



Te mahere ā-rohe o Hibiscus and Bays

Hibiscus and Bays Draft Local Board Plan 2026

**Tāmaki Turuki.
Altogether Auckland.**



Mihi

E toko ake rā e te iti, whakatata mai rā e te rahi, kia mihi koutou ki ngā kupu whakarei a te hunga kua tīpokotia e te ringa o te wāhi ngaro, ēngari e kaikini tonu nei i ngā mahara i te ao, i te pō.

Nga ōha i mahue mai i tērā whakatupuranga kia āpitihia e tatou ki nga tūmanako o tēnei reanga, hei mounga waihotanga iho ki te ira whaimuri i a tātou.

Koina te tangi a ngākau māhaki, a te wairua hihiri me te hinengaro tau.

Oho mai rā tātou ki te whakatairanga i ngā mahi e ekeina ai

te pae tawhiti ka tō mai ai ki te pae tata.

Tēnei au te noho atu nei i mātārae te titiro ki runga o Ōrewa,

ki te one e rere atu ana ki Te Whangaparāoa ki te Kūiti o te Puarangi.

Kei waho ko Tiritiri Mātangi, tomokanga ki te moana o te Waitematā.

Ki uta ko te Whanga o Oho Mairangi, ūnga mai o Te Arawa waka,

ka rere whakarunga ngā kamo ki Takapuna kāinga, Takapuna tupuna.

Kia taka ki tua ko Maungaūika te tū hēteri mai rā i te pūwaha o Tāmaki Makaurau, Tāmaki herehere waka.

Ka ruruku atu tātou mā te waitai kia puta ake ki te Awataha ki nga mihi a te Kaipātiki me te Te Raki Paewhenua ki te uru, i reira ka whakatau te haere.

E koutou mā ka ea, kua ea, kia ora huihui mai koutou katoa.

Welcome to you all let me greet you with the eloquent words of those who have long since been taken by the unseen hand of the unknown,

but for whom we still mourn.

Let us enjoin the legacy they left to the hopes of this generation as our gift to those who will follow us.

That is the pledge of the humble heart, the willing spirit and the inspired mind.

Let us rise together and seek to do what is necessary

to draw distant aspirations closer to realisation.

Here I sit on the headland overlooking Ōrewa to the stretch of sand that runs to

Whangaparāoa

along the Hibiscus Coast.

Off land lies Tiritiri Mātangi gateway to the Waitematā.

On land is Mairangi Bay, landing of Te Arawa waka,

gazing southward lies Takapuna community, Takapuna the progenitor.

Beyond stands Maungaūika sentinel of Tāmaki Makaurau, anchorage of many canoes.

Taking to the tidal waters we emerge at Awataha to the greetings of Kaipātiki and West Harbour

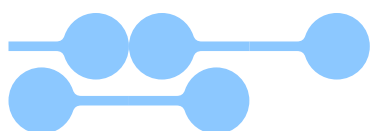
and there our journey ends.

It is done, greetings to you all.

Ngā upoko kōrero

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He kōrero mai i te heamana

From the chair



The Hibiscus and Bays Local Board area is one of the fastest growing parts of Auckland. With that growth comes both opportunity and responsibility to plan well and protect what makes our area special.

Our population has grown significantly over the past decade and this is expected to continue, placing increasing demand on infrastructure, the environment and shared spaces. We know growth brings challenges and we must respond to the reality of current and future intensification by advocating for well-planned development in appropriate locations.

This Local Board Plan 2026 sets our direction for the next three years while laying the groundwork for the decade ahead. It reflects a proactive, future-focused approach to ensure we are better prepared for our growing communities.

This time, we did things differently. We started by listening, undertaking early engagement to understand what matters most to our communities, followed by consultation on the draft plan. This has helped ensure the plan reflects what we have heard directly from you.

Strong, connected communities are at the heart of this plan. As our area grows and some homes are becoming smaller, high-quality public spaces (including parks, sports facilities, libraries, halls and town centres) will play an increasingly important role in supporting connection, wellbeing and belonging. Ensuring these spaces are easy for everyone to access and fit for purpose is a key priority.

Growth also places pressure on our natural environment. We must respond to increasing pressures on our waterways, coastlines and surrounding areas, while continuing to restore biodiversity and protect what makes this place special. Supporting vibrant town centres and improving transport connections will also be critical.

Delivering this plan will require strong partnerships. We will work closely with mana whenua, community groups and local organisations, and explore more efficient ways to deliver, including partnerships and innovative approaches to achieve more with less.

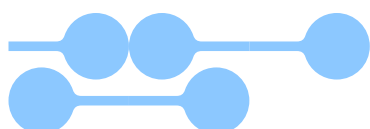
People choose to live in the Hibiscus Coast and East Coast Bays for a reason — our beaches, safe communities and quality of life. This plan is about retaining and enhancing those qualities as we grow, and building the foundations needed to support our future.

We are excited about the opportunities ahead and committed to working with our community to shape a future that reflects our shared aspirations. Together, we can ensure our area continues to be the best place for people, families and communities to grow and thrive, now and for generations to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'AP', located below the main text.

Alexis Poppelbaum JP

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Chairperson



He aronga poto ki tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance



Community

We are a connected, inclusive and resilient community where people feel welcome, their voices are heard, and everyone has opportunities to take part, belong and thrive.



Natural environment

Our native plants, animals and ecosystems thrive in a healthy environment with reduced waste and pollution, controlled pests and restored native biodiversity while our land, waterways and coastlines are resilient and adapt to climate change.



Built environment

Our town centres and neighbourhoods are safe, welcoming and resilient places, thoughtfully designed to support growth, strengthen connections and make everyday life better for our communities.



Economic development

We have a thriving local economy where businesses grow, employment opportunities increase and communities benefit from sustainable, locally focused economic development.



Transport

Our area has a safe, connected and accessible transport network, where people and goods move efficiently, and walking, cycling and public transport are attractive and reliable travel choices.

You will find these Auckland-wide commitments woven through our plan:



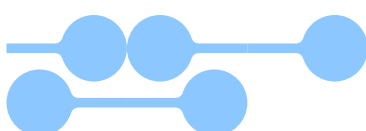
**Māori
Outcomes**



**Climate
outcomes**



**Equitable
outcomes**



Te tirohanga whānui o Te Mahere a te Poari ā-Rohe

Local board plan overview

He kōrero mō tēnei tuhinga

About this document

This local board plan sets out the vision and priorities for our area over the next three years. It outlines our commitments to our community – shaped by what you've told us matters most, and by the role local boards play within Auckland Council.

Te take kei a mātou te mahere nei

Why we have this plan

Local boards are responsible for decisions on local services and activities, and for representing local views on wider Auckland issues.

This plan guides:

- what we focus on and fund locally
- how we work with mana whenua, partners, and community organisations
- how we make the best use of local assets such as parks, libraries and community facilities
- where we will advocate to others on your behalf.

Te ara i whakaritea ai te mahere nei

How this plan was developed

Before we develop our local board plan, we 'engage' with our communities to find out what matters most to them. Local board plan engagement is about listening to the community and using their feedback to guide local decision-making and planning for the next three years.

To develop a plan that reflects local aspirations, we used:

- what we heard from our communities during formal and informal conversations and from previous consultations
- engagement with mana whenua and mataawaka before and during the early engagement period
- feedback received during early local board plan engagement between November 2025 and March 2026, including at events and through online feedback.

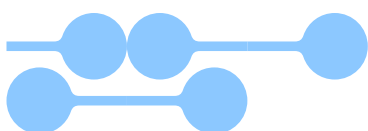
Te ara e tutuki ai ngā whāinga kei te mahere

How the plan will be used

The plan provides direction for the next three years and influences council's wider decision making. To deliver on it we will:

- prioritise budgets and resources to focus on the initiatives in this plan
- work with our partners to deliver on the objectives in this plan.

Visit the [Auckland Council website](#) to find out more about local boards



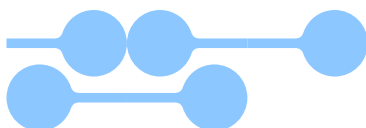
Te Rohe ā-Poari Local board area



MAP LEGEND

Local board office*	Public open space (Unitary Plan)	Industrial, commercial and reserve land	Motorway	Arterial road	Medium road	Minor road

* The Hibiscus and Bays Local Board are currently meeting at the Hawiti building at 6-8 Munroe Lane, Albany, Auckland and will be returning to the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board office once renovations are complete





Children learning to surf at the beach.

Tā mātou ki ngā huanga hei painga mō Tāmaki Makaurau

Our contribution to positive outcomes for Auckland

Local board plans connect local priorities and projects with the wider goals for Auckland. In particular, the local board plan connects with the:

- [Auckland Plan 2050](#) – the 30-year vision for how Auckland will grow and change. This includes the Future Development Strategy
- [Long-term plan](#) – the council’s investment and funding priorities over the next 10 years
- [Annual plan](#) – local funding decisions for each financial year.

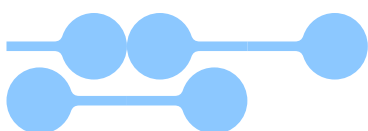
By linking to these wider plans, our local board plan can draw on Auckland-wide opportunities to deliver locally, while ensuring the goals of local

communities contribute to Auckland’s shared future.

The **Auckland Plan 2050** sets out six outcomes that describe what Auckland is working towards over the long term. The council’s strategic framework organises all work and spending into **seven investment areas** to show how these outcomes are achieved.

This local board plan focuses on **five** of those investment areas — the ones where local boards make decisions and can have the greatest influence at a local level.

The strategic framework also identifies three considerations for all decisions and investments:



- Equitable outcomes: Ensuring all Aucklanders have access to what they need to thrive
- Māori outcomes: Honouring Te Tiriti and ensuring Māori thrive in Tāmaki Makaurau
- Climate outcomes: Leading urgent action for a low-emissions, resilient future.

These three areas are mutually reinforcing. Improving one of the three required considerations is likely to contribute to improvements in the others.

He huanga tautika

Equitable outcomes

Auckland is one of the most diverse cities in the world, yet not all communities experience the same access to opportunity, wellbeing or resources.

Supporting more equitable outcomes is central to the Auckland Plan 2050. It recognises that the region’s success depends on making sure all Aucklanders can be part of and contribute to society, access opportunities and have a chance to develop to their full potential.

Ngā Hapori Momoho | Thriving Communities Strategy 2022–2032 is Auckland Council’s regional strategy for a fairer and more sustainable Tāmaki Makaurau where every Aucklander belongs. It reflects what communities say they need to thrive, for Tāmaki Makaurau to be a region where whānau have everything they need to live a good life, where diversity is celebrated, and where all Aucklanders can participate and belong.

At its heart *Ngā Hapori Momoho* focuses on ensuring equitable outcomes for all Aucklanders – guiding Auckland Council to recognise that different groups and communities need different things to fully participate in the life of our region, and to feel valued, included, and that they belong.

Local insights

The Hibiscus Coast Youth Hauora Network connects over 150 organisations working with young people across the local area, including schools, disability

providers, arts and sports groups, and organisations supporting diverse communities.

This work began in 2020 as part of a longer-term approach to build a more resilient youth ecosystem. Initial plans to fund individual organisations and scholarships changed following engagement with local providers, which highlighted a poorly connected and under-resourced sector, with many groups working in isolation. In response, the local board supported a community-led approach focused on strengthening connections, relationships and shared understanding.

Through a locally based community broker, the network has helped build stronger relationships, improve coordination and support a more connected and responsive system of support for young people. Over time, this has led to greater collaboration and a stronger foundation for future initiatives, including youth-led activities and improved engagement with schools and communities.

This approach highlights the value of investing in connection and local leadership to support more equitable outcomes for young people, particularly where needs are diverse and not always visible.

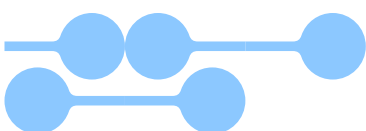
Ngā huanga Māori

Māori outcomes

Māori identity and culture are Auckland’s unique point of difference in the world.

Māori outcomes describe how Auckland Council supports Māori aspirations – from partnership and participation to visibility and wellbeing. They also reflect the council’s commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, our statutory responsibilities, and our ongoing relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities across Tāmaki Makaurau.

The refreshed [Tāmaki Ora Māori Outcomes Strategy](#) reflects the vision that when Māori are well, Tāmaki Makaurau will also be well. *Tāmaki Ora* guides Auckland Council to focus on seven Ora outcomes (wellbeing areas) that mana whenua and Māori communities have told us are important to them:



- Iwi Ora - Iwi wellbeing
- Te Taiao Ora - Environmental wellbeing
- Tuakiri Ora - Cultural identity wellbeing
- Huatau Ora – Future wellbeing
- Te Hapori Ora – Whānau & community wellbeing
- Whai Rawa Ora – Economic wellbeing
- Marae Ora - Marae vitality.

Local boards play a key role in achieving *Tāmaki Ora*. This can be through:

- partnering with mana whenua and Māori communities
- supporting local initiatives that reflect Māori priorities
- embedding Māori identity, language and values into local spaces and activities.

This work will focus on Mana ki te Mana (authority to authority) engagements between local boards and mana whenua. The aim is to build relationships based on respect, shared priorities and mutual recognition for the mana that we each hold.

Local insights

A strong example of partnership in action is the temporary ban on collecting coastal species along parts of the Hibiscus and Bays coastline. This was led by Ngāti Manuhiri under section 186A of the Fisheries Act.

In response to increasing pressure on coastal ecosystems, Ngāti Manuhiri exercised kaitiakitanga (guardianship) to protect taonga (treasured) species and support the regeneration of intertidal environments (areas between the land and sea).

This iwi-led advocacy brought together mātauranga Māori, community advocacy and government action, with strong local support. The Hibiscus and Bays

Local Board provided a formal letter of support for the application, reflecting alignment with community aspirations to protect and restore the coastal environment. Community and local board

support strengthened the case for action, with the application approved in early 2026. This marked a significant milestone in the use of Section 186A to support the recovery of our local ecosystem.

Together, this shows a shared commitment to restoring the mauri (life force) of these environments and ensuring their long-term health. It highlights the value of working in partnership, where mana whenua knowledge and leadership with community action achieve meaningful outcomes. It also provides a foundation for strengthening relationships and supporting Māori-led initiatives that benefit both people and place.

He huanga āhuarangi

Climate outcomes

In 2019, Auckland Council declared a climate emergency and adopted *Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland’s Climate Plan* in 2020. Meeting the goals of this plan requires ambitious action to reduce emissions and adapt to a changing climate.

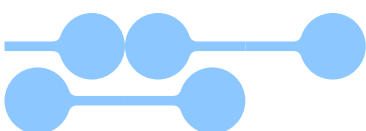
Local boards contribute by including climate action into everything we do – from community investment and transport choices to restoring the environment and local events. We also support regional initiatives and enable community-led initiatives that build local resilience to the effects of climate change. Climate action also connects with the *Ngā Hapori Momoho / Thriving Communities Strategy 2022-2032*, which recognises that social and environmental wellbeing are closely linked— communities thrive when they have healthy environments, green spaces and can respond together to climate challenges.

Tāmaki Ora also recognises Māori goals around climate leadership and resilience.

Local insights

In Hibiscus and Bays, climate action is increasingly community-led, future-focused and reflects local priorities and values.

During March 2026, as part of a local board supported school initiative, rangatahi (young people)






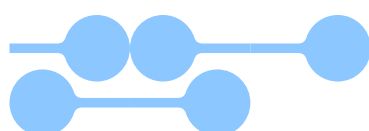
from several schools in the area gathered to learn, connect and take action through hands-on experiences shaped by the area’s unique coastal and freshwater environments.

Through activities such as freshwater monitoring, invasive species removal, food forest learning and waste reduction practices, rangatahi built practical skills while strengthening their understanding of how local waterways, coastlines and ecosystems are connected. Mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) guided the work throughout, supporting a holistic

approach to environmental stewardship and resilience. This reflects a growing movement where climate action is not only about reducing emissions, but about restoring ecosystems, strengthening cultural connections and building the ability of communities to respond to change.

In a coastal area facing pressures from growth and the effects of climate change, strengthening local leadership plays a key role in supporting long-term resilience and environmental wellbeing.

Auckland-wide outcomes	How it’s reflected across the plan
 <p data-bbox="233 728 472 801">Ngā huanga Māori Māori outcomes</p>	Partnership with mana whenua, Māori identity in local places, support for initiatives that reflect Māori priorities.
 <p data-bbox="233 853 512 927">He huanga āhuarangi Climate outcomes</p>	Reducing emissions, protecting biodiversity, building community resilience
 <p data-bbox="233 976 501 1050">He huanga tautika Equitable outcomes</p>	Targeted investment, access to services, focus on inclusion and fairness.





Playground opening at Harvest Avenue, Ōrewa.

Te hāpori **Community**

We are a connected, inclusive and resilient community where people feel welcome, their voices are heard and everyone has opportunities to take part, belong and thrive.

As Hibiscus and Bays intensifies access to private indoor and outdoor space is reduced and demand for shared spaces, services and community infrastructure increases. This puts greater importance on safe, inclusive and accessible public spaces and facilities that better support and improve community connections, participation and wellbeing.

Our communities continue to change with population growth, more diverse neighbourhoods and changing expectations of how people connect and take part. This includes young people, older adults, people with disabilities and diverse ethnic communities.

At the same time, many community facilities are ageing, costly to maintain and not always suited to current or future needs. With limited funding and increasing demand, we need a more long-term and strategic approach. The local board will take a proactive role in planning for future community needs through the strategic use of existing assets, supporting multi-use spaces, and working in partnership with community stakeholders to provide greater value and impact.



By partnering with community organisations, mana whenua, mataawaka and other agencies, we can better understand local needs and achieve outcomes that reflect local priorities. This includes creating opportunities that reflect mātauranga Māori in places and supporting community-led approaches that build local capacity, strengthen relationships and improve wellbeing.

The plan supports projects led by local people that help communities become stronger, more connected and safer places where people feel welcome and supported.

Challenges









- Population growth and high-density housing are increasing demand on parks, facilities and community services, while smaller and more compact housing reduces access to private indoor and outdoor space, increasing reliance on shared environments.
- Not everyone has the same access to services and opportunities, especially young people, older adults, people with disabilities, and people from different ethnic backgrounds.
- Ageing and limited facilities make it difficult to meet changing community needs.
- Concerns about safety, social issues and compliance challenges can affect how comfortable and included people feel in public places.
- Maintaining community engagement before, during and after an emergency and making sure we have enough volunteers, along with ensuring community emergency hubs are well-resourced and well-prepared to provide support to locals.

Opportunities







- Providing a more sustainable network of community facilities, including reviewing, optimising and repurposing our buildings and facilities, enabling multi-use spaces and ensuring community leases provide clear benefits for the community.
- Community-led approaches and partnerships with community organisations, mana whenua and mataawaka to build local capacity, strengthen relationships, and achieve outcomes that reflect local needs and aspirations.
- Improving equity and access by targeting support and removing barriers so more people can take part in community programmes and benefit from community spaces and services.
- Supporting local networks and emergency hubs so communities are ready and able to respond to emergencies, climate events and other disruptions.
- Maximising the use of public spaces as shared community hubs that support connection, inclusion, safety and wellbeing as demand grows and reliance on shared spaces increases.



Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
<p>People feel connected to place and to each other, with opportunities to take part, contribute and share in community life.</p>	<p>Support and invest in groups and partnerships to strengthen community capacity to deliver projects and initiatives that build connection, inclusion and wellbeing across all parts of our community.</p>  
	<p>Support events, festivals and creative programmes that bring people together, strengthen local identity and make our town centres, neighbourhoods and public spaces places where people want to spend time and connect with others.</p> 
	<p>Work closely with all parts of our community to help guide local board decision-making and achieve better outcomes for our area. This includes targeted engagement guided by the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Engagement Strategy and supporting clearer understanding of local boards throughout the community.</p>  
	<p>Support youth networks and organisations to help young people thrive by strengthening their participation in local decision-making and enabling the delivery of outcomes that matter most to them.</p> 
	<p>Establish and strengthen meaningful, collaborative relationships with mana whenua and mataawaka to support shared priorities, informed decision-making and better outcomes for our communities and environment.</p> 
<p>People of all ages and abilities can access parks, facilities and recreation opportunities that support wellbeing, participation and equity.</p>	<p>Support sports groups and community organisations to grow participation, strengthen governance and improve financial resilience, with a preference for multi-user, shared or collaborative facilities and delivery models.</p>
	<p>Support the development and increased use of parks, reserves and sports fields that are accessible, equitable and meet current and future community needs. This includes providing more spaces, better lighting and fair access to existing priority facilities.</p> 
	<p>Investigate and support opportunities to increase community access and use of recreation facilities across the local board area, including through shared-use partnerships with schools, clubs and other facility owners where appropriate.</p>
	<p>Investigate and support new or improved indoor and outdoor recreation and community facilities (including courts, venues for hire and community amenities) through Auckland Council, community-led initiatives and partnerships that are guided by the Hibiscus and Bays</p>



	<p>Sports and Active Recreation Facilities Plan and other strategic documents.</p> <p>Support the development of wheeled play opportunities, with the aim of developing a complementary network, including bike tracks, through community-led and partnership delivery models that make use of existing land and spaces while managing long-term maintenance and safety considerations.</p> <p>Improve accessibility and inclusion across community spaces, parks and facilities by partnering with disability communities to co-design practical, sustainable solutions that enable participation and wellbeing for everyone.</p>	
<p>Community assets, reserves and facilities are used creatively, inclusively and sustainably to maximise long-term community benefit and value for money as our area grows.</p>	<p>Review and optimise the use of community assets, facilities and resources to maximise shared use, multi-functionality and long-term community benefit, including assessing and refining community lease criteria to ensure assets are well-used, financially sustainable, and deliver clear, inclusive and wide-reaching community outcomes.</p> <p>Work with communities and mana whenua to explore flexible, cost effective and community-led ways to use undeveloped and established reserves to increase their recreational value. This includes providing more informal play options like space to run and climb and bike while respecting environmental and cultural values.</p>	 
<p>Our communities feel safe, supported and prepared, with strong local networks that contribute to wellbeing and resilience.</p>	<p>Support initiatives that improve safety and wellbeing, particularly in town centres, transport hubs and other high-use public spaces.</p> <p>Continue to support and strengthen community-led resilience networks to deliver actions that improve preparedness, response and recovery before, during and after emergencies.</p>	
<p>Our diverse histories, cultures and stories are visible, valued and shared, strengthening understanding, identity and belonging.</p>	<p>Support communities to share stories about local heritage in ways that help people understand their area, feel a sense of identity and belonging, and learn about local history. This includes using te reo Māori place names and a range of storytelling approaches.</p> <p>Support participation, creativity and cultural expression through events, programmes and use of community facilities, including working with arts and culture partners to ensure sustainable and equitable ways to fund and deliver these projects.</p>	 

Advocacy

Some local priorities that matter to our community are not part of our direct decision-making role. ‘Advocacy’ is how we influence other governance decision-makers to prioritise the things our community cares about.



What we will advocate for in the next 3 years	Who we will advocate to
Advocate to the Governing Body, and where appropriate central government, for sufficient and sustained funding to support emergency preparedness and the ongoing work of community-led resilience networks.	Governing Body Central Government
Advocate to the Governing Body for more user-friendly processes that make it easier for communities to run events, while still keeping people safe and meeting required standards.	Governing Body
Advocate to the Governing Body for appropriate investment in North Harbour Stadium to help it become a well-used, multi-purpose facility that meets the needs of the growing North Auckland community.	Governing Body





Community tree planting at Stredwick Reserve.

Te taiao māori

Natural environment

Our native plants, animals and ecosystems thrive in a healthy environment with reduced waste and pollution, controlled pests and restored native biodiversity while our land, waterways and coastlines are resilient and adapt to climate change.

A healthy environment is essential for the wellbeing of people and communities. This plan sets direction to protect, restore and improve our natural environment so that ecosystems can thrive and adapt to a changing climate and environmental pressures.

Hibiscus and Bays contains diverse and highly valued natural environments, including 155 kilometres of coastline, the Long Bay – Okura Marine Reserve, waterways, native bush and open spaces. These areas are increasingly under pressure from population growth and changes in land use which are affecting biodiversity, water quality and ecological health. Maintaining waterways that are safe to swim in, reducing pollution and protecting and improving natural habitats are key priorities for the community and the local board.



Hibiscus and Bays sits within the Hauraki Gulf, a nationally significant marine environment that supports rich biodiversity, recreation and cultural values. Its health is closely linked to the condition of our land and waterways, with sediment and pollution directly affecting marine ecosystems.

Coastal hazards and climate change are significant and ongoing challenges for our coastal communities. Erosion, flooding from seawater and the effects of stormwater need sustained management and a long-term approach that strengthens resilience. The local board can support this through nature-based solutions and careful management of our existing coastal assets.

The local board recognises the importance of community stewardship in achieving environmental outcomes. Community-led conservation, education and restoration initiatives play a critical role in protecting and improving local environments, while also building local knowledge, skills and long-term capacity within communities.

Partnerships with mana whenua, community organisations and agencies are essential. This includes strengthening relationships with mana whenua by recognising and supporting the work already underway, making better use of shared knowledge and insights and working together on areas of shared interest to improve environmental outcomes. It also includes learning from mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge) and promoting sustainable practices across communities, businesses and schools.

The local board will support ways to achieve positive outcomes for the environment that restore ecosystems, improve water quality, support climate adaptation and enable the sustainable use of natural resources while ensuring the environment continues to support both people and nature.

Challenges

- Pressure from population growth and development are increasing demand on natural environments, placing stress on biodiversity, water quality and coastal areas.
- Ongoing damage to the environment from pollution, sedimentation, pest plants, animals, and humans continues to impact ecosystems and native species.
- Capacity constraints across community and regulatory services, volunteer networks and compliance resources affect the ability to respond to environmental issues.
- Climate change and extreme weather events are increasing risks to waterways, coastlines and natural assets, requiring more resilient and adaptive responses.
- Loss of tree canopy cover from development and changes in land use makes it harder to maintain and increase tree canopy coverage. This is in line with local board goals to provide shade, support biodiversity and help manage stormwater.

Opportunities

- Increase restoration work with coordinated planting, pest control and improvements to habitats to better support native plants and animals.
- Advance nature-based solutions through blue-green networks to improve water quality, manage flooding and enhance public spaces, supporting climate resilience and environmental outcomes.



- Strengthen community-led environmental action through:
 - partnerships with mana whenua
 - working with community organisations and agencies
 - using mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge)
 - building local skills and knowledge
 - enabling sustained delivery of ecological outcomes.
- Protect and improve coastal and marine environments by supporting biosecurity efforts, reducing pollution and advocating for the long-term recovery of our ecosystem.
- Support planning approaches that consider environmental restoration, growth and land use together to make sure our natural environment is protected and improved over time.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
Protect and restore native biodiversity and water quality through integrated partnerships and education, supporting long-term stewardship of land, waterways, estuaries and coastal ecosystems.	Support the protection of our freshwater and marine environments from contamination, sedimentation and pollution, including prevention, mitigation and containment measures that improve water quality and reduce flood risk, particularly through nature-based solutions. 
	Support the leadership, capability and work of environmental restoration networks, organisations and volunteers who actively restore, enhance and protect our natural environment with a focus on high value ecological areas. 
	Support transformative environmental restoration projects that deliver significant ecological improvement, climate resilience and visible community benefit, including blue green networks that restore streams, wetlands and floodplains to reduce flood risk, improve ecosystem health and create pathways for native biodiversity to flourish. 
	Support and promote businesses, neighbourhoods, community groups and education providers to use more sustainable practices that help reduce waste, lower energy use and reuse and recycle local resources. 
	Work collaboratively with mana whenua and mataawaka to draw on mātauranga Māori and shared knowledge to support the restoration and protection of our shared natural environments.  
Strengthen community and environmental resilience by working with communities to mitigate, manage and	Support mitigation, preparedness and resilience initiatives that help communities adapt to natural hazard risks and deliver adaptation actions that strengthen resilience to storms, flooding erosion and heat, informed by shoreline adaptation plans and other Auckland Council information.



adapt to the impacts of climate change.	Support initiatives that improve the resilience of parks, reserves and public assets to the impacts of climate change, including initiatives that enhance the role of parks and reserves in managing flooding, erosion and biodiversity loss.
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Advocacy

Some local priorities that matter to our community are not part of our direct decision-making role. ‘Advocacy’ is how we influence other governance decision-makers to prioritise the things our community cares about.

What we will advocate for in the next 3 years	Who we will advocate to
Advocate to the relevant agencies, including Ministry for Primary Industries, for stronger protection of coastal and foreshore environments, including addressing the removal of shoreline rock, improving education and signage, and supporting enforcement and community-led protection efforts.	Central government
Advocate to the Department of Conservation for improved public access to the Ōkura Bush Track, including consideration of reopening the full track alignment, improving connections to Dacre Cottage and surrounding areas, and supporting access that retains ecological protection and heritage values.	Department of Conservation
Advocate to the Governing Body for increased resourcing and support for environmental compliance and monitoring to ensure environmental harm is prevented and addressed effectively. This includes construction activity, bylaw enforcement and development controls.	Governing Body
Advocate to the Governing Body for funding towards the planned expansion of community recycling centres including the proposed locations in Silverdale and Albany/Rosedale.	Governing Body
Advocate to the Governing Body and central government for stronger monitoring of activities that cause sediment runoff, and stronger penalties for those who knowingly cause harmful sedimentation.	Governing Body Central government





Ōrewa Boulevard.

Te taiao kua hangaia

Built environment

Our town centres and neighbourhoods are safe, welcoming and resilient places, thoughtfully designed to support growth, strengthen connections and make everyday life better for our communities.

The built environment shapes how people experience daily life, influencing how safe they feel, how easily they move around, and how connected they are to their community. This plan prioritises the creation of well-designed, adaptable and inclusive places that respond to growth while supporting safe, accessible and people-focused environments.

Town centres, neighbourhoods and public spaces are recognised as shared civic environments that support social connection, local identity and economic activity. As growth and intensification continue, these places must be designed to remain safe, welcoming and functional for a wide range of users. This includes a strong focus on safety through design to improve both actual and perceived safety.

Well-designed public spaces support how areas are used and experienced. Improvements to streets and open spaces, town centre upgrades and regeneration initiatives can improve usability, strengthen local identity and enable a wider range of activities over time. Well-designed places also support natural surveillance and provide more opportunities for community activity that contribute to safer and more vibrant environments.



The local board plays an important role in shaping these outcomes through advocacy, partnership and early community engagement. This includes working with other parts of Auckland Council, central government, developers and other stakeholders to influence planning and align investment to make sure local priorities are reflected in growth and development decisions.

This also recognises that decisions about infrastructure and funding influence where growth happens and how it takes place. Planning land use and infrastructure together is essential to create places that work well for people. While major infrastructure upgrades needed to support growth can cause short-term disruption, careful planning, coordination and clear communication can help reduce the effects on communities.

The local board will also plan for the long-term effects of growth by supporting more flexible and shared use of public spaces and reducing reliance on physical assets where appropriate. This approach helps us respond to increasing demand, improve value for money and make better use of existing resources.

Challenges




- Responding to population growth and high-density housing developments while maintaining quality of life, local character and access to quality public spaces.
- Ensuring town centres and public places are safe, accessible and inclusive, including perceptions of safety.
- Coordinating local priorities with wider planning, infrastructure and development processes.
- Investing in new projects while making better use of what we already have with limited funding.
- Limited infrastructure and the scale and timing of upgrades required to support growth, including cost and disruption to the community.

Opportunities

- Deliver well-designed urban upgrades to streets and towns that improve safety, accessibility and local identity.
- Design flexible, multi-use public spaces that support a range of users and adapt to changing community needs.
- Support regeneration and development that creates well-connected, people-focused places.
- Improve the value and use of existing assets through better design, shared use and coordinated investment.
- Strengthen advocacy and early engagement in planning process that influence growth, infrastructure and funding decisions.



Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
Town centres and neighbourhoods are vibrant, safe and welcoming destinations where people want to spend time, connect and do business.	Work in partnership with business associations, mana whenua and local communities to shape the identity, character and physical quality of town centres through practical placemaking activities, design improvements and community-led projects that reflect local priorities and changing needs. 
Future growth and intensification are supported by resilient infrastructure, well-planned public spaces and smart, flexible approaches to how our places are designed and used.	<p>Support safer, inclusive and well-connected town centres and neighbourhoods by working with the community to design better public spaces that are welcoming, easy to use and where people feel safe.</p> <hr/> <p>Plan for the long-term impacts of population growth and high-density housing developments by updating existing plans, identifying future needs and developing new approaches where needed to support flexible, shared and community-led use of public spaces over time. </p> <hr/> <p>Plan and deliver resilient, accessible, well-designed and cost-effective public facilities, such as libraries and leisure centres, that support population growth, high-density areas and future community needs. </p> <hr/> <p>Explore alternative ways to fund and deliver projects, including partnerships with community groups, community-focused businesses and sponsors to support projects that respond to local growth and changes.</p>

Advocacy

Some local priorities that matter to our community are not part of our direct decision-making role. ‘Advocacy’ is how we influence other governance decision-makers to prioritise the things our community cares about.

What we will advocate for in the next 3 years	Who we will advocate to
Advocate to Watercare for the timely upgrades to water and wastewater infrastructure to improve system resilience, reduce stormwater overflows, protect waterways and beaches and support current and future growth.	Watercare
Advocate to the Governing Body and Watercare for coordinated investment, regulatory support and long-term planning to deliver resilient, future-proof water and biosolids (treated wastewater) infrastructure that meets the needs of growing communities across the North Shore and Hibiscus Coast.	Governing Body Watercare
Continue to advocate to Waka Kotahi - NZ Transport Agency to work with the local board on the changes being made to parts of the Archers Block land and Cedar Reserve likely to be offered back following the completion of O Mahurangi – Penlink.	Waka Kotahi - NZ Transport Agency





Orewa Town Centre.

Te whanaketanga ā-ōhanga

Economic development

We have a thriving local economy where businesses grow, employment opportunities increase and communities benefit from sustainable, locally focused economic development.

A strong local economy supports employment, resilience and vibrant communities. A focus of this plan is to enable economic activity that supports local businesses, strengthens town centres and contributes to community wellbeing.

Hibiscus and Bays is a growing area which creates opportunities to support local economic development while also increasing demand for local jobs, education and services. Currently, many residents travel outside the area for work, contributing to longer commute times and transport pressures. Supporting more local employment opportunities and growing our local businesses will help strengthen our local economy.

Town centres play a key role as economic and community hubs, where business activity, social connection and local identity come together. Community feedback highlights the importance of maintaining vibrant, attractive centres such as Browns Bay, Orewa and Mairangi Bay, while managing growth in a way that protects local character and quality of life.



Partnerships with business associations, local businesses and other stakeholders are central to supporting economic growth. This includes supporting business networks, local initiatives and events that increase foot traffic, attract visitors and make town centres more appealing. They also help create opportunities for Māori businesses, local suppliers and employment pathways.

Our local board plan also supports exploring commercial opportunities, partnerships and sponsorships that can help maximise the use of local assets and support investment in community and recreational facilities, while making sure they reflect community values.

The local board will support a local economy that creates opportunities for businesses and employment, strengthens town centres, and contributes to sustainable and resilient communities.

Challenges

- Growth and development are increasing demand for local jobs, services and infrastructure to support economic activity.
- Limited availability of local employment opportunities forces a lot of people to travel outside the area.
- Limited public transport connections make it difficult for residents and businesses to efficiently access employment, education and services.
- Maintaining the character, functionality and vibrancy of town centres while accommodating growth and change.

Opportunities

- Strengthen town centres as vibrant economic and community hubs by improving public spaces, organising local events and providing support to businesses.
- Support local businesses and business networks to grow, adapt and build resilience in a changing economic environment.
- Encourage local employment opportunities and economic activity so fewer people have to travel out of the area for work.
- Explore partnerships, sponsorships and innovative funding approaches to support local initiatives and maximise community benefit.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
A resilient local economy supported	Work with business associations, local businesses and event organisers to improve vitality in town centres and support activities that attract visitors, increase local spending and help local businesses succeed over the long term.



by vibrant town centres, strong partnerships and locally driven opportunities for business growth, employment and community prosperity.

Explore partnerships, sponsorships and programmes that support local business activity and help to grow the local economy.

Support locally driven economic development initiatives that strengthen town centres and precincts, enable small business growth and create opportunities for local employment.

Advocacy

Some local priorities that matter to our community are not part of our direct decision-making role. ‘Advocacy’ is how we influence other governance decision-makers to prioritise the things our community cares about.

What we will advocate for in the next 3 years

Who we will advocate to

Advocate to the Governing Body for procurement approaches that better recognise local board input and enable greater use of local businesses and suppliers where appropriate.

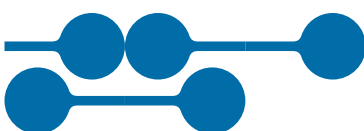
Governing Body

Advocate to the Governing Body and relevant agencies for initiatives, facilities and investment that increase local employment opportunities, particularly in response to population growth and changing community needs.

Governing Body and relevant agencies

Advocate for greater collaboration with local boards on tourism initiatives that reflect local priorities and benefit key destinations in our area.

Tātaki Auckland Unlimited





Gulf Harbour Ferry Terminal

Tūnuku

Transport

Our area has a safe, connected and accessible transport network, where people and goods move efficiently and walking, cycling and public transport are attractive and reliable travel choices.

Reliable transport helps people connect with jobs, services and their communities. This plan supports a transport network that aims to move people and goods safely and efficiently, while providing reliable and attractive travel choices across the area.

Hibiscus and Bays is experiencing continued growth, placing increasing pressure on key transport routes and adding to congestion, longer travel times and reduced network reliability. These challenges are particularly evident in high-use routes and areas with limited public transport options. Addressing these issues requires a balanced approach that improves network performance while supporting a move towards more efficient and sustainable travel patterns.

Safety, both actual and perceived, remains a priority. Community feedback highlights concern around unsafe pedestrian environments in town centres, school areas and along key routes, as well as gaps in walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure. Improving safety, accessibility and connections across all transport options is essential to create a transport system that works for everyone, including older adults, young people and those with limited mobility.



An integrated and connected transport network is critical. This includes improving links between walking, cycling, low-speed vehicles like scooters and public transport, and ensuring these options are practical and reliable for everyday use.

An integrated and connected transport network is critical. This includes improving links between walking, cycling, low-speed vehicles like scooters and public transport, and ensuring these options are practical and reliable for everyday use. At the time of developing this draft plan, the Government is progressing the *Local Government (Auckland Council) (Transport Governance) Amendment Bill*, which, if passed, will change how transport is governed and delivered in Auckland. While the details of how transport is to be governed in Auckland are still to be confirmed, our community has told us that safe, reliable, and sustainable transport remains a top priority. The local board will continue to advocate strongly for these priorities, and will adapt this section in response to both community feedback and any changes made to the Bill throughout the Parliamentary process.

Challenges

- Population growth is increasing demand on transport networks, contributing to congestion, longer travel times and increased carbon emissions, particularly along key routes like Hibiscus Coast Highway, Whangaparāoa Road and Gulf Harbour Drive.
- Public transport does not meet all community needs in some parts of the area. This limits travel options and increases reliance on private vehicles.
- Unsafe environments in town centres, school areas and transport hubs, along with gaps in walking and cycling infrastructure, reduce safety and limit people's ability to access everyday places and services.
- Limited funding affects the maintenance and development of transport infrastructure, including roads, footpaths and cycleways.

Opportunities

- Improve overall network efficiency and reliability by better managing demand and optimising existing infrastructure.
- Increase access to frequent, reliable and integrated public transport, including stronger connections with walking and cycling networks.
- Invest in safe, connected and accessible walking and cycling infrastructure to support healthier, low-emission travel and reduce pressure on the transport network.
- Advocate for transport planning and investment that reflects local needs, including responses to growth, rural access requirements and key community priorities.

Our priorities

Set out below, are the transport priorities for the Hibiscus and Bays area. In some instances, implementing these may require Governing Body decisions, under the governance arrangements proposed in the *Local Government (Auckland Council) (Transport Governance) Amendment Bill*.



This proposed legislation change is expected to impact on what things might be a part of our direct decision-making role and what things might be considered as advocacy. Due to this uncertainty, the local board's transport priorities are set out in a single category in this draft plan.

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we want to happen in the next 3 years (Priorities)	
Getting around the area is safe, accessible and efficient, where people can easily travel for everyday trips. Walking, cycling and public transport are attractive and convenient choices, supported by well-connected routes, reliable services and high-quality infrastructure.	Continue to renew and expand 'green ways' and path networks that safely connect neighbourhoods, public transport stops and key community destinations.	
	Support safe, separated and well-maintained walking and cycling routes that form a well-connected network across the local board area, including connections to key transport hubs.	
	Support programmes that encourage walking, cycling and low-speed vehicles like scooters as everyday transport options, including school 'learn-to-ride' initiatives, safety education and incentives to help change the way people travel.	
The local board will continue to advocate for the following priorities:	Prioritise funding for upgrades to Vaughans Road and Okura River Road to provide safe and reliable access for surrounding communities.	
	Prioritise funding to redesign Montrose Terrace and Sidmouth Street to align with the approved 2025 Mairangi Bay Reserves Management Plan (including the 2015 Mairangi Bay Reserves Management Plan).	
	Prioritise timely delivery of and funding for the Glenvar Road and East Coast Road improvements to improve safety and resilience.	
	Prioritise the timely delivery of the Whangaparāoa transport interchange and associated public transport services, ensuring it is in place when O Mahurangi – Penlink opens and that it functions as an effective connection to the Gulf Harbour ferry and wider network.	
	Prioritise a connected, reliable and accessible public transport network that keeps up with growth. This includes frequent and reliable services, well-integrated walking, cycling and low-speed vehicle connections, appropriately located stops and supporting facilities, and infrastructure that enables safe, complete and efficient journeys.	
	Prioritise ways to improve safety at public transport hubs.	



He kōrero take pūtea

Funding information

Local board funding is approved through Auckland Council's budget-setting process. This includes the Governing Body adopting a long-term plan every three years and an annual plan each year.

The Local Board Funding Policy sets out how funding is allocated to local boards for local activities, services and facilities within their decision-making responsibilities.

Funding for local activities, services and facilities is split into:

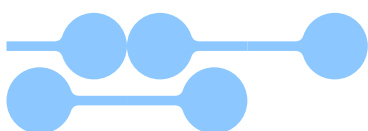
- operating expenditure (opex): to maintain and operate local assets like libraries, pools and parks, and to provide local activities and services
- capital expenditure (capex): to renew and develop local assets.

The priorities in this local board plan will inform decisions about funding that are made through the annual plan process and local board work programmes. This applies to decisions for both operating and capital spend.

Local boards have been allocated decision-making over local levels of service. This means they can prioritise services and initiatives to achieve local objectives, while ensuring costs are managed within the local board's allocated funding.

The financial and levels of service statements in this plan are based on the information included in the Long-term Plan 2024-2034 and the Annual Plan 2025/2026.

The next long-term plan is due to take effect from 1 July 2027. This could change funding for operating and capital spend in our area and will affect how we achieve the goals set out in this local board plan.



Kaupapa ā-rohe me ngā paerewa ā-mahi

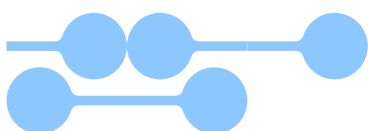
Levels of service

The Long-term Plan 2024–2034 outlines the decision-making responsibilities of local boards, as set out in legislation or allocated to the local boards. These responsibilities are grouped into local activities and described through levels of service statements. The following table summarises the local activities and levels of service for this local board area.

Local Activities	Level of service statements
<p>Local community services</p> <p>We support strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries and literacy, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation, and events delivered by a mix of council services, community group partnerships and volunteers</p>	<p>Enable a range of choices to access community services and recreation opportunities.</p> <p><i>Provide opportunities for communities to lead and deliver their own initiatives. *</i></p> <p>Provide urban green spaces (local parks, paths and Ngahere) and access to the Coast</p>
<p>Local planning and development</p> <p>We support local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and development, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives</p>	<p>Facilitate economic development opportunities and promote Auckland as a destination (<i>Support a strong economy. *</i>)</p>
<p>Local environmental management</p> <p>We support healthy ecosystems and sustainability through local board-funded initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements, healthy homes, and waste minimisation projects.</p>	<p>Protect, improve and minimise risks to the natural environments and cultural heritage.</p>
<p>Local governance</p> <p>Activities in this group support the local board to engage with and represent their communities and make decisions on local activities. This support includes providing strategic advice, leadership of the preparation of local board plans, support in developing the local board agreements, community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities, and democracy and administrative support.</p>	<p>Lead Council Group response to partnership and participation of Māori in decision making and deliver Māori outcomes (<i>Respond to the needs and aspirations of mana whenua and Māori Communities. *</i>)</p>

* Levels of service statement from Local Board Agreement.

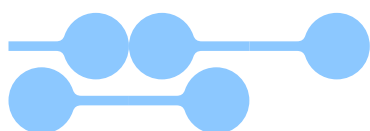
The statement of service provision, default levels of service statements, performance measures and performance targets from our last long-term plan can be found in section 2.6 in [volume 2 of the 10-Long-term Plan 2024-2034](#). The local board’s performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Agreement 2025/2026 which is available as part of the [Annual Plan 2025/2026](#).



Setting priorities and making ‘trade-offs’

The local board will use this plan to inform how it prioritises resources, services and activities in the local area over the next three years. In doing so, it will take into account rising costs, limited resources and changing community needs. When making financial decisions, the local board will:

- prioritise actions that most strongly contribute to achieving the intended outcomes and goals of this local board plan
- consider value for money when making decisions about local services and assets within its decision-making responsibilities
- consider advice on ways to increase funding for services, activities and facilities from sources other than rates where appropriate,
- consider advice on opportunities to work with other local boards and external partners, where this supports shared goals
- consider advice on the ongoing suitability, performance and community value of local assets.



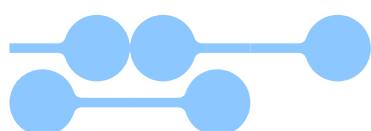
Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

Financial overview

The estimated costs shown in the table below for major service priorities are high-level, indicative only, and subject to change. These figures should not be relied upon as final and will be reviewed and updated through the Long-term Plan and Annual Plan processes.

\$ 000	2026/2027	Indicative 2027/2028	Indicative 2028/2029	Indicative 2029/2030
Operating funding				
General rates	21,236	20,961	21,455	21,889
Targeted rates	1,187	1,155	1,177	1,199
Fees and charges	6,261	6,394	6,600	6,814
Other revenue	414	337	339	341
Total operating funding	29,098	28,846	29,571	30,244
Operating expenditure				
Community services (Community)				
Libraries	3,057	3,118	3,181	3,244
Pools and Leisure	3,677	3,750	3,833	3,917
Maintenance	12,659	12,912	13,169	13,432
Utilities	1,732	1,908	1,863	1,912
Other community expenses	5,327	4,517	4,790	4,972
Local Environmental Management (Natural Environment)				
Local Planning - BIDs	1,183	1,152	1,174	1,196
Local Governance	1,133	1,147	1,209	1,208
Total operating expenditure	29,098	28,847	29,571	30,244
Net operating funding	0	0	0	0
Capital funding				
Increase in debt	10,347	16,273	14,105	11,326
Total capital funding	10,347	16,273	14,105	11,326
Capital expenditure				
Community services (Community)	10,347	16,273	14,105	11,326
Total capital expenditure	10,347	16,273	14,105	11,326
Net capital funding	0	0	0	0

The local board's latest funding impact statement can be found in the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board Agreement 2025/2026 which is available as part of the [Annual Plan 2025/2026](#).



Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Hibiscus and Bays

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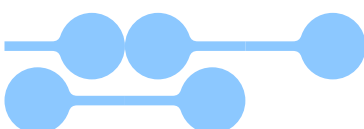
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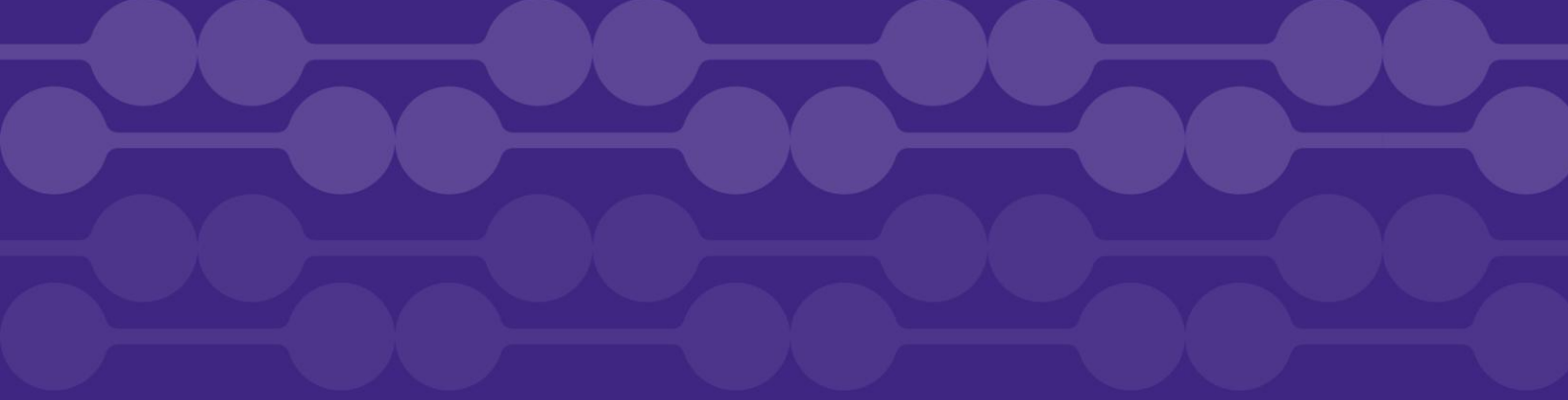


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Tāmaki Turuki.
Altogether Auckland.

