

# Waitematā Local Board Achievements report

1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019



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## Message from the Chair

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On behalf of the Waitematā Local Board, I am pleased to present to you our key achievements covering the period 1 July 2018–30 June 2019. This report is an opportunity to reflect, share and celebrate our projects, initiatives and events over the past 12 months.

Some of the significant projects completed in this past financial year include a comprehensive upgrade at Parnell Baths, a renewal of the Albert Park Caretakers Cottage and an upgrade to the boardwalk, path and stairs at Western Park. There have also been several playground improvements including new play equipment at Vermont, Sackville and Ireland Street Reserve playgrounds.

We have continued to support environmental outcomes and key initiatives outlined in our Local Board Plan 2017 by supporting several local ecological restoration programs, including the restoration and improvements of our local waterways at Waitītiko Stream (Meola Creek), Newmarket Stream, Waipapa Stream and Waipāruru Stream. We also continue to support low carbon network and lifestyles.

This year we entered into an arts partnership with The Auckland Performing Arts Centre (TAPAC). The centre supports numerous smaller performance and theatre groups that benefit from reduced facility hire rates. It is a destination for the wider arts community and a platform for emerging performers and theatre works.

We are privileged to once again have had the opportunity to bring our communities together by funding our annual signature events Parnell Festival of Roses and Myers Park Medley. We also recognised and celebrated our communities and their contributions to the Waitematā Local Board area with our bi-annual Good Citizens' Awards.

Accessible, connected and safe transport networks remain a key priority for the local board. The new footpath linking Parnell Station to Carlaw Park was completed this year with local board funding, providing a much-needed pedestrian connection. We are delighted to see the completion of the major Franklin Road upgrade.

A key role for the local board is to advocate for initiatives where we may not have decision-making responsibilities or funding for in the current 10-year budget. The local board was pleased when the Environment and Community Committee unanimously supported retaining the full site at 254 Ponsonby Road for the purpose of creating a civic space, which aligns with the communities' vision.

None of these achievements would be possible without the support of our communities and local organisations who have played a vital role engaging with and providing feedback into our plans and projects. We look forward to continuing to work together to achieve great outcomes for Waitematā.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Coom'.

Pippa Coom  
**Chair, Waitematā Local Board**

## Waitematā Local Board members

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Local boards have been established to enable local representation and decision-making on behalf of local communities. You are encouraged to contact your elected members to have your say on matters that are important to your community.

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# Projects and initiatives

## Ponsonby Park

The former Auckland City Council purchased 254 Ponsonby Road in 2006 with the intention of developing a mixed-use site incorporating a public open space.

In 2014, we endorsed a community-led design process, which allowed community members to take the lead in developing their vision for the design of Ponsonby Park.

The design was strongly endorsed by the public and saw the development of the full site as an open space including a park, pavilion, plaza, lanes and street upgrades.

We adopted the community's vision as our priority unfunded capital project and advocated to the Governing Body for funding to develop the site through the council's 10-year budget process.

In December 2018, the Environment and Community Committee unanimously supported retaining the full site at 254 Ponsonby Road for the purpose of creating a civic space.

There is sufficient One Local Initiative funding (allocated through the Long-term Plan 2018-2028) available for phase one of the project (\$5.5 million). For phase two

(\$5.5 million), the local board proposes to partially fund this through the Council's Service Property Optimisation approach.

A detailed business case and design of the site can now commence for construction in 2020/2021.

## Community facility improvements

### Parnell Baths

A comprehensive upgrade was undertaken at Parnell Baths which included works to the pool concourse and improvements to the pool filtration system. The facility re-opened on 1 December 2018 and remained open until 29 April 2019.

### Grey Lynn Paddling Pool

The Grey Lynn Paddling Pool near the Grosvenor Street entrance to Grey Lynn Park received an upgrade in November 2018. The perimeter fencing was replaced, and the pool and associated buildings were repainted.



Ponsonby Park Concept Design



### **Auckland Central City Library**

The local board made additional funding available, so that the Auckland Central City Library can open for an extra hour on Saturdays and Sundays.

The additional opening hours on weekends has enabled library staff to start a new program called "Browse the Basement" which involves assisted visits to the library's collection held in the basement.

During a recent tour, a large Iranian contingent attended and excitedly took photos on the basement lower level; a space they described as 'really magical'.

These additional hours have been very well received and we intend to continue to support this initiative in the next financial year.

### **Grey Lynn Library**

The local board has continued to allocate additional funding so that the library can remain open an extra half hour each Saturday. The later closing time

has been well received and allows the library to accommodate more visits from children and families over the weekend.

### **Ponsonby Community Centre – shade sail**

In December 2018, the local board made a funding contribution towards a shade sail structure at Ponsonby Community Centre.

The preschool located at the centre has an outside play and learning area that has full sun most of the day during the summer months. As an interim measure the centre had provided a temporary shade sail structure during the summer period to protect the children from the sun.

The shade sail structure will allow approximately 90 preschool children a wider range of learning activities through the opportunity of spending more time outdoors and providing them with greater sun protection.



Auckland Central City Library



Albert Park Caretakers Cottage

### 313 Queen Street

This community space underwent a renovation in late 2018, including kitchen renewal, bathroom facilities and hot water capacity to enable the reactivation of this leasable space.

Expressions of Interest from performing arts groups interested in leasing the space were sought following the renewal. Each application received has been reviewed and evaluated against a set of criteria. The lease to occupy the renovated space will be awarded mid-2019.

### Basement Theatre

We allocated funding from our renewal budget to upgrade the toilet facilities and accessibility of the theatre building on the ground level. The upgrade was completed March 2019.

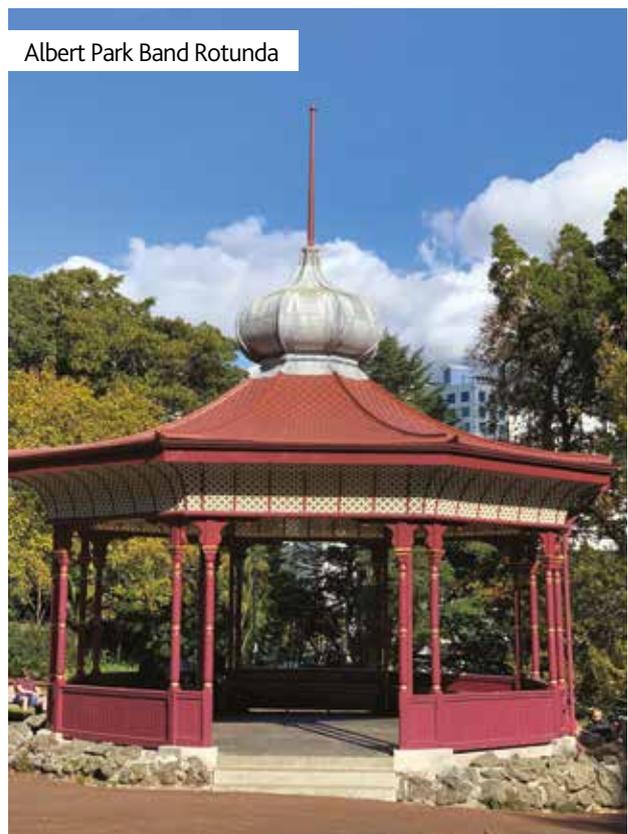
### Herne Bay Petanque Club

In December 2018, the bathroom fixtures and fittings at the Herne Bay Petanque Club were replaced, making the facilities more fit for purpose for users.

### Albert Park Caretakers Cottage

In November 2018, the structural review, seismic strengthening, exterior and interior upgrade of the Albert Park Caretakers cottage was completed.

The Albert Park Caretakers Cottage will be made available for use by community and other groups.



Albert Park Band Rotunda

### Albert Park Band Rotunda

The historic band rotunda, understood to be the oldest of its kind in Auckland, was renewed in November 2018, which involved replacement of old and damaged material and repainting.

## Symonds Street Cemetery

Symonds Street Cemetery is one of Auckland's most historic and unusual public parks. With its combination of scattered graves, grassed open spaces, deciduous glades and native forest, the cemetery forms an interesting and unique passive recreation area on the fringe of the city centre.

We recognise the significance of this place and have allocated funding towards programmes that ensure the maintenance and restoration of the cemetery's monuments and surrounding natural heritage area.

### Symonds Street Cemetery development plan implementation

The local board runs a response fund which delivers objectives from the Symonds Street Cemetery Development Plan, this includes:

- the continued licencing and management of the STQRY app
- providing specialist conservator services to repair or remove graffiti vandalism on monuments
- providing conservator advice to assist families prepare consents and undertake conservation work on family graves
- purchasing plants and supporting community and volunteer events in the cemetery.

The STQRY app is a great source of historical information of the cemetery. Some of the families that attended the Heritage Festival walks at the cemetery offered to share their family stories. The stories of John and Jane Smith and Chief Constable Benjamin Woods are now available on the app.



Grave at Symonds Street Cemetery



Thorne monument before restoration



Thorne monument after restoration

### Symonds Street Cemetery monument conservation programme

A monument conservation programme has been developed to assist in informing the future care of the cemetery, focusing on the protection and preservation of this historic site.

Three monuments were identified for major work in the Wesleyan section of the cemetery; Nutting, Thorne and James. The conservation work on these monuments was completed in March 2019.

### Symonds Street Cemetery pathway network

In 2012, we embarked on a long-term initiative to upgrade Symonds Street Cemetery as a local park.

In July 2018, the local board approved the development and installation of the Symonds Street Cemetery pathways as part of their Community Facilities work programme.

The draft Symonds Street Cemetery Path Network Detailed Plan 2018 was prepared and consulted on. This led to some amendments which has resulted in the final design adopted by the local board in February 2019.

Physical works commenced late May 2019.

## Park improvements

### Western Park boardwalk, path and stairs

In October 2018, the stairs were renewed at Western Park. This included the installation of new handrails along the stairs to improve accessibility and re-decking of the viewing platform on Hopetoun Street.

In December, local board members joined residents to celebrate the new stairs that connect Hopetoun Street with Western Park.

### Grey Lynn Park change rooms

This long-standing project got the green light in May 2019. The change rooms at Grey Lynn Park are due for an upgrade including the development of new change rooms and toilets and the demolition of the old athletics building.

The local board has provided direction to the concept design which was consulted on with the Richmond Rovers Rugby League Club.

The physical works are expected to start after the Richmond Rover Rugby League winter season, around October 2019.

### Salisbury Reserve entrance way

The Masonic Lodge was purchased from an Open Space budget by the former Auckland City Council to create an entranceway into Salisbury Reserve.

Following public consultation in 2018, the local board made the decision to progress with the new entranceway with the removal of the Masonic Lodge allowing the reinstatement of open space and a design that brings both functional and aesthetic improvements for the reserve.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of June 2019.

### Waiatarau – Freemans Bay Park

A new park area has been created in Freemans Bay on the corner of Wellington and Hepburn Streets. In 2018 it was named Waiatarau – Freemans Bay Park. Fencing has been removed to make the park more accessible to the community and a picnic table has also been installed. The local board is also supporting a community-led planting plan for the park.



Western Park stairs

## Playground improvements

### Vermont Reserve playground

Following public consultation, additional play equipment was installed at Vermont Reserve to incorporate climbing features, monkey bars and a junior playground structure.

The playground upgrade was celebrated on 21 November 2018. Around 80 people attended the event, with a sausage sizzle provided by maintenance contractor Ventia.

The new play equipment has been welcomed by locals.

### Sackville Reserve playground

A new path entrance and play features for children to explore were installed at Sackville Playground.

To celebrate the upgrade, an event was held on 5 December 2018, with local board members staffing a sausage sizzle for the guests.

### Ireland Street Reserve playground

The Ireland Street Reserve playground has been upgraded, which included the installation

of two sets of benches following the local board receiving feedback there was not enough seating in the reserve.

The play equipment was replaced with a new set of swings, a new junior playground structure as well as some stepping logs.

### Western Springs Park playground

The Western Springs playground is up for renewal however the project was put on hold until the outcome of the Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea Development Plan was known.

In August 2018, the local board consulted on the draft Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea Development Plan.

The consultation feedback indicated that it was important to users of the park for the playground to be upgraded to a natural play design. Based on this, we have progressed to the conceptual design stage of an upgraded playground.

Currently the project timelines are aiming for construction in Spring 2019.

Vermont Reserve playground opening event





Girls wellness skate clinic at Silo Park

### Out & About programme

The Out & About programme is a new initiative in the local board's work programme, which delivers a series of free activities and events held in our local parks, spaces and places. The programme provides opportunities for people to get physically active.

Some of the summer activations were an Amazing Race at Western Park, a Kite Day at Newmarket Park, 'On Ya Wheels' treasure hunt at Grey Lynn Park and a Park Fun Day at the Auckland Domain.

We also delivered two girls wellness skate clinics at Silo Park, which focused on basic skills so that beginners become confident enough to transition safely to the skate park environment.

Our first Wild Streets Festival of Play event was held at Western Park. This included a series of facilitated games with some requiring both parents and children to work together.

Auckland Dragon Boating facilitated two 'have a go' sessions at Westhaven Marina during March.

A Woman in Urbanism bike event was held, which went from the Lightpath Te Ara I Whiti to Westhaven and included conversations along the way about how cycleways are working for Aucklanders and their families.



Auckland Dragon Boating



Newmarket Streamside restoration

## Environmental initiatives

### Waititiko Stream (Meola Creek) restoration

This project is a catchment approach to restoring Waititiko Stream (Meola Creek) and empowers community and school groups to undertake water quality monitoring and riparian restoration planting.

In August 2018, there was a Bluegreen planting event with 143 plants planted in an area south of the spring. Another initiative from the Bluegreens volunteer group included monitoring of pests and pest trapping.

Conservation Volunteers New Zealand was approached to support the planting at Motions Road and as a result over 560 plantings have occurred.

At Western Springs College students have been working on clearing and bagging the pest plant tradescantia.

### Newmarket Streamside restoration

Newmarket Streamside Community Restoration project is a community-led initiative that is facilitated by Gecko Trust, in partnership with Auckland Council and funded by the local board.

Through social gatherings and newsletters, From the Deck community group have engaged with the local community and received a high level of support from the surrounding residents.

The group have since built stone steps to enable access to the stream. They have also conducted rat pulses and discussions; as well as weeding bee events with the community.

The group is currently working on a management plan for the area and a volunteer planting day for later this year.

### Waipapa Stream restoration

This initiative is in its sixth year and is a continuation of restoration works which entails pest plant control and replacement of native planting along the open section of Waipapa Stream in Parnell.

In November 2018, a poetry competition was held at Parnell School where students were asked to write a poem that related to the Waipapa Stream and the Auckland Domain environment. On a community weeding day at the stream, the winning poems were painted by a local calligrapher on the handrail running alongside the stream.

The Parnell Community Trust have started a 'loan to own' pest trap library where traps are available to the wider Parnell community to purchase or loan. The wooden trap boxes have been made by the Mens Shed Auckland East.

### Waipāruru Stream restoration

This is a new restoration project initiated by the local board. The benefits of this initiative include the restoration and improvement of our local waterways, increasing both terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity by creating ecological corridors and restored riparian margins.

It also empowers local communities to connect and advocate for their local natural environment and for positive freshwater outcomes.

This year, a stream clean-up took place and water quality monitoring programme has been developed.

There was also the discovery of banded kokopu and eels in Waipāruru stream, adjacent to Symonds Street Cemetery. The eels were found during the bat and fish survey undertaken as part

of developing the restoration plan funded by the local board.

A community stream ecology workshop was held in March 2019. This workshop connected community members of the two similar stream restoration projects for the local board area (Waipāruru and Waipapa Stream).

### Low Carbon Network

The Low Carbon Network is a network of individuals, households, groups, businesses operating within the Waitemātā Local Board area, working together to promote and support local community activities that implement the Waitemātā Local Board Low Carbon Action Plan.

Low carbon network members have been encouraged to get involved in the climate action conversations; in particular, the Auckland Climate Action Plan Symposium.

Two low carbon network members presented at the Finance and Performance Committee to highlight the need for Auckland Council to require organisations like Auckland Transport to have clear climate targets and action plans.

Other events across the low carbon networks included a rākau (trees) event held at the Sustainable Coastlines Flagship, an end of year event supporting food scraps rescue initiative 'Everybody Eats', a provision of a low carbon dinner at Ellen Melville Centre and a network conversation on Air Quality with NIWA Scientist Richard McKenzie.

Wider low carbon network events included a youth focused activity in collaboration with the Whau Youth Board and an Arts and Climate Change series at Ecofest West over March and April 2019.



Low Carbon Network event at Ellen Melville Centre

### **Low Carbon Lifestyles**

This project supports and empowers householders to lead low carbon lifestyles.

242 households were engaged with in the Waitemata Local Board area (totalling 760 residents). Of those, 195 completed the four-week follow up survey with 165 taking a total of 435 actions, averaging 2.6 actions per household.

The most popular actions were talking to their household about energy efficiency, turning off appliances, reducing their shower times and changing to energy-efficient lightbulbs.

A full report with the carbon and financial savings is expected later this year.

### **Agrichemical-free parks**

Several parks within the Waitemata Local Board area are now being maintained without the use of agrichemicals.

The first parks to have benefited are Albert Park, Western Park, Myers Park and the non-sports sections of Victoria Park.

More than \$70,000 has been allocated to the initiative, which comes in response to public feedback during the Waitemata Local Board Plan 2017 and Long-term Plan 2018–2028 consultation processes.

### **Digital Safeswim signs**

Safeswim provides real-time information online about beach safety and water quality at 84 of Auckland's beaches. It also gives real-time warnings about unexpected beach safety risks as they occur and provides information about wind direction and tides.

This year, the local board funded the installation of two digital Safeswim signs for Herne Bay and Judges Bay, making real-time water quality information available at these popular swimming spots.



Judges Bay, Parnell



Western Park

# Community resilience

## Community disaster resilience building

Grey Lynn, Parnell and Ponsonby Community Centres have been identified as suitable facilities to take on a leadership role in promoting emergency resilience building with their local communities.

They would be providing a place of safety for their community where needed during an emergency, including providing communities with emergency preparedness information and welfare support during an emergency.

The local board has allocated funding to hold two In Case of Emergency (ICE) workshops for these facilities and their communities. The ICE workshops are designed to encourage step-by-step action on emergency preparedness and building local networks and social connectedness.

## Addressing homelessness

Addressing homelessness remains a priority for the local board.

In September 2018, the local board endorsed a pilot outreach programme by James Liston Hostel to be held at Outhwaite Hall in Outhwaite Park from September to December 2018. The programme provided 11 weeks of engagement and support for rough sleepers, between 8.00am and 2.00pm, supervised by James Liston Hostel staff.

This created an opportunity to engage with people experiencing homelessness in the area and provide links to support services.

In March 2019, the local board approved funding for the following initiatives to support the needs of the homeless community in the city centre:

- \$10,000 to Lifewise to support scoping of an Auckland Housing Help Centre for a face-to-face information, advice and navigation service using a self-help approach for people who can solve their own housing needs and provide advice and support for people with multifaceted issues
- \$2,000 for a volunteer training and appreciation event hosted by the local board, to acknowledge and thank the groups and individuals who volunteer their time to support the homeless community in the local board area.

Staff continue to work with the Auckland City Mission outreach team to provide training for the volunteers, building their capacity to support their work with the homeless community.

The local board hopes to continue to partner with community agencies, central government and collaborate with council teams to ensure a holistic and joined-up approach is taken to address issues in the local board area.



Addressing homelessness is a priority

# Planning

Heard Park in Parnell



## Parnell Plan

The Parnell Plan was adopted by the local board in December 2018.

The plan was created through a community empowered approach supported by a working group made up of representatives from the Blind Foundation, Parnell Heritage, Waitematā Local Board, Parnell District School, Auckland War Memorial Museum, the Parnell Business Association, Parnell Community Trust, Parnell Community Committee, youth representatives and mana whenua.

Community-wide engagement on the draft plan was undertaken in May and June 2018. The collaborative, community-led approach to developing the draft plan for Parnell resulted in positive, constructive feedback from many submitters.

The public engagement received over 800 pieces of feedback. Non-traditional engagement events included a pub quiz night, free tuk-tuk rides in exchange for responding to a survey and a workshop at Parnell District School.

The plan's vision for Parnell is "Auckland's First Suburb: A thriving, creative, and collaborative community that celebrates its unique natural, cultural and historic environment".

This vision is supported by five objectives and a range of strategies under each objective, as follows:

- **Objective 1:** Promote Parnell as an innovative and creative place to work, live, visit and do business
- **Objective 2:** Enhance connectivity and accessibility within Parnell and with its neighbouring places
- **Objective 3:** Enable the community to use and enjoy its great places and spaces
- **Objective 4:** Value, protect and enhance Parnell's natural environment
- **Objective 5:** Respect, recognise and protect Parnell's historic and cultural heritage and character.

The Waitematā Local Board and other agencies will be guided by this plan in future planning and activities in Parnell.

## Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa Development Plan

The Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa Development Plan was finalised and published online in March 2019. The plan presents a holistic direction that provides for the full range of community needs and will enable a coordinated development of Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa over the next 10 plus years.

We recognise Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa as a significant historical mahinga kai site that provided food for Māori travellers in the past.

It is a significant reserve for its richness in history, geology, ecology and its diverse community use.

Today it forms part of a network of open spaces and has become widely appreciated for its off-leash dog area. We want to ensure the reserve will continue to provide for the future needs of Aucklanders.

## Western Springs Te Wai Ōrea Lakeside Park Development Plan

The Western Springs Lakeside Te Wai Ōrea Lakeside Park Development Plan is anticipated to be adopted by the local board mid-2019.

This lakeside park is a popular destination park that visitors from across the Auckland region enjoy. Visitors use the park for a range of activities, including walking, connecting with nature, peace and quiet and entertaining children.

The local board commissioned the development plan to provide a vision and action plan which will guide improvements for Western Springs as well as its neighbouring reserves and facilities over the short, medium, and long-term.

Public consultation on the draft plan was carried out in July and August 2018 and there was a high level of satisfaction with the way the plan aims to improve key outcomes. These outcomes include water quality, connectivity, celebration of the site's history, creating a 'refuge away from the city' and provision for events.

Ecological and water quality improvements were identified as the highest priority outcomes desired by users.

The results from the survey and the final approved plan will help the local board align renewals, and discretionary local board locally driven initiatives budget with outcomes that are needed and supported by the users of the park.

## Annual Budget 2019/2020

Auckland Council consulted on its Annual Budget 2019/2020 and a proposed amendment to the 10-year Budget 2018-2028 regarding property transfers between 17 February and 17 March 2019.

The Annual Budget 2019/2020 includes a Local Board Agreement for the Waitemata Local Board which sets out local board priorities and how the priorities will be funded.

We did not propose any major changes to the existing work programme for 2019/2020 as we continue to focus on the delivery of the projects identified in the Waitemata Local Board Plan 2017.

During the consultation period we held 10 community events including a Facebook Live event, and a formal hearing style event. This was a great opportunity for the local board to receive your feedback on whether we have got our local board priorities right.

Most of the responses for the local board area either supported (45 per cent) or partially supported (43 per cent) the local board's priorities.

The feedback that we received is used to inform our future work programmes and the Local Board Agreement.

The Waitemata Local Board Agreement was adopted in June 2019.

## City Play Network assessment

The local board commissioned an assessment of the current and future playground and play network requirements in the Waitemata Local Board area.

The assessment will align with the outcomes of the City Centre Masterplan, local board development plans and other relevant plans e.g. Panuku led plans.

The output of this assessment will inform renewal projects and identify gaps in the play network to enable the local board to make informed investment decisions.

The assessment is expected to be completed by mid-2019.

## Pedestrian connectivity

### Salisbury Reserve Greenway

The greenway connection through Salisbury Reserve which connects Argyle Street and Salisbury Street was completed in October 2018.

### Parnell Station pathway

The new pathway connection from Parnell Station to Carlaw Park student village and business area was funded by the local board and opened late 2018.

The new pathway provides a much-needed pedestrian connection linking Parnell Station to Carlaw Park.

On 15 November 2018, members of Waitemata Local Board, Auckland Transport, Parnell Community Committee and Parnell Business Association enjoyed a first walk on the new pathway.

### Ellen Melville Centre pedestrian mall

On 15 October 2018, Freyberg Place officially became a pedestrian mall.

To do this the bollards at each end of Freyberg Place which were previously lowered to street level, have been raised.

This will prevent vehicles driving through making it safer and more pleasant for pedestrians and people using Freyberg Place and Ellen Melville Centre.

### St Patrick's Square bollards

The local board approved funding from the Local Transport Capital Fund in February 2019 for the re-installation of bollards at St Patrick's Square to make the square pedestrian-friendly.

The volume of vehicles frequenting the square have increased, making it unsafe for pedestrians. The bollards, which were part of the original design, will improve pedestrian safety in this area.

### Elam Street walkway

The final design of the renewal of the Elam Street staircase has been completed and physical works commenced in January 2019. It is expected to take 6–9 months for completion.

### Poynton Terrace

The Poynton Terrace connection between St Kevin's Arcade and Myers Park was funded from the city centre targeted rate and completed in September 2018.

The project involved construction of a crossing connecting Myers Park to St Kevin's Arcade and Karangahape Road, providing a safe and attractive entrance to Myers Park.

### Ponsonby Road pedestrian improvement project

The local board allocated \$221,000 from our Local Board Transport Capital Fund as a top up for the Ponsonby Road pedestrian improvement project for pedestrian amenities along Ponsonby Road between Lincoln Street and Pollen Street.

The improvements included construction of raised speed tables to create a slower-speed environment at intersections, upgrading footpaths, installing new street furniture and trees, and renewing streetlights.

This project has resulted in a more attractive, safer, pedestrian-friendly environment.



## Place naming

### Te Hā o Hine interpretation signage

In December 2018, new interpretation signage at Te Hā o Hine Place was unveiled by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, alongside National Council of Women representatives and local board members.

Te Hā o Hine is derived from the whakatauki (proverb) Me aro koe ki te Hā o Hine-ahu-one, that can be taken as meaning 'pay heed to the dignity of women'.

The name was a gift from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei in recognition of the Woman's Suffrage Centenary Memorial located in Te Hā o Hine Place.

### Park naming: Waiatarau – Freemans Bay Park and Ko Takere Haere – St Mary's Bay Park

The local board formally named two reserves in December 2018.

The local board approved the dual names Waiatarau – Freemans Bay Park for the open space on the corner of Hepburn Street and Wellington Street Freemans Bay.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei put forward the name "Waiatarau" the traditional Maori name for the Freemans Bay area. The name means "waters reflecting shadows"; a similar translation is "reflecting waters".

The reserve at the end of St Mary's Road that was part of St Mary's Bay before the construction of the Harbour Bridge has been named Ko Takere Haere – St Mary's Bay Park.

Ko Takere Haere is the traditional Māori name for St Mary's Bay beach at the western end of the site and it means split canoe hull.

### Open spaces: Wynyard Quarter

In February 2019, the local board had the opportunity to consider names for three new Wynyard Central urban spaces that were under design and construction.

A brief description of the spaces for naming are as follows:

- a plaza on the southern side of the Hyatt Hotel, on the corner of Madden and Halsey Streets which is due for completion in Autumn 2019
- a new neighbourhood park which is due for completion by mid-2020
- a small open space outside the Precinct commercial building which is due for completion in Spring 2020.

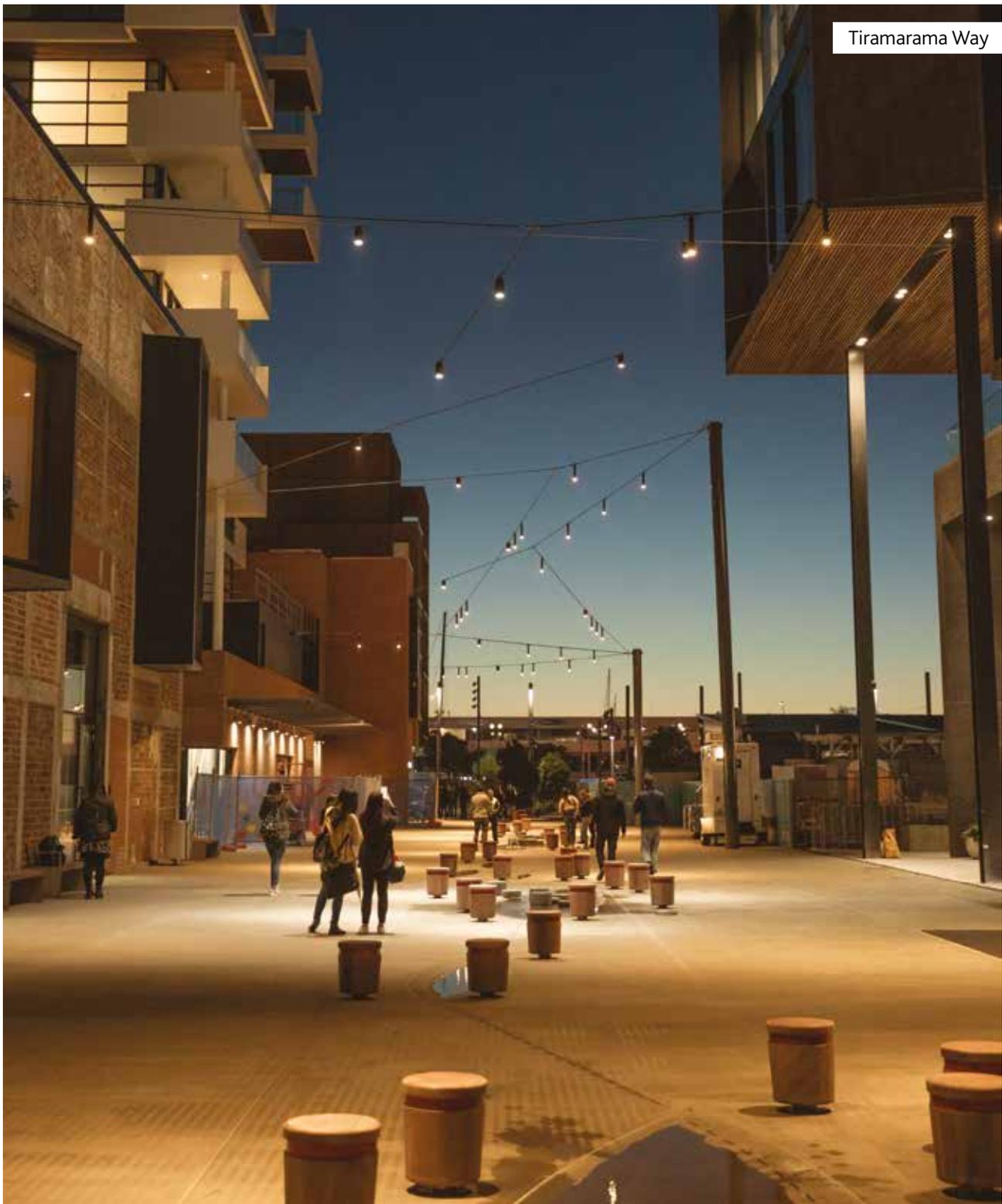
The local board considered the marine and industrial heritage, woman's heritage, innovation as well as the te reo names proposed by the Panuku Mana Whenua Governance Forum as part of the naming process.

The local board adopted the name Urunga Plaza for the plaza on the southern side of the Hyatt Hotel. Urunga directly translated to English means 'entry', this name has a point of entry theme that follows the notion of Karanga Plaza at the end of Madden Plaza, which means 'welcome'.

The local board approved the names Amey Daldy



Members of Waitemātā Local Board, National Council of Women and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei at the Te Hā o Hine Place interpretation signage unveiling.



Tiramarama Way

Park for the new neighbourhood park and Freda Barnes Plaza for the small open space subject to consultation with the living relatives or trusts and the National Council of Women.

Amey Daldy was an Auckland temperance activist, feminist and suffragist, with personal connections to Kate Sheppard. She lived in Ponsonby with her second husband, Captain William Daldy.

Freda Barnes was a Law Clerk, Justice of the

Peace and trade union activist who supported the waterfront workers in the 1951 waterfront dispute.

### Tiramarama Way

The local board gave the name Tiramarama Way to a major new laneway running between Halsey and Daldy Streets which officially opened in 2018.

Tiramarama means to shine, glimmer or light the way particularly over water which ties in well with the lane ways water theme.

# Placemaking

## Teed Street upgrade launch

In July 2018, we celebrated the Teed Street upgrade. It was an opportunity to acknowledge everyone who had worked on the project and bless the artwork "Heliograph" by Ray Haydon which was commissioned for the upgrade by the Newmarket Arts Trust.

Highlights from the transformation include new street furniture, increased outdoor dining capacity, native trees and shrubs and the new Ray Haydon sculpture. The design features 'bio-retention' rain gardens designed to help improve stormwater.



Teed Street upgrade

# Community-led projects

## Gardens4Health

Our contribution to Gardens4Health helps provide capacity building through education and maintenance of the local community garden network, strengthening cross council collaboration e.g. Waitemata Low Carbon Action, Waste Minimisation, the Compost Collective, Civil Defence, community-led pollinator paths, Resilient Communities and implementation of local area plans.

This year Gardens4Health delivered capacity building workshops and provided education and support to the local community garden network.

Gardens4Health have supported the reinvigoration of four garden beds. They have also hosted a container gardens workshop at Arahura Trust,

supported the weekly Sunday morning garden session at Grafton Community Garden, advised on garden design and plant selection for a range of new sites, and supported management transitions for organisations such as the Te Maara St Columba Community Gardens.

Several of the community gardens have attracted new volunteers, serving to bring communities together. An example of this can be seen through the O.M.G – Organic Market Garden in Symonds Street Garden which is a collaboration with the 'For the Love of Bees' project.

There has also been significant community engagement to cultivate soil and prepare garden beds for seasonal market garden crops.



O.M.G – Organic Market Garden, Symonds Street



Arbor Day planting at Newmarket Park

### Compost Food Scraps Initiative

Building on work previously done, this project works with community gardens in the local board area to develop an integrated approach to creating active composting sites for business and household food scraps.

It is a collaborative initiative with community gardens, residents, businesses and the Compost Collective.

The project includes four aspects:

- building on existing networks and relationships to explore a collaborative approach to neighborhood scale food scraps composting
- conducting case studies to inform understanding of opportunities and challenges of a compost network and establishing good practice examples
- trialing different approaches to community composting for food scraps with community gardens, local businesses and residents
- develop a sector network to share knowledge skills and training. Case studies will be examined, and trials conducted for community composting of food scraps.

The local board allocated additional funding to this project to assist with engaging key sector agents in the project, to purchase a chipper for use by the compost sector and for purchasing materials to prototype a rodent proof composting system.

### Ecological volunteers and environmental programme

The local board allocated \$20,000 towards an ecological and environmental volunteers programme.

This programme provides support to volunteer groups to carry out ecological restoration and environmental programmes in local parks, such as community planting events, plant and animal pest control and litter removal.

The following activities have been supported this year:

- ongoing restoration work at Lemington Reserve
- rubbish clean-up in Albert Park, Myers Park, Symonds Street Cemetery, Western Springs
- weed control and planting at Cox’s Bay Reserve
- ongoing animal pest control (trapping rodents and possums) at Alberon Reserve, Auckland Domain, Newmarket Park, Lemington Reserve, Tirotai Reserve, Grey Lynn Park and Hakanoa Reserve
- volunteer tree planting event at Newmarket Park in recognition of Arbor Day.

## Community-led placemaking

The local board funds and supports local community-led initiatives that empower and engage communities to have a say in council planning and decision making to actively engage in placemaking projects and to ensure community aspirations are reflected in council-initiated projects.

Funding has been allocated to enable the community-led Seafield View Road art project. This is a mural panel depicting famous people who have lived in Grafton.

The University of Auckland is developing three major sites in Grafton and part of the large development which backs on to Seafield View Road. The University installed large hoardings to protect the building site. The mural panels will cover the construction hoardings while development is underway.

The aim is to help beautify the street during a period of significant change and to remind people of the significant heritage that remains in Grafton, and the importance of protecting this for future generations to enjoy.

At the local board's March 2019 business meeting, we approved the following grant allocations totalling \$40,000 for four community-led placemaking initiatives:

- \$10,000 to Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Whai Maia Ltd for the Sturdee Street Mural Project artist expressions of interest process. This wall extends approximately 250 metres. Its current murals are more than 10 years old and need repair. This grant will support the artist expression of interest process which is the first stage in this mural redevelopment project.
- \$10,000 to City Centre Residents Group for the Victoria Quarter placemaking project. This grant will support initiatives for current and future Victoria Quarter residents to contribute their

voice to address the community safety issues and to engage in the creation of public spaces that promote people's health, happiness and wellbeing.

- \$10,000 to the Grey Lynn Business Association for the "Green-Up" Grey Lynn project. This grant will support the Grey Lynn Business Association to increase green spaces in front of local shops in the Grey Lynn Village.
- \$10,000 to Ponsonby Park community-led design group for the engagement activation. Staff are engaging with these community partners to support implementation of the placemaking initiatives. This grant will support community activation and community-led engagement for the next stages of this development.

## Kelmarna Community Gardens

Ponsonby's Kelmarna Gardens has completed improvements to their entranceway thanks to funding from the local board.

New bike parking and wheel stops have been installed along with curved seating designed by Carl Pickens Landscape Architect. Surrounding gardens have been shaped and edged, the driveway smoothed and a circular garden space for pollinator-attracting plants has been created.



New entranceway at Kelmarna Community Gardens

## Youth voice

The local board is committed to continue to work with youth on new approaches and ways of engaging, increasing youth civic participation and ensuring that youth have an influence on council decision-making and planning, especially on activities that they care about most.

This year staff completed a stock-take of organisations and groups working with young people in the local board area and had conversations with youth service providers about the possibility of building a youth voice platform.

In December 2018, 70 people attended the Youth Service Providers Hui. Over 30 different organisations were represented. The focus of this first hui was to build whakawhanaungatanga and connections.

Staff have also engaged with Action Education to facilitate a Youth Hui later this year and have met with council's Digital Team to progress the Youth App Launch.

## Partnerships and collaboration

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### Studio One Toi Tū

Studio One Toi Tū is an inner-city creative hub supported by the local board that hosts studio and exhibition spaces, artist residencies, venues for hire, creative courses and workshops for all levels of experience.

Its four galleries are located on the ground floor of a landmark Ponsonby building. Studio space is available for hire in three locations, offering opportunities for artists, designers and other creative people to collaborate.

Some highlights in 2019 were a Matariki exhibition Ngā Rangatahi Toa, Te Pou O Tipuna, Artweek participation with Electric Night and art tours detailing Toi Tū's history and arts community, Flash Tattoo Weekend in conjunction with Two Hands Tattoo, and a Makers Market Day in early December offering a variety of stalls from the Toi Tū community and the wider public.

The Fringe Arts Festival programme included Degrees of Separation, an exhibit with three collaborative works, a pop-up exhibition "visual is toikupu" by 13 artists and a pop-up ceramicist exhibition by Monica Tong.

Rainbow Youth exhibited their artistic representations of the 2018 Out Loud project, conversations around the failings and strengths of current mental health and addiction support for gender diverse communities.

### The Auckland Performing Arts Centre (TAPAC)

The local board has entered an arts partnership with The Auckland Performing Arts Centre (TAPAC) and has approved a funding contribution to the organisation's operational costs for the 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 financial year.

TAPAC provides a destination for the wider arts community and a platform for emerging performers.

Arts and culture activities and programmes at TAPAC provide access to and participation in the arts for people of all ages, cultures and levels of experience.

The partnership is a critical step in helping the organisation to achieve greater sustainability.

### The Central City Community Network

The local board contributes funding to the Central City Community Network to increase community connectedness and capacity building in the city centre. It is a central hub for people to exchange information on what's happening in the city centre, connect, network, collaborate and initiate community projects.

It is delivered through a partnership between Auckland Council and the Ellen Melville Centre team, under a model that empowers other stakeholders to take a lead role in organising the monthly meetings.

Members of the Central City Community Network have reported positive outcomes because of networking opportunities from increased interaction and collaboration within the city centre.

### National Erebus memorial

With the 40th anniversary of the Erebus accident to be marked in 2019, the Government is constructing a national memorial at the Dove-Myer Robinson Park / Taurarua Pā, commonly known as the Parnell Rose Gardens.

The National Erebus Memorial design Te Paerangi Ataata – Sky Song was announced in April 2019 by the Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and Mayor Phil Goff.

The design was chosen with the support of the local board and Ngāti Whātua Orākei.

The local board is really honoured to host such a historically significant memorial in one of our local parks.

## Public art

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### Rainbow Machine

The Rainbow Machine is one of many art programmes helping to build a sense of identity and belonging for Aucklanders. The local board supported some of the early concept designs and hosted the Rainbow Machine's first installation at Silo Park in 2019.

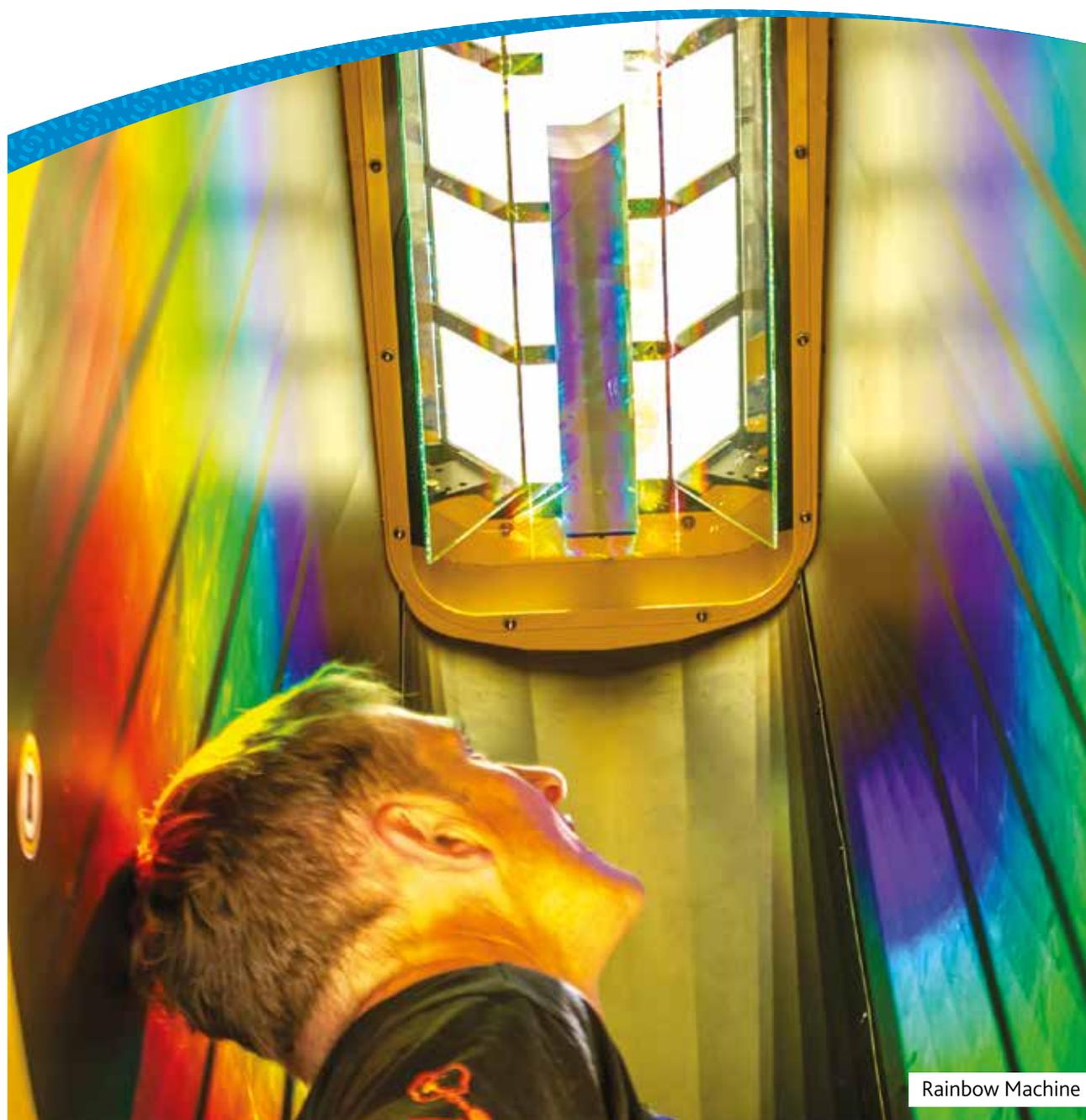
Auckland children can now make rainbows thanks to the creativity of artists working with Callaghan Innovation.

The machine was at Silo Park between 25 January and 31 March. Visitors could turn the machine's

bright yellow module to face the sun and make rainbows, without needing a single raindrop.

Scientists from Callaghan Innovation brought their expertise to the design of the optical module from which rainbow spectra are formed, enabling the concept team of architects and artists Shahriar Asdollah-Zadeh, Patrick Loo and Sarosh Mulla to bring the Rainbow Machine to life.

It houses eight custom-made lenses to refract light. The lenses and the module were built using innovative technology with specialised manufacturing processes.



Rainbow Machine

## Local events



AKSamba performed at Myers Park Medley 2019

The local board continues to commit funding to new and established local events as they are a great way to bring our communities together to connect and celebrate the community we live in.

### Myers Park Medley

Myers Park Medley is an inner-city event held every summer, with this year's event held on 17 February 2019.

This community day-out brought together city centre residents to connect and celebrate our unique community. The family-friendly day was filled with roaming entertainment, activities and games.

The varied stage entertainment reflected the diverse audience, with a mixture of young and old, different backgrounds and cultures, from people attending alone, pairs of friends, and extended families.

### Parnell Festival of Roses

In November 2018, we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Parnell Festival of Roses at the Parnell Rose Gardens.

The well-loved festival was a big success with a record turnout of 9,000 people. The festival is one of the local board's flagship events which we aim to ensure is accessible, zero waste and community focused.



Parnell Festival of Roses

## Helen Clark visit and Ellen Melville one-year celebration

To coincide with the one-year celebration for the revamped Ellen Melville Centre, former Prime Minister Helen Clark was welcomed at an event held in a room named in her honour.

The upstairs room retains its original Pioneer Women's Hall name, while the five rooms in the centre all have names recommended by the Auckland branch of the National Council of Women. The whole building was renamed the Ellen Melville Centre after the upgrade last year.

The new room names honour the significant contributions to Auckland civic life made by Elizabeth Yates, Betty Wark, Eleitino "Paddy" Walker, Marilyn Waring and Helen Clark.

Understood to be the first space named for the former Prime Minister, it is at the heart of the community centre building which won design and architecture awards during its restoration.

Cutting the ribbon in 2017 was a very proud day for the local board. Since then the Ellen Melville Centre has become a thriving hub and a building that is central to its community.

## Pop in Waitematā

Pop is a series of temporary pop-up art projects in public spaces, bringing creativity and surprise to central Auckland.

They are designed to integrate arts and culture into the everyday lives of Aucklanders by taking arts and culture into open public spaces.

This year the local board invested \$65,000 to support the Pop 2019 season.

Between 22 February and 12 March 2019, projects were delivered at various locations in the local board area.

The events included:

- **Pop Ping Pong** – game of ping pong with electronic soundscape at Freyberg Place
- **Pop Marbles** – engaging passers-by to construct a unique marble run
- **Pop Plinths** – a selfie opportunity for runners to strike a pose
- **Pop Drop** – two super-sized water filled droplets at Karanga Plaza, Wynyard Quarter
- **Pop Poetry** – held at Symonds Street cemetery and Karangahape Road
- **Pop Stage** – sharing some sweet sounds around the town.



Helen Clark at the Ellen Melville Centre outside the room named in her honour



Pop Ping Pong



Good Citizens' Awards recipients

## Good Citizens' Awards

Every two years the Waitematā Local Board host our Good Citizens' Awards in recognition of community members and groups that have gone above and beyond for the benefit of the community and the environment.

Nominations were open from 18 March to 14 April 2019. We were very pleased to have Bruce Kilmister and The Very Reverend Anne Mills, Dean of Auckland, on our selection panel this year. Their expertise and community knowledge was invaluable in the selection process.

The awards ceremony was held on 16 May 2019 at the Auckland Town Hall and guests were entertained with performances by the Freemans Bay School Kapa Haka Group and the Auckland Street Choir.

We celebrated the huge contributions by volunteers and heard the amazing stories behind each of the nominations. We are privileged to have fantastic individuals and groups in our community doing such amazing work.

Awards were made in four categories - Children and Young People Awards, Individual Awards, Community Group Awards and Long Service Awards to a diverse range of recipients from across Waitematā.

Congratulations to everyone who was recognised on the night and thank you for the great work that you do in the Waitematā communities.

## Children & Young People Award

- Luca Scott-Smith
- Teresa Lee
- Neia Hinton.

## Individual Award

- Liam Dargaville
- David Lei Wang
- Ruth Busch
- Nick Loosley
- Sandra Jenkins
- Anne Malcolm
- Lynne Frith
- Brigitte Sistig
- Rohan Macmahon
- Edyta Plowman.

## Community Group Award

- I Got Your Back Pack
- Asian Family Services
- UN Youth New Zealand.

## Long Service Award

- David Haigh
- John Hill
- Gerry Hill
- David McGregor
- Penny Sefuiva.

## Local board supported events

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The local board support a range of community events through our Events Partnerships Fund and Events Development Fund. These funds allow us to partner with local groups on community-led events and support our communities in developing and establishing signature events for the area.

### Doc Edge Festival 2019

Doc Edge is a not-for-profit organisation based in Auckland that promotes documentary, creates healthy audience appreciation for documentary and makes New Zealand a documentary destination on the world stage.

The local board supported Doc Edge Festival 2019 with a grant of \$5,000.

### Festival Italiano

The local board supported this festival with a grant of \$25,000.

The Italian Festival Season was held from 30 August until 28 October hosting a variety of Italian events in Auckland. The popular street event Festival Italiano was held on 28 October covering Osborne Street, Kent Street and the Rialto Centre in Newmarket.

### Artweek Auckland

Artweek Auckland is an annual, week-long festival celebrating the visual arts of Auckland. Artweek 2018 was held 4–14 October. The local board supported the festival with a grant of \$23,000.

### West End Cup

The West End Cup is an international tennis tournament held annually in December in Westmere.

2018 saw a return of New Zealand's top tennis players to contest the Men's, Women's and Junior titles including members of the New Zealand's Davis Cup and Federation Cup teams.

The local board supported this free-for-spectators' event with a grant of \$10,000.

### Grey Lynn Park Festival

The 2018 Grey Lynn Park Festival was held on 25 November and has now been held for 35 years running.

Since 1984, locals have initiated this fun-filled day bringing together the community.

The festival receives a \$25,000 grant from the local board's Contestable Events fund.



Grey Lynn Park Festival

Franklin Road Christmas lights



### Franklin Road Christmas lights

Every year, Franklin Road residents light up their houses from December 1 until Boxing Day.

The free event is in its 26th year. The Christmas lights remain on until 11pm each evening.

This year the local board funded the opening night and rubbish bins for the event.

### Anzac Day Services

Anzac Day Services were held on 25 April 2019.

The local board provided funding to the Grey Lynn RSC towards delivering an Anzac Day service, and to Friends of St David's Trust towards the cost of delivering the Art of Remembrance event held on Anzac Day Eve at St David's Presbyterian Church.



Anzac Day parade, Grey Lynn, 2019

### Citizenship ceremonies

The local board supports the delivery of an annual programme of citizenship ceremonies in conjunction with the Department of Internal Affairs.

It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the new citizens' commitment to New Zealand.

### Lightpath Festival

The second annual Lightpath Festival, supported by the local board with a \$10,000 grant, took place on 1 December 2018.

It is a free, family-friendly evening celebrating this iconic addition to our city and the joy of people-friendly streets.

The festival was an opportunity to experience the city by night with entertainers, music, art, food, and bike fun along Lightpath Te Ara i Whiti and Canada Street.

### Farmers Santa Parade

The Farmers Santa Parade celebrated its 85th birthday in 2018, providing some of the best celebrations yet.

The local board supported the parade with a community grant of \$5,000. The parade was held on 2 December 2018.

### Auckland International Buskers Festival

The Auckland International Buskers Festival returned to the city centre and waterfront for another year, with four full days of entertainment in January 2019.

The local board supported this event with a \$15,000 grant from its Event Development Fund.

Extraordinary performers came from far and wide with performances to entertain the Auckland crowds.



Lightpath Festival

# Community grants and funding

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The Waitematā Community Grants Programme provides opportunities for community organisations to deliver projects, activities and services that benefit residents in the Waitematā Local Board area.

Our local grants programme aims to provide contestable grants to local communities under the activity areas of arts and culture, events, community development, environment and natural heritage, historic heritage and sports and recreation.

The local board operates three grants schemes under the local grants programme and a separate expression of interest process for the Local Events Development Fund.

## Local community grants

The local board ran two local grant rounds and three quick response grant rounds in the 2018/2019 financial year (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019), allocating a total of \$150,000.

The successful applicants were:

- Action Education Incorporated
- All Together Multi-Culture Society Club of NZ Incorporated
- Amanda Chapman for Auckland Library of Tools
- Auckland Basketball Services Limited
- Auckland Cathedral of the Holy Trinity
- Auckland City Centre Residents' Group Incorporated
- Auckland Deaf Society Incorporated
- Auckland Electric Tramways Trust
- Auckland Fringe Trust
- Auckland Heritage Roses
- Auckland Indian Sports Club Incorporated
- Auckland Pride Festival
- Auckland Seniors Support and Caring Group Incorporated
- Auckland Women's Centre Incorporated
- Auckland Youth Orchestra Incorporated
- Barbara Bailey for Thursday morning life drawing
- Bike Auckland
- Body Positive Incorporated
- Breaking Boundaries
- Campus Radio bFM Limited
- Claire Ulenberg C R Trustees Limited
- Claudia Boopsie Maran for Dickens Street Party, Western Park Jam and playgroup 20th anniversary party
- CNSST Foundation
- Environmental Education for Resource Sustainability Trust
- For the Love of Bees
- Fun and Games Toy Library Incorporated
- Galatea Theatre
- Gladstone Tennis Club Incorporated
- Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community Trust
- Grey Lynn Business Association
- Grey Lynn Community Centre Incorporated
- Hipold D'souza for Konkani Play
- Kids Safe with Dogs
- KidsCan Charitable Trust
- Kyan Krumdieck for Diana Wong Heritage Project
- Life Education Trust Counties Manukau
- Lightbox Projects Limited
- New Zealand Dance Festival Trust
- New Zealand Eid Day Trust
- New Zealand Fashion Museum Charitable Trust
- Nilam Patel for Kama Sutra production
- Parnell Community Committee Incorporated
- Parnell Community Trust
- Ponsonby Business Association
- Pressure Points Collective
- Rainbow Youth Incorporated
- Royal New Zealand Air Force Association
- Royal New Zealand Foundation of The Blind Incorporated
- Samoan Methodist
- Show Me Shorts Film Festival Trust
- Social Innovation New Zealand
- St Columba Anglican Church Parish
- StarJam Charitable Trust
- The Auckland Film Society Incorporated
- The Auckland Performing Arts Centre
- The Auckland YMCA Marathon Club Incorporated
- The Documentary New Zealand Trust
- The Lifewise Trust
- The Others Club Limited
- The People of Auckland Community Trust
- The Warren



- Uptown Business Association
- Youthline Auckland Charitable Trust
- Zionist Federation of NZ.

Some highlights from the grant recipients were:

**Rainbow Youth** – “Held fun, positive and affirming social events aimed at the outcome of supporting and respecting young trans, intersex and gender diverse people by bringing them together as a community to allow mutual peer support.”

**Grey Lynn 2030 Transition Community Trust** – “As a result of the book publication and launch event, GL2030 has raised its profile in the community and strengthened the collaboration between the different groups that came out of GL2030.”

**Royal NZ Airforce Association** – “Brought together a wide range of community members who were supporting Air Training cadets from all over Auckland, as well as veterans and current service personnel to commemorate an historic event in the history of our Air Force Service during World War 1.”

### Accommodation support

The local board ran one accommodation support round in the 2018/2019 financial year (1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019), allocating a total of \$125,000.

The successful applicants were:

- Action Education Incorporated
- Auckland Regional Migrant Services Charitable Trust
- Auckland Writers and Readers Festival Charitable Trust
- Audio Foundation

- Body Positive Incorporated
- CNSST Foundation
- Conservation Volunteers New Zealand
- ECPAT Child Alert Trust
- Foundation for Peace Studies Aotearoa New Zealand
- Fun and Games Toy Library Incorporated
- Global Action Plan Oceania
- Indian Ink Trust
- New Zealand Dance Advancement Trust
- New Zealand Dance Festival Trust
- Nightsong
- Opera Factory Trust
- OUTLine New Zealand Incorporated
- Rainbow Youth Incorporated
- Raukauri Music Therapy Trust
- Show Me Shorts Film Festival Trust
- Te Karanga Charitable Trust
- The Auckland YMCA Marathon Club Incorporated
- The Basement Theatre Trust.



## Support to business associations

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Seven business associations operate within the Waitematā Local Board area, of which six are established as Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). The local board continues to be represented on business associations, providing advice, advocacy support and allocating funds to help deliver local initiatives.

Below is the list of the business associations with their respective local board member representative:

  
**Grey Lynn Business Association**  
– Denise Roche

  
**Heart of the City  
(BID)** – Shale Chambers

  
**Karangahape Road Business Association  
(BID)** – Richard Northey

**NEWMARKET.**  
**Newmarket Business Association  
(BID)** – Rob Thomas

  
**Parnell Business Association  
(BID)** – Vernon Tava

  
**Ponsonby Business Association  
(BID)** – Pippa Coom

  
**Uptown Business Association  
(BID)** – Adriana Avendaño Christie

## Advocacy

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A key role of the local board is to advocate for initiatives that the local board may not have decision-making responsibilities or funding for in this 10-year Budget, but recognise the value they will add to the local community.

The local board advocated to the Governing Body and Government on issues related to the arts, environmental and low carbon, affordable housing and solutions for homeless.

In addition to our advocacy for Ponsonby Park at 254 Ponsonby Road the local board has prioritised the following advocacy areas:

- **Affordable housing:** ensure Auckland Council actively builds or enables others to provide affordable housing through appropriate mechanisms and tools
- **Housing solution for homeless people:** deliver short and medium-term housing solutions to

address homelessness including funding for the Auckland City Mission HomeGround project.

- **Work towards eliminating agrichemical use:** secure a budget to eliminate agrichemical spray and embrace the commitment to minimise agrichemical use
- **Reduction of wastewater flows into waterways and the Waitematā Harbour:** to increase funding for water quality improvements to accelerate the delivery of cleaner harbours, beaches and streams and support the delivery of localised solutions for all four catchments (Meola Reef, Grey Lynn, city centre and Parnell/Newmarket)
- **Ensure Auckland's regional arts and cultural institutions and programmes are financially sustainable:** to secure appropriate funding to ensure the financial sustainability of projects, facilities, venues and events including the delivery of the free entertainment programme currently delivered by Regional Facilities Auckland.

The local board also advocated for the following issues:

- **Open and Closed Cemetery Maintenance**  
**Budget:** secure a regional maintenance budget to maintain a base service level for open and closed cemeteries
- **Auckland Domain Capital Improvements**  
**Budget:** secure adequate capital funds to progress the Auckland Domain Master Plan
- **Central Community Recycling Centre Drop Off sites:** secure the acquisition of a second drop-off facility and the completion of a main processing site which, together with the site being developed on Great North Road, will comprise a regional waste management network that will service the needs of Waitematā, Albert-Eden and Puketāpapa local boards
- **Pt Erin Pool Redevelopment Initiative:** prioritise Pt Erin Pool for redevelopment according to the recommendations endorsed by the Waitematā Local Board in 2013 in relation to two potential development concepts
- **Auckland is an Age and Child and Youth Friendly City:** continue to put older persons, children and young people first so Auckland can become an age, child and youth-friendly city that is fit for all
- **City of Peace:** support the development of a regional policy that prohibits the promotion, marketing and sales of weapons of war in council facilities including facilities managed by council-controlled organisations
- **Ponsonby Road Arts Precinct:** support the creation of an arts precinct at 1-3 Ponsonby Road through transferring 3 Ponsonby Road from a commercial lease to a community arts facility, subject to the outcome of a business case and / or needs analysis
- **Carlile House:** ensure the restoration and protection of Carlile House and consider acquisition if necessary
- **Built Heritage Acquisition Fund:** support an effective built heritage acquisition fund to help save at risk buildings or other built features that have heritage merit from destruction by neglect, by purchase, short term hold or sale
- **Restoration and protection of the St James Theatre:** council provides support to the Auckland Notable Properties Trust in the restoration and protection of St James Theatre
- **Auckland Council Living Wage:** ensure that there is budget provision of a 'living wage' for council employees and progressively for contractor employees

- **CCO Low Carbon Targets:** advocate to the Governing Body for council-controlled organisations to include low carbon targets in their Statements of Intent
- **Single Use Plastic:** support mechanisms to reduce single use plastic and eliminate single use plastic bags
- **Full Council ownership of Ports of Auckland:** ensure Ports of Auckland Limited remains in full council ownership
- **Investment Policy:** follow a policy of social and environmentally responsible investment
- **Victoria Quarter:** take action to progress the City Centre Master Plan objectives for the Victoria Quarter area including Nelson Street to deliver a quality urban neighbourhood that enhances the area's historic character and where the safety of pedestrians is prioritised
- **Implementation of the Smokefree Policy:** Auckland Council to continue to deliver on the vision and outcomes of the council's Smokefree Policy 2017 - 2025 by extending smokefree public areas to plazas, civic squares, shared spaces, urban centres, alfresco dining areas and beaches
- **MOTAT Redevelopment:** support the redevelopment of MOTAT that achieves the dual outcomes of continuing the long-term preservation of its collections and providing high quality recording and presentation of the history of transport and technology in Auckland and New Zealand.



Pt Erin Pool

## Transport advocacy

The local board is dedicated to providing accessible, connected and safe transport networks with well-designed streets. This includes improved safety for all road users, in particular children walking and cycling to school.

The local board's advocacy positions for transport are:

- ensure Parnell Train Station is providing full services and is accessible to all users at the earliest opportunity
- provide accessible pedestrian and cycling connections to Parnell Station
- open the Greenways route from the Strand through the old Parnell tunnel and create an accessible pedestrian connection from Parnell Station to the Domain, the Strand and Parnell Town Centre
- complete the Auckland Cycle Network
- improve access between Broadway and Station Square in Newmarket and link to the Newmarket Laneways Plan
- build light rail within the isthmus
- Auckland Transport to adopt a target of zero serious injuries or deaths on our roads as part of a comprehensive safe systems approach to road safety including safe road design, enforcement, safer speeds and driver education
- Auckland Transport to undertake a trial of a slow speed zone in a residential area and/or a town centre
- Auckland Transport to implement the city centre 30km per hour speed zone (as described in the City Centre Masterplan) and the Wynyard Quarter slower speed zone
- Auckland Transport to consider how every renewal and maintenance project can be leveraged to improve the road design for all users including layouts that include bus lanes, greenways, and cycle lanes, remove cycle pinch points and add better pedestrian crossings
- Auckland Transport to improve intersections with substantial foot traffic for pedestrians and developing solutions to improve safety and amenity for pedestrians
- Auckland Transport to advocate for a change of the give way rule requiring motorists to give way to pedestrians crossing parallel to the main road at intersections
- Auckland Transport to continue implementing residential parking schemes to manage commuter parking in central Auckland suburbs following consultation with residents

- Auckland Transport to develop the 2018/2019 footpath renewal programme
- Secure a regional budget to enable the implementation of the Waitemata Local Board Greenways prioritised routes
- Auckland Transport to provide opportunities for greenery in every streetscape improvement
- Auckland Transport to reduce black carbon levels on Queen Street by looking at opportunities to reduce emissions from buses and trucks.

Some of the highlights of transport projects that progressed as a result of the local board's advocacy include:

- **Franklin Road upgrade:** the local board advocated to secure the budget for this \$20m project which includes underground lighting, new footpaths, cycleway and separation. The project aims to provide an urban streetscape to accommodate all road users while retaining the natural heritage value.
- **Residential parking schemes:** the local board continues to advocate for the implementation of residential parking schemes to manage commuter parking in central Auckland suburbs following consultation with residents. This year zones have been installed in Parnell, Grey Lynn and Grafton.
- **Pedestrian safety improvements:** Auckland Transport and the local board's focus on safety as a priority has resulted in new pedestrian crossings at College Hill, Kelmarna Avenue and Shortland Street as well as improvements to existing crossings on Parnell Road.



Franklin Road upgrade

## Regional and national plans and policies

A key role of the local board is to represent communities' views on regional and national issues by providing feedback on plans and policies. Below is a list of the local board's submissions in the last year:

- City Centre Masterplan Review
- the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- law changes to enable Auckland Council to reintroduce general tree protection rules
- mandatory phase out of single use plastic shopping bags
- Draft Facility Partnerships Policy
- Reforming the Residential Tenancies Act 1986
- Healthy Homes Standards
- Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan
- Auckland Water Strategy
- Freedom Camping
- Queens Wharf Extension Dolphin Mooring
- Sports Investment Plan
- Regional Land Transport Plan
- Regional Public Transport Plan
- Dog Management Bylaw
- Signage Bylaw
- Auckland Transport Safety speed bylaw
- Four Wellbeings Bill
- Productivity Commission Review of Local Government Financing
- Representation Review of Auckland Council elected representation
- Waste Management Plan.

## Waitematā Local Board governance

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### Auckland Council has a shared governance model with decision-making shared between the Governing Body (mayor and councillors) and local boards.

The Governing Body provides decision-making and oversight of decisions on regional activities whilst local boards provide decision-making and oversight of decisions on local activities.

Local boards are also the communities' advocates that represent the local community for regional issues, strategies, policies, plans and decisions which have local importance.

The Waitematā Local Board is made up of seven elected members, whose purpose is to make decisions that support the priorities of the local community and deliver initiatives that improve the wellbeing of the local community.

### Auckland Domain committee

The committee has decision-making responsibility over parks, sports, recreation and community services and activities within the Auckland Domain, the city's oldest park.

It is comprised of three Governing Body members, three local board members and two members of the Māori Statutory Local Board.

Waitematā Local Board Chair Pippa Coom, Deputy Chair Shale Chambers and local board member Vernon Tava sit on this committee.

### Joint Governance Working Party

The Joint Governance Working Party was established to consider governance matters of mutual interest to the Governing Body and local boards. The working party consists of four councillors and four local board members.

Waitematā Local Board Member Richard Northey was appointed as the chair of the working party, which is the first joint working party to be chaired by a local board member.

The working party has been mandated to oversee the implementation of the Governance Framework Review, a review of the Auckland shared governance model.

The Representation Review was tasked to the working party to review Auckland Council's representation arrangements to ensure fairness of representation including across all Governing Body wards within each local board and across all subdivisions.

The working party also reviewed the Code of Conduct and provided their recommendations for amendments to the Governing Body.

## Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) represents the national interests of councils in New Zealand and leads best practice in the local government sector.

Waitematā Local Board Chair Pippa Coom has joined LGNZ's National Council (ex-officio) as the local board representative.

## The New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute (Trafinz)

The New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute (Trafinz) is an organisation that represents local authority views on road safety and traffic issues in New Zealand.

Waitematā Local Board Chair Pippa Coom is a member of the executive committee, which consists of 15 councillors and officers from various councils across the country.

In November 2018, Pippa spoke at the Trafinz conference 'Prioritising for People' held in Wellington.

## Auckland City Centre Advisory Board

The Auckland City Centre Advisory Board is a key advisory body, supporting the vision of the City Centre Masterplan.

The Auckland City Centre Advisory Board assists and advises on city centre issues and achieving the vision and strategic outcomes of the City Centre Masterplan and Auckland Plan.

They advise the council Governing Body, Waitematā Local Board and council-controlled organisations.

The board also advises council on how to spend the city centre targeted rate, which is paid by city centre businesses and residents to upgrade and develop the city centre.

Members are representatives of city centre business and resident groups. The panel also includes the Mayor, a mana whenua representative, a councillor and Waitematā Local Board Deputy Chair Shale Chambers.

## City Rail Link Community Liaison Groups

As part of City Rail Link (CRL) designation conditions, Local Community Liaison Groups representative of the residents, property owners and businesses directly affected by CRL construction have been established.

The Waitematā Local Board representatives of the CRL Community Liaison Groups are Chair Pippa Coom for the Downtown and Midtown Community Liaison Group; Member Adriana Aveñano Christie for the Uptown and Mt Eden Community Liaison Group and Member Richard Northey for the Karangahape Road Community Liaison Group.

The groups meet regularly throughout the CRL construction, with the purpose of receiving regular updates on project progress, monitoring the effects of construction on the community and giving feedback to CRL on any concerns and issues.

## Looking ahead

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The local board is incredibly active with an extensive programme of works planned for the year ahead.

As the 2016-2019 term ends there is an exciting number of projects and initiatives in the pipeline, many of which have been planned over a long period.

In the next year, the Myers Park underpass upgrade will get underway and work will start on the new change rooms at Grey Lynn Park and new playgrounds at Home and Outhwaite Reserves.

Ponsonby Park remains the local board's major capital project and we are committed to making the community's vision for this space a reality.

The Western Springs Lakeside Park Te Wai ōrea Development Plan is expected to be adopted in the next few months. This plan, along with our other park development plans, will inform funding priorities in our parks such as an improved playground at Western Springs Lakeside Park.

Agrichemical free maintenance in our parks remains a priority for the local board. We have committed funding for agrichemical-free maintenance at Western Park, Albert Park, Myers Park and Victoria Park, and will continue to advocate to the

Governing Body for a regional approach to achieving agrichemical-free maintenance.

A one-off community safety fund of \$1.4m will deliver a range of improvements across the Waitematā Local Board area focused on safety around schools and for pedestrians. We are committed to delivering new greenway routes and pathways with investment from the local board transport capital fund.

Over the next year we look forward to bringing our communities together by delivering our signature annual events, Parnell Festival of Roses and Myers Park Medley. We will continue to support local events, community arts programmes and increased library hours at Grey Lynn Library and Central City Library.

We look forward to working together to deliver another successful year of great outcomes for the Waitematā communities.



Waitematā Local Board



Find out more: visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)  
or phone 09 301 0101