme Easte, Margi Watson  
Front row: Peter Haynes (chair), Glenda Fryer (deputy chair), Jessica Rose, Lee Corrick

Find out more: phone 09 623 6090  
or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/alberteden](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/alberteden)

