



Te mahere ā-rohe o Ōtara-Papatoetoe

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Draft Local Board Plan 2026

**Tāmaki Turuki.
Altogether Auckland.**



Mihi

**Tēnā kia hōea e au taku waka mā ngā tai mihi o
ata e uru ake ai au mā te awa o Tāmaki
ki te ūnga o Tainui waka i Ōtāhuhu.**

I reira ka toia aku mihi ki te uru ki te

Pūkaki Tapu o Poutūkeka,

i reira ko te Pā i Māngere.

E hoe aku mihi mā te Mānukanuka o Hoturoa

ki te kūrae o Te Kūiti o Āwhitu.

**I konā ka rere taku haere mā te ākau
ki te pūaha o Waikato, te awa tukukiri o ngā tūpuna,**

Waikato Taniwharau, he piko he taniwha.

Ka hīkoi anō aku mihi mā te taha whakararo

mā Maioro ki Waiuku, ki Matukutūreia

kei konā, ko ngā Pā o Tāhuna me Reretewhioi. Ka

aro whakarunga au kia tau atu ki Pukekohe.

**Ka tahuri te haere a taku reo ki te ao
o te tonga e whāriki atu rā mā runga i ngā hiwi, kia
taka atu au ki Te Paina,**

ki te Pou o Mangatāwhiri.

Mātika tonu aku mihi ki a koe Kaiaua

te whākana atu rā o whatu mā Tīkapa Moana

ki te maunga tapu o Moehau.

Ka kauhoetia e aku kōrero te moana ki Maraetai

kia hoki ake au ki uta ki Ōhūiarangi,

heteri mō Pakuranga.

I reira ka hoki whakaroto ake anō au

i te awa o Tāmaki mā te taha whakarunga

ki te Puke o Taramainuku, kei konā ko Ōtara.

Ka rewa taku mihi ki runga ake o Kohuora,

kātahi au ka toro atu ki te Manurewa a

Tamapohore. Ka whakatau aku mihi mutunga

ki runga o Pukekiwiriki

kei raro ko Papakuraki konā au, ka whakatau.

Let this vessel that carries my greetings travel by way
of the Tāmaki River

to the landing place of Tainui canoe at Ōtāhuhu.

There, let my salutations be borne across the

isthmus to the Pūkaki lagoon

and the community of Māngere.

Paddling the Manukau Harbour

we follow the Āwhitu Peninsula to the headland.

From there we fly down the coast to the Waikato

River mouth, sacred waters of our forebears.

Coming ashore on the northern side at

Maioro, we head inland to Waiuku and Matukutūreia,

there are the Pā – Tāhuna and Reretewhioi. Heading

southward I come to Pukekohe.

My words turn to follow the ancient ridgelines along
the Southern boundary,

dropping down into Mercer and Te Pou o

Mangatāwhiri.

My greetings reach you at Kaiaua who gazes across

Tīkapa Moana to the sacred mountain, Moehau.

Taking to the sea, my remarks travel to Maraetai and

then to Ōhūiarangi,

sentinel of Pakuranga.

There we follow again the Tāmaki River to Te Puke o

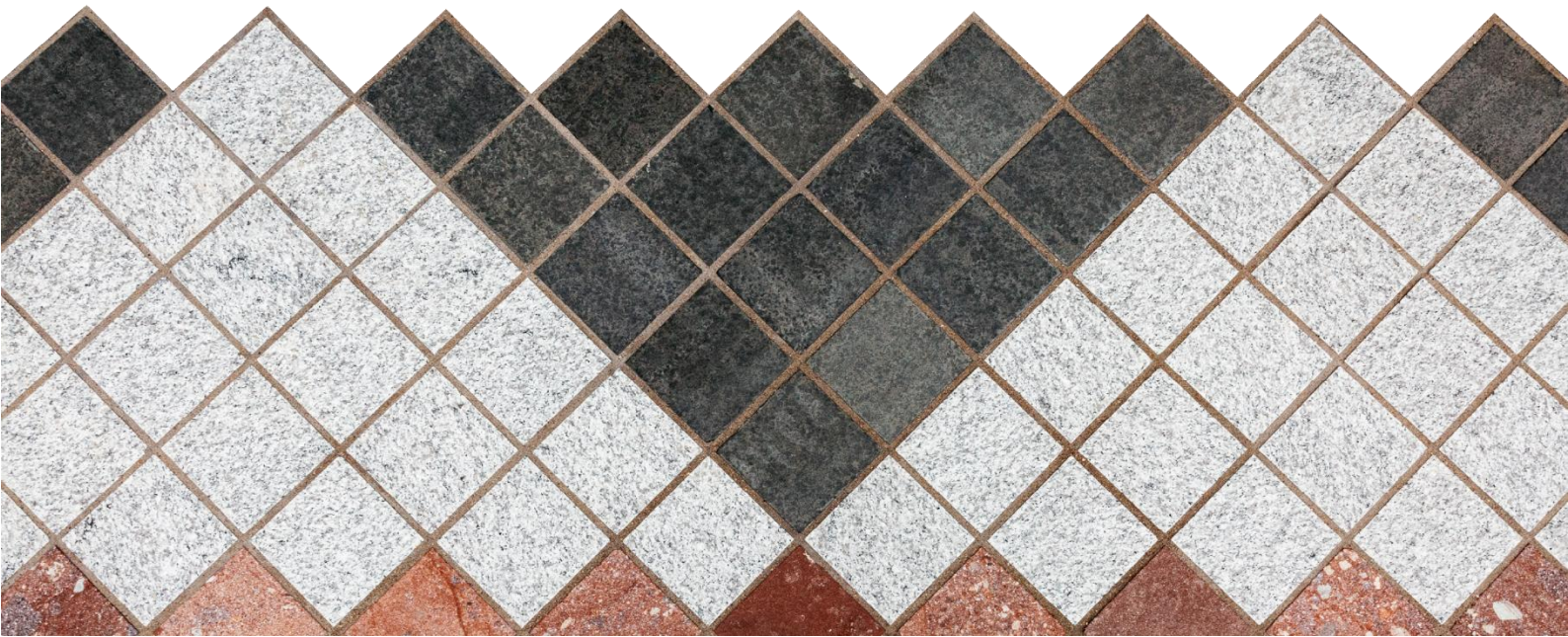
Taramainuku,

Ōtara resides there.

I am suspended high above Kohuora before I reach
for Manurewa.

My greetings come to rest on Pukekiwiriki

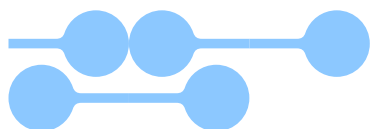
below which lies Papakura and, there I take rest.



Ngā upoko kōrero

Contents

Mihi	2
From the Chairs.....	4
Our plan at a glance	5
Local Board Plan Overview	6
Local board area.....	7
Our contribution to positive outcomes for Auckland	8
Community.....	11
Natural environment.....	16
Built environment.....	20
Economic development.....	23
Transport	26
Funding information.....	29
Levels of service.....	30
Financial overview.....	32
Your Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board members	33



He kōrero mai i ngā Heamana

From the Chairs

la fa'auutu le faiva o manusina – The manusina bird flies directly, without stopping, from the mountain to the sea to catch fish - Be purposeful in planning so the goal is reached.

It is our honour and privilege to present the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Plan 2026. Our community, as the foundation of everything that we do, were vital in informing the plan and what we will focus on in the coming three years. These are exciting times for Tāmaki Makaurau and for the board. Legislative changes, new development and infrastructure, and a growing and changing Ōtara-Papatoetoe all present new opportunities and challenges for all of us. Budget and resource shortfalls continue to limit the full extent of what we'd like to do for our communities, but we have proven time and again that we are resilient, adaptable, and committed to delivering the best outcomes with the resources that we have.

We acknowledge upfront our Māori communities, and especially our mana whenua who are, and will remain, kaitiaki of this land. We are committed to working with mana whenua meaningfully and strategically so our community, our public spaces and our decisions are shaped by their values, their manaakitanga and their history.

Our diverse communities are at the heart of the plan, and this year we have placed additional emphasis on the extraordinary potential of our communities to shape the future of Auckland. Our natural environment, our taonga tuku iho, remains a vital part of our work. In a changing climate, we recognise that urban local board areas like ours face unique and often elevated challenges in responding to the impacts of climate change, from flooding to extreme weather. Our built environment is more important than ever; as more homes are being built, we need more infrastructure for our new communities. Economic development and socioeconomic opportunities, especially for our rangatahi, are essential priorities. Transport remains a top-of-mind concern for most of our residents. A growing Ōtara-Papatoetoe requires a transport and roading system that can accommodate the lifestyles of our residents. Legislative changes that give local boards a more direct say over transport decisions, alongside the planned opening of the City Rail Link in 2026, present enormous potential for us to make transport easier, safer, and more accessible.

We are proud to present this plan as a reflection of what you have asked of us, and our commitment to deliver. Your voices, aspirations, and lived experiences have purposefully shaped the priorities and direction that will guide our work and decisions in the years ahead, so that the goals of our communities are reached.

Faka'apa'apa atu - respectfully yours.



Apulu Reece Autagavaia

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Chairperson

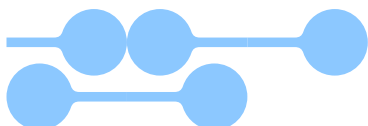
21 April 2026 to 24 July 2027



Vi Hausia

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board Chairperson

25 July 2027 to 20 October 2028



He aronga poto ki tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance



Community

Our local community and people are central to Ōtara-Papatoetoe. We will empower and celebrate our rich diversity – that includes a wealth of cultures, neighbourhoods, ages, sexual orientations, genders and needs. Te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori will remain central and we will support our rangatahi (young people) to lead Ōtara-Papatoetoe’s future.



Natural environment

Our natural environment is our taonga tuku iho, a treasure passed down from our ancestors. It is essential to a healthy and prosperous Ōtara-Papatoetoe. We will support climate action, promote green spaces and safeguard our rich biodiversity. We act today to protect and preserve our natural environment for future generations.



Built environment

Our built heritage and urban streetscapes are more important than ever in a growing and changing Tāmaki Makaurau. We will unlock the huge potential of Ōtara-Papatoetoe’s town centres and civic spaces, encourage growth and support healthy living.



Economic development

Ōtara-Papatoetoe is an economic powerhouse. Recognising the link between economic growth, community and urban development, we will use our major hubs of business, employment, tourism and education to support the prosperity of our area.



Transport

Reliable, safe, sustainable and accessible transport is essential for a functioning local community. With exciting changes giving local boards more say over transport decisions, we aim to promote public and private transport and use our major transport hubs as opportunities for further growth.

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



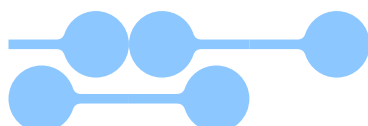
**Māori
Outcomes**



**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 e pāhekoheko ai mātou

How we will engage

The Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board takes a community-led and culturally responsive approach to engagement, recognising the strength and diversity of its communities. By prioritising accessible, face-to-face engagement and working alongside trusted community networks, insights gathered reflect real lived experiences and are used to shape priorities, inform trade-offs and guide investment across the local board area.

Te ara i whakaritea ai te mahere nei

How this plan was developed

To make sure the plan reflects local aspirations, we built on:

- public feedback from the previous local board plan, annual plans and other consultations
- surveys such as People's Panel
- community engagement held from November 2025 to April 2026.

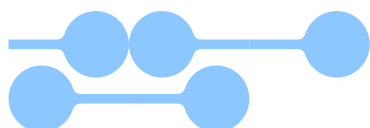
Te ara e tutuki ai ngā whāinga kei te mahere

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.

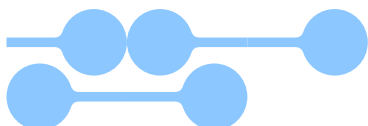


Te Rohe ā-Poari

Local board area



MAP LEGEND





Knitting and fellowship at Te Puke ō Tara Community Centre

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

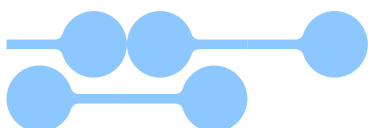
communities contribute to Auckland’s shared future.

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:

- Māori outcomes: Honouring Te Tiriti and ensuring Māori thrive in Tāmaki Makaurau



- Climate outcomes: Leading urgent action for a low-emissions, resilient future
- Equitable outcomes: Ensuring all Aucklanders have access to what they need to thrive

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

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 goals — 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

The Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area is home to the fourth largest Māori community in Tāmaki Makaurau. The board is committed to upholding its obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, promoting Māori wellbeing and placing te ao Māori at the heart of decision-making. The board will support our Māori communities, businesses and rangatahi to thrive. Co-governance and other initiatives to support te reo Māori and mātauranga Māori will continue and expand, including:

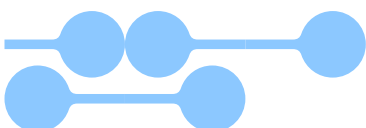
- Te Kete Rukuruku
- Te Whakaoranga o te Puhinui Regeneration Strategy
- The Manukau Sports Bowl Masterplan
- The Ngāti Ōtara Marae strategic business plan development
- Ara Kōtui
- Annual events to commemorate Waitangi Day, Matariki and Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori.

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

The Ōtara-Papatoetoe rohe (area) features an abundance of streams and waterways, making the area vulnerable to coastal erosion and rising sea levels.

Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri (Auckland’s Climate Plan) found Ōtara-Papatoetoe to be the most vulnerable area to coastal hazards. Emergency management, response and resilience therefore remain vital priorities. As one of Tāmaki Makaurau’s more urban and densely populated local board areas, greenspaces and tree cover are also of central importance to the board. Overall, initiatives to support climate action, sustainability, local flora and fauna, urban ngāhere (forest), and the health of our waterways will be central to the board’s work.

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.

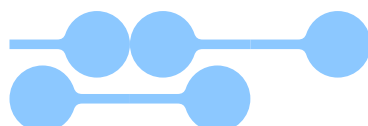
At its heart *Ngā Hapori Momoho* focuses on ensuring equitable outcomes for all Aucklanders – guiding Auckland Council to recognise that different groups and communities need different things to fully participate in the life of our region, and to feel valued, included, and that they belong.

Local insights

Ōtara-Papatoetoe is one of the most diverse areas in Tāmaki Makaurau, representing many cultures, backgrounds, ages and needs.

Our rohe has one of the highest rates of socioeconomic deprivation in Auckland. We aim to use the vast potential we have, including our urban centres, large business community and social capital to address the immediate material and social needs of our most vulnerable communities.

Auckland-wide outcomes	How it’s reflected across the plan
 Ngā huanga Māori Māori outcomes	Partnership with mana whenua, Māori identity in local places, support for initiatives that reflect Māori priorities.
 He huanga āhuarangi Climate outcomes	Reducing emissions, protecting biodiversity, building community resilience.
 He huanga tautika Equitable outcomes	Targeted investment, access to services, focus on inclusion and fairness.





LIFE Community Kitchens in Ōtara

Te hāpori Community

Our local community and people are central to Ōtara-Papatoetoe. We will empower and celebrate our rich diversity - including our many cultures, neighbourhoods, ages, sexual orientations, genders and needs. Te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori will remain central and we will support our rangatahi (young people) to lead Ōtara-Papatoetoe's future.

Challenges

- The Ōtara-Papatoetoe community, though diverse and multicultural, could benefit from more community engagement and civic participation. Auckland Council and the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board need to do more to engage with and ensure that Māori, Pasifika, the South Asian community, immigrant communities and rangatahi are welcomed into civic spaces and into decision-making processes.
- Our urban centres need to be more welcoming for locals, visitors and businesses. Related to this, crime, particularly retail crime, is of significant concern.
- We need to work with government agencies, community groups, and social services to address the underlying causes of homelessness. Together we can make sure our policies and programmes focus on



long-term community resilience and compassion for our communities of greatest need, including people experiencing homelessness.

- Ongoing efforts to privatise and sell public assets make it harder for Ōtara-Papatoetoe communities to stay connected, thrive and maintain reliable public facilities.













Opportunities

- Our area is hugely diverse, and that extends far beyond cultural diversity. There is great potential to engage with our communities and bring them to the forefront of the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board’s decisions.
- Our Pasifika and Asian communities are among the largest in Tāmaki Makaurau. They make up about 50 and 35 per cent of the population in the area., respectively.
- Ōtara-Papatoetoe has one of the youngest populations in Tāmaki Makaurau, with a median age of around 30 years. As our rangatahi are the leaders of the future, our area is uniquely equipped to shape the prosperous, thriving city that we want Auckland to be within the coming decades.
- Ōtara-Papatoetoe is a huge business and employment hub, with plenty of socioeconomic opportunities for our community.
- The Ōtara-Papatoetoe area has great public facilities. We have the potential to bring large, regional events into our area that will attract visitors from across the city and Aotearoa.
















Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
Recognise and ensure Māori arts, culture and history are central in public places, empower mana whenua to tell stories of Māori cultural heritage and increase historical knowledge of the land throughout our parks and open spaces.	Continue to support Māori artists, musicians and cultural events. 
	Continue our Matariki celebrations. 
	Support our local libraries to celebrate Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori every September. 
	Engage with rangatahi Māori in cultural centres, religious settings and online spaces. 





<p>Explore opportunities for new partnerships, strengthen current partnerships and maintain local collaboration work with mana whenua on projects and initiatives.</p>	<p>Continue supporting the development of the Ngāti Ōtara Marae strategic business plan.</p>	
<p>Continue to integrate te reo Māori into daily life across Ōtara-Papatoetoe by using te reo names and signage in public areas.</p>	<p>Continue to support the Te Kete Rukuruku dual naming partnership programme between the council and mana whenua.</p>	 
<p>Arts and cultural activities thrive in our area and reflect our local ethnic and cultural diversity.</p>	<p>Continue to support arts and creative industries, Māori cultural events, community events and festivals, heritage and storytelling, and cultural facilities and spaces.</p>	 
	<p>Continue to support the annual ASB Polyfest.</p>	 
	<p>Promote events that celebrate Matariki, Diwali, Lunar New Year and the 12 Pacific language weeks.</p>	 
	<p>Continue outreach to faith-based groups.</p>	
<p>A community that recognises, celebrates and empowers our diversity in all forms, including generational, disability, gender and sexual diversity.</p>	<p>Provide whānau-centric programmes for tamariki (children), rangatahi (youth), older and disabled people.</p>	
	<p>Continue to empower our Rainbow and Takatāpui communities.</p>	



Support the skill development and capacity-building of community groups through grants to host high-quality events.	Develop initiatives that empower and develop groups celebrating the cultural diversity of the area – with particular emphasis on our Pasifika and Asian communities.	
Rangatahi (youth) are recognised and supported as the future leaders in and out of our community.	Help young people have a stronger voice in Ōtara-Papatoetoe by supporting local youth groups	
	Target youth groups, as well as youth artists, in community grant allocations.	
	Engage with young people in youth spaces, including The Ōtara-Papatoetoe Squad (TOPS).	
	Expand the local board’s social media and broader online outreach to people under the age of 35.	
	Work with youth groups that enable Māori, Pasifika, and Asian youth to establish cross-cultural interaction between existing groups.	
	Support climate resilience and local sustainability education and engagement initiatives for young people	 
	Provide more library services for rangatahi in Ōtara-Papatoetoe.	
Ensure that our community has access to high-quality, affordable and fit-for-purpose public facilities.	Develop an Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board ‘asset optimisation plan’ that outlines key opportunities to ensure our public facilities are easy to access and fit-for-purpose, while also accounting for financial responsibility and the changing lifestyles of our communities.	
	Continue free access to our swimming pools by ensuring that the pools targeted rate is always kept separate from any broader targeted rate for the board.	
Provide our children and young people with activities that contribute to a healthy and active lifestyle through our local parks, reserves and marine environment.	Continue to renew playgrounds, particularly in areas of high growth and development.	
	Develop play advocacy initiatives based on the 2025 Play Plan.	
	Continue to develop a ‘multi-park management plan’ that manages the use, development and protection of all parks, reserves and open spaces in the area.	 



Support economic and social equity and work to address the underlying causes of crime and homelessness.	Work with experts and community leaders on how to best help people experiencing homelessness.	
	Coordinate with the community, including residents, businesses, Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), the police and gangs on ways to address crime in the area, including CCTV cameras and other ways to prevent crime.	

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 (advocacy)	Who we will advocate to
Continue to advocate for funds to make the improvements set out in the Manukau Sports Bowl Masterplan – in particular for improvements to the athletics tracks and stands.	Governing Body
Continue to advocate for the Old Papatoetoe Community Hub development as part of the Old Papatoetoe Urban Regeneration Programme. A civic space where locals can come together, take part in, celebrate and embrace their diversity is a priority.	Governing Body
Advocate for access to public Wi-Fi in public open spaces including Hayman Park.	Governing Body
Advocate for ways to improve safety around Manukau City Centre, Ōtara Town Centre, Old Papatoetoe Town Centre and Hunters Corner.	Governing Body
Advocate for a meaningful, collaborative approach between Auckland Council and central government to address the underlying causes of homelessness, noting that policies like ‘move-on orders’ do not solve the problem.	Governing Body Ministry of Housing Urban Development Central Government





Planting a new orchard at a Puhinui Community event.

Te taiao māori

Natural environment

Our natural environment is our taonga tuku iho, a treasure passed down from our ancestors. It is essential for a healthy and prosperous Ōtara-Papatoetoe. We will support climate action, promote green spaces and protect our rich biodiversity. We act today to protect and preserve our natural environment for future generations.

Challenges






- The Ōtara-Papatoetoe rohe faces challenges with local environmental decline, particularly illegal rubbish dumping and littering in town centres.
- Our area has many streams and waterways. In a changing climate, we are vulnerable to coastal erosion and the effects of rising sea levels, including flooding. Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri (Auckland's Climate Plan) found Ōtara-Papatoetoe to be the most vulnerable area for coastal hazards in Auckland. Emergency management, response and resilience therefore remain priorities.
- As one of Tāmaki Makaurau's more urban areas, the lack of green spaces and tree cover are a challenge for Ōtara-Papatoetoe.










Opportunities

- Our local waterways and streams, including the Tāmaki Estuary, Ōtara Lake and the neighbouring Manukau Harbour present opportunities to improve environmental resilience through initiatives that focus on the health of local waterways.
- The Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area is home to rich and vibrant biodiversity.
- As one of Auckland’s most urban and densely populated local board areas, we have opportunities to develop infrastructure in parks, streams and roads that deliver flood resilience – while also supporting biodiversity and community wellbeing.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)	
Continue partnerships with mana whenua iwi through Rangatira ki Rangatira kaupapa.	Continue to support Te Whakaoranga o te Puhinui regeneration and engage with mana whenua to find further opportunities to work together on environmental initiatives.	 
	Find more opportunities for co-governance with mana whenua, particularly on green space initiatives.	 
Empower communities to lead on sustainability, climate action, waste minimisation, and clean, green town centres.	Continue to fund events and competitions that educate and help provide positive outcomes for the environment including ‘Neat Streets’ and the Moth Plant Pod Competition.	
	Promote community events that aim to raise awareness of illegal rubbish dumping and ways to reduce waste by using clear language in educational materials.	
	Support community-led conservation action under the Pest-free South Auckland initiative.	
	Work with Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to monitor and prevent illegal rubbish dumping and promote inorganic collection initiatives.	
	Support local schools to provide environmental projects, programmes and education initiatives, such as the Auckland Teaching Gardens Trust and ‘Enviroschools’.	
	Include emergency readiness and response in local environmental education.	



Empower our community to be resilient and responsive to emergencies and extreme weather events in a changing climate.	Use nature-based approaches that improve stormwater performance, stream capacity and flood water storage.	
Promote our rich biodiversity, green spaces, and tree cover.	Support māra kai and community garden initiatives – including through the Ōtara Kai Village, to continue to provide our communities with education and healthy options.	 
	Provide tree-planting initiatives and funds to support our urban ngāhere to improve tree canopy cover in our area.	
Improve and maintain the long-term health and of our rich biodiversity, lakes and waterways, including the Tāmaki Estuary and Manukau Harbour.	Continue to work with local organisations and community groups whose work protects and promotes the health of local and shared waterways.	
	Develop an initiative to monitor the water quality in local creeks and waterways.	
	Act to ensure that our waterways and green spaces reduce flood risks and protect communities in a changing climate.	

Advocacy

What we will advocate for in the next 3 years (Advocacy)	Who we will advocate to
Continue to advocate with neighbouring local boards (including Māngere-Ōtāhuhu, Manurewa, Howick and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki) for regional funding, support and monitoring of shared waterways to maintain their health for future generations.	Governing Body
Advocate for partnerships with organisations aiming to improve the health of local waterways including Ōtara Lake, Manukau Harbour and the Tāmaki Estuary.	Governing Body Local Boards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Māngere-Ōtāhuhu • Manurewa • Howick • Maungakiekie-Tāmaki
Support mana whenua in their settlements over whenua and awa, including the Manukau Harbour.	Central Government
Advocate for a targeted rate to fund improvements to water quality and ensure that the targeted rate is prioritised for communities that need them most.	Governing Body



Advocate for more tree planting to help increase tree canopy cover.	Kāinga Ora Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
Advocate for regional and national campaigns against illegal rubbish dumping and against waste.	Governing Body Central Government
Advocate against a reduction of rubbish collections, and against a 'user-pays' rubbish collection system.	Governing Body

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.





Stadium Reserve in Old Papatoetoe

Te taiao kua hangaia

Built environment

Our built heritage and urban streetscapes are more important than ever in a growing and changing Tāmaki Makaurau. We will unlock the huge potential of Ōtara-Papatoetoe’s town centres and civic spaces, encourage growth and support healthy living.

Challenges

- Many of our key centres lack a vibrant, welcoming feel. Our urban centres need to be more welcoming for locals, visitors and businesses.
- Rapid growth in housing brings both challenges and opportunities. As 80 per cent of our new homes are high-density housing, we need to meet an increasing demand for services.
- Proposals to increase housing in Tāmaki Makaurau bring challenges. The different types of proposals create uncertainty and make it harder for the council and the Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board to provide enough services for residents.



Opportunities

- The Manukau and Old Papatoetoe urban regeneration programmes (formerly ‘Transform Manukau’ and ‘Unlock Papatoetoe’) have been excellent opportunities for development and local economic growth. There is the opportunity to unlock this potential in Ōtara and to Hunters Corner as well.
- Central government proposals to increase housing capacity in Tāmaki Makaurau can present opportunities for a bigger built environment, a more diverse community and local economic growth.
- The Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area is a huge hub for business, employment and economic opportunities. Further regeneration for housing and infrastructure presents more opportunities for economic growth.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
Develop our civic and green spaces to be well-used, safe and sustainable.	Continue to work with mana whenua to develop and implement the Manukau Sports Bowl Masterplan.  Continue to develop the Old Papatoetoe Community Hub Plan and revitalise the town centre. Support upgrades to streetscapes around Hunters Corner Square. Install more lighting and security cameras in our civic spaces to prioritise public safety in our civic spaces.
Enable neighbourhoods and streetscapes that are vibrant, welcoming, and liveable for people of all backgrounds and ages.	Support ‘beautification’ initiatives, including community organisations like the Manukau Beautification Trust, to help improve how our streets, parks and public spaces look and feel.  Invest in marae to help them become more self-sufficient and thriving hubs for Māori and the wider community. Continue to support ‘Welcoming Communities’ beyond the support they already receive from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). Support initiatives that welcome, support and uplift new citizens and residents to the local area
Ensure that new neighbourhoods and developments are well designed and built for our	Work with Kāinga Ora and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development on opportunities to build more homes in existing urban areas, including reviewing the proposed Ōtara-Papatoetoe Area Plan for Middlemore  Work with council staff and mana whenua to regenerate town centres to make them thriving and safe areas for business and the community.



expanding and diverse communities.	Ensure that new housing is built alongside investment in infrastructure, including fresh water, stormwater, wastewater, power and internet – especially in key development areas like Manukau City Centre, Ōtara Town Centre and the area around Hunters Corner.
------------------------------------	--

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 (Advocacy)	Who we will advocate to
Continue to advocate for budget to implement the Manukau Sports Bowl masterplan – in particular the athletics tracks and stands.	Governing Body
Continue to advocate for developing the Old Papatoetoe Community Hub (as part of the Papatoetoe Regeneration Programme), as a civic space where locals can participate, commune, celebrate and embrace their diversity is a priority.	Governing Body
Advocate for access to public Wi-Fi in public open spaces including Hayman Park.	Governing Body
Advocate for new urban regeneration opportunities in Ōtara and Hunters Corner in addition to existing projects in Manukau and Papatoetoe. Ōtara is the preferred location for new urban regeneration.	Governing Body Kāinga Ora





Manukau Civic Building.

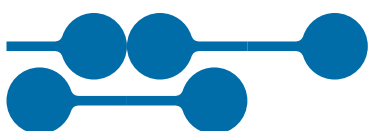
Te whanaketanga ā-ōhanga

Economic development

Ōtara-Papatoetoe is an economic powerhouse. Recognising the link between economic growth, community, and urban development, we will use our major business, employment, tourism and education hubs to support the prosperity of our area.

Challenges

- Crime, especially retail crime in town centres, is damaging our local businesses and the business environment.
- Difficult economic circumstances in recent years (namely the cost-of-living crisis, rising unemployment and the recent oil shock) represent significant challenges for local economic development and the Ōtara-Papatoetoe business community. These include:
 - rising business costs
 - fewer opportunities for upskilling and growth
 - businesses experiencing fewer customers as everyday goods become more expensive.



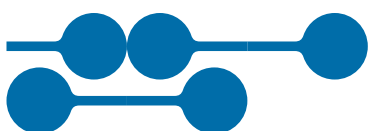
- NCEA level 2 and 3 attainment rates in the Ōtara-Papatoetoe area are lower than the Auckland average. The low level of school achievement, tertiary education and further training limits longer term employment opportunities.
- Our labour force has lower skill-levels than most other local board areas. Providing access to life-long learning, education and skills development gives everyone a fairer chance to learn, grow and improve their wellbeing.
- Ōtara-Papatoetoe has a local economy driven by manufacturing, including textiles, chemicals, food and meat manufacture, and wood and paper products. All of these are carbon-heavy and will need help to move towards sustainable practices.

Opportunities

- The Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area is a major hub for business, employment economic opportunities and home to five Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). It is also home to Manukau City Centre – Tāmaki Makaurau’s largest economic and business centre outside of Auckland CBD. Our business environment creates huge potential to form partnerships with education providers, training organisations, business support agencies and key employers to provide innovative programmes designed to keep learners in education and training programmes for longer.
- The new Auckland Urban Development Office (AUDO) presents new opportunities for economic development through urban regeneration and the revitalisation of our town centres in Manukau, Old Papatoetoe and potentially other parts of the rohe.
- Significant growth in population and jobs is expected in Manukau over the next 30 years.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
Support business and employment opportunities for residents of all backgrounds.	Support projects that increase and improve skills, access and digital abilities for all ages and abilities.  Support training and development opportunities for small business owners and start-ups.
Support employment opportunities for rangatahi (youth).	Invest in ‘work-ready’ programmes to help rangatahi (youth) develop skills for current and future employment.  Work directly with BIDs and local businesses to guide rangatahi into career programmes, trades and entrepreneurship.  Support youth internships and start-up programmes to promote skill development and opportunities. 
	Support economic opportunities for Māori businesses and iwi organisations. 

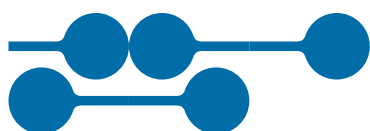


Empower a resilient and regenerative Māori economy.	Keep working with mana whenua to find the best ways the local board can support Māori businesses and the local Māori economy	
Foster and promote Manukau as a major destination for national and international visitors, and as a place to learn, shop, and play.	Work to bring more regional events (such as the existing Auckland Lantern Festival) to Manukau.	
	Improve the civic space at Karoro Court (Manukau Plaza) to make it a usable, safe and user-friendly area.	
	Work with local tertiary institutions, like Manukau Institute of Technology and Auckland University of Technology (AUT) to attract students to Manukau.	
Recognise and leverage the link between urban regeneration, housing development, and economic growth.	Work with BIDs and council staff to attract businesses to our local townships including Old Papatoetoe, New Papatoetoe and Ōtara.	
	Work with council staff to make sure new housing is built in areas where it can support local businesses and the local economy.	

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 (Advocacy)	Who we will advocate to
Advocate for technology industries and green economy sectors to be set up in the local board area.	Central government Business community
Advocate for a community-based approach to better prepare rangatahi (youth) for employment.	Business community
Advocate to make it easier for small local suppliers to buy goods and services that provide social benefits for the community	Governing Body
Continue to oppose new liquor and vape shops, particularly close to schools, and advocate to better regulate these businesses to help reduce community harm.	Governing Body Central Government
Advocate to improve safety in Manukau City Centre, Ōtara Town Centre, Old Papatoetoe Town Centre and Hunters Corner.	Governing Body





Puhinui Station is a key South Auckland hub.

Tūnuku

Transport

Reliable, safe, sustainable and accessible transport is essential for a functioning local community. With exciting changes giving local boards more say over transport decisions, we aim to promote public and private transport and use our major transport hubs as opportunities for further growth.

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

- Unreliable, infrequent and limited public transport options encourage more residents to travel by car.
- Public transport can be too expensive or inaccessible, including for multi-generational or larger families or those with disabilities.
- Parking remains a challenge in the Ōtara-Papatoetoe area's large urban centres for private vehicle users.



- The transport governance reforms, while opening opportunities, also present challenges, particularly in terms of how the local board will be supported.


Opportunities

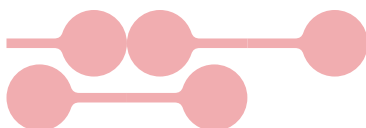
- The proposed Auckland Transport reforms, including greater decision-making for local boards, are of great interest to the community.
- The Ōtara-Papatoetoe area is home to several crucial transport hubs, namely:
 - Manukau Train and Bus Stations
 - Puhinui Train Station (that connects to the Airport Link)
 - Papatoetoe Train Station
 - Middlemore Train Station
 - Ōtara Bus Interchange.
- The planned opening of the City Rail link (CRL) in 2026 will be one of the most significant milestones for public transport in Auckland’s history. The CRL will substantially increase the capacity and frequency of the rail network and provide huge transport opportunities for areas with many train stations, including Ōtara-Papatoetoe.
- The ‘Airport to Botany Bus Rapid Transit’ project represents an opportunity to provide more accessible public transport, urban development and economic growth.

Our priorities

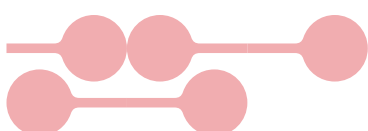
Set out below, are the transport priorities for the Ōtara-Papatoetoe area. In some instances, implementing these may require Governing Body decisions, under the governance arrangements proposed in the *Local Government (Auckland Council) (Transport Governance) Amendment Bill*.

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)
Promote accessible, reliable and safe public transport options for all.	Prioritise projects that make public transport safe and secure, including upgrades to key public transport hubs. 
	Use the local board’s new decision-making powers under the proposed reforms to respond to the needs of public transport users in terms of safety and connectivity. 
	Support free public transport. 
The local board will use its new decision-making abilities to help make our streets safer and our traffic less dangerous.	



Ensure that Ōtara-Papatoetoe’s road system is safe for road-users and pedestrians.	Work to minimise any negative effects of the proposed ‘time-of-use’ charging (‘congestion’ charging) scheme.
Enable the Ōtara-Papatoetoe area’s major transport hubs to unlock potential for further growth.	<p>Work with businesses near our major train stations in as areas like Middlemore, Papatoetoe, Puhinui and Manukau to make the most of economic opportunities created by the opening of the City Rail Link (CRL) in 2026 and an expected increase in train use.</p> <p>Use opportunities presented by Puhinui Station and the Airport Link Bus to attract and bring in visitors to our area, including supporting local businesses to open near the station.</p> <p>Support the completion of the Airport to Botany bus rapid transit project in collaboration with the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu and Howick Local Boards.</p> <p>Use the Botany to Airport project to link that project with the Manukau Sports Bowl Masterplan upgrades, as the proposed busway will run next to the Sports Bowl along Te Irirangi Drive.</p>
Accommodate the use of private motor vehicles.	<p>Review parking facilities in our town centres and residential areas with the aim of making parking easier to access.</p> <p>Support a review of parking facilities on a regional level.</p>
Make walking and cycling accessible modes of transport.	<p>Support the provision of more walking paths and cycleways, including better lighting along existing footpaths and walkways.</p> <p>Make public transport hubs easier to access for walkers and cyclists – and use the expansion of the rail network after the opening of the CRL to connect walkways and cycleways to major train stations.</p> <p>Continue to support initiatives that encourage more people to cycle, such as the Ōtara Bike Hub.</p>



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:

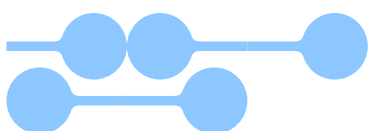
- operating expenditure (opex): to maintain and operate local assets like libraries, pools and parks, and to provide local activities and services
- capital expenditure (capex): to renew and develop local assets.

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

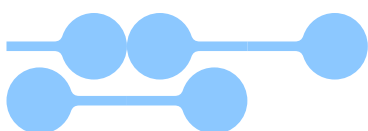
The Long-term Plan 2024–2034 outlines the decision-making responsibilities of local boards, as set out in legislation or allocated to the local boards. These responsibilities are grouped into local activities and described through levels of service statements.

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 Ngāhere) 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.

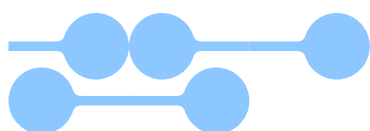
The statement of service provision, default levels of service statements, performance measures and performance targets from our last long-term plan can be found in section 2.6 in [volume 2 of the 10-Long-term Plan 2024-2034](#). The local board's performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Ōtara-Papatoetoe 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.



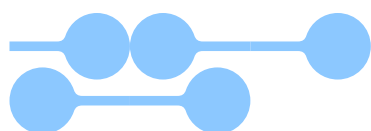
Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

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	20,384	20,593	21,052	21,454
Targeted rates	1,754	1,830	1,876	1,923
Fees and charges	2,523	2,577	2,632	2,691
Other revenue	365	368	373	379
Total operating funding	25,026	26,368	25,934	26,448
Operating expenditure				
Community services (Community)				
Libraries	3577	3649	3722	3796
Pools and Leisure	4709	4803	4906	5006
Maintenance	8,334	8,501	8,672	8,845
Utilities	3,289	3,310	3,583	3,669
Other community expenses	2,639	2,541	2,405	2,465
Local Environmental Management (Natural Environment)	279	279	279	279
Local Planning				
BIDs	938	1,006	1,025	1,044
Local Governance	1,261	1,279	1,343	1,343
Total operating expenditure	25,026	25,368	25,934	26,448
Net operating funding	0	0	0	0
Capital funding				
Increase in debt	8,209	10,263	11,895	11,326
Total capital funding	8,209	10,263	11,895	11,326
Capital expenditure				
Community services (Community)	8,209	10,263	11,895	11,326
Ōtara Town Centre				
Total capital expenditure	8,209	10,263	11,895	11,326
Net capital funding	0	0	0	0

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



Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Ōtara-Papatoetoe

Your Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board members



Apulu Reece Autagavaia

Chairperson

Phone: 021 723 146

reece.autagavaia@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Vi Hausia

Deputy Chairperson

Phone: 027 218 2636

vi.hausia@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Topou Folau

Phone: 027 201 1980

topou.folau@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Li'amanaia Lorenzo Kaisara

Phone: 027 307 9974

lorenzo.kaisara@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Sandeep Saini

Phone: 027 280 7547

sandeep.saini@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Jeet Singh

Phone: 027 321 9293

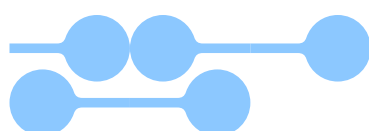
jeet.singh@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Kushma Nair

Phone: 027 272 1357

kushma.nair@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Auckland Council disclaims any liability whatsoever in connection with any action taken in reliance of this document for any error, deficiency, flaw or omission contained in it.
© 2026 Auckland Council, Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board

Tāmaki Turuki.
Altogether Auckland.

