



Te mahere ā-rohe o Waitematā 2026

# Waitematā Draft Local Board Plan 2026

**Tāmaki Turuki.  
Altogether Auckland.**



# Mihi

**Mai i Te Waitematā ki tai, nau mai rā e Te Waitematā ki uta.**

**Hei taumarumaru koe mō te pū o te wheke kua huaina nei, ko te tāone nui o Tāmaki Makaurau.**

**Titiro ki te Pourewa Tūkoī ki te rangi e titi mai rā i te manawa tonu o Te Horotiu,**

**tipua o te ao kōhatu kua memeha kē, kua taupokihia e te ao kua kōhatu.**

**Ko Te Wai-o-Taikehu kei te rāwhiti ōu,**

**ko Tuki-tuki-muka te kai here i tō hope i te uru. E rere ki tuawhenua, ka ū atu koe ki Te Wai-orea, kei kō tata mai ko te Rae o Kāwharu**

**e eke ai koe ki Te Uru Karaka.**

**Heke whakatemalaī ko Ngā Kauae Whati, e piki ake ai koe ki Te Rimu-tahi.**

**Titiro whakaiho koe, ko Waiatarau, ko te Waikōkota.**

**E tahuri tō haere mā te ara Kārangaranga o Hape kia tū anō koe i te kokotinga o te Ara Kuīni.**

**E whakamau ō kamo ki te āhuru mōwai e hora ake nā i mua i a koe.**

**E mīharo ki tā te ringa tangata i hanga ai hei kākahu i tā te ringa atua.**

**E takahi rā koe mā runga i ngā tapuwae o te tini-pō te ao, ao te pō,**

**kia tau rawa atu koe ki te huinga mai a te mano ki Te Rerenga-ora-iti.**

**Ki reira koe whakatau ai i te iwi;**

**Nau mai e taku iti, nau mai e taku rahi ki āhau, ki Te Waitematā i uta, ki Te Waitematā i tai.**

From Waitematā at sea to Waitematā on shore, welcome.

May you be a safe haven at the centre of this metropolis called Tāmaki Makaurau.

Gaze up to the Sky Tower that rises out of the heart of Horotiu,

relic of the age of stone,

now covered over by a world of stone. T

e Wai-o-Taikehu marks your eastern bounds, while Tuki-tuki-muka binds your western boundary.

Flowing inland you reach Wai-orea though close by is Te Rae o Kāwharu, en-route to present-day Newton.

Glancing to your left lies Grey Lynn, and up a rise you come to Ponsonby. Looking below, there is Freemans Bay, there too, is Waikōkota.

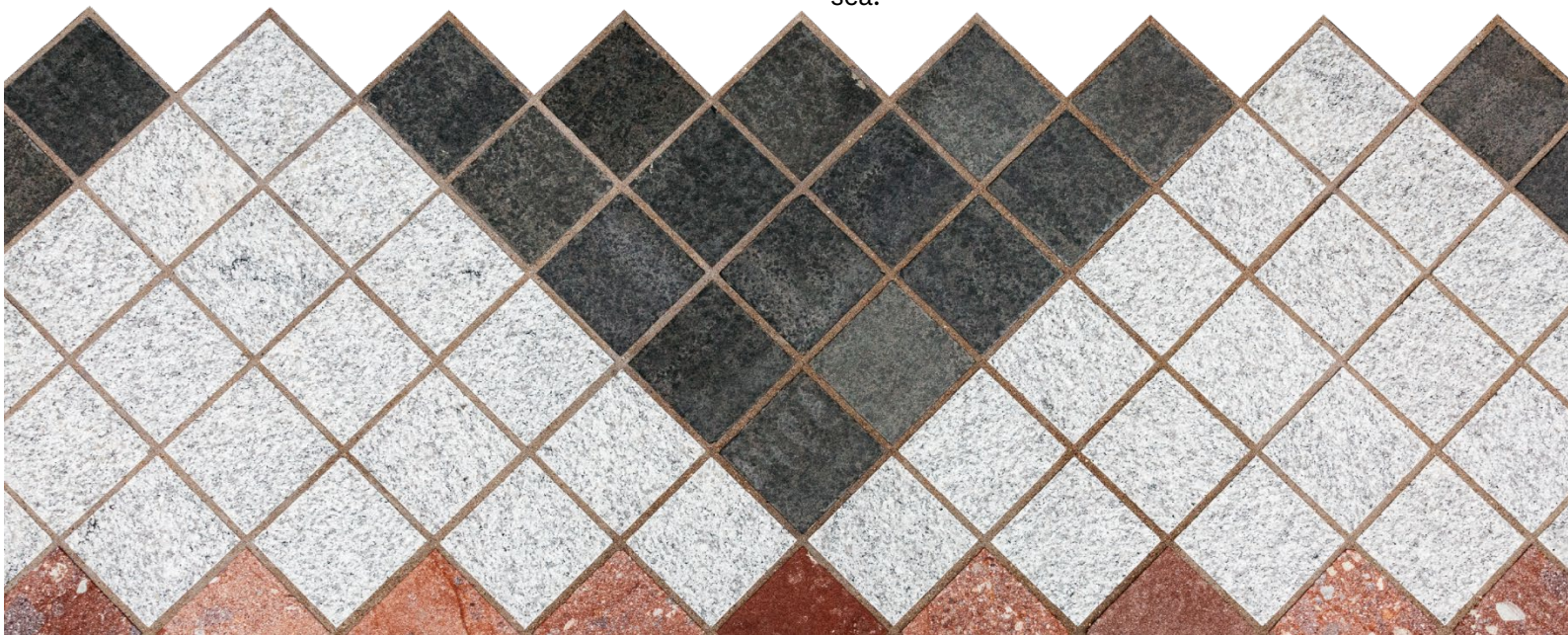
Your journey takes you now to Karangahape Road across to where it intersects with the Queen's byway.

Cast your eyes over the sheltered haven that lies before you.

Marvel at what the human hand has created to embellish that which was created by the hand of God.

Now follow in the footprints of many who passed by - dawn till dusk and dusk till dawn, until you too arrive amongst the hustle and bustle of the throngs, at Britomart.

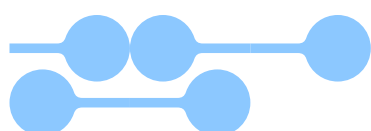
There you can bid the people; Welcome one and all unto me, Waitematā on shore, Waitematā at sea.



# Ngā upoko kōrero

## Contents

Mihi .....	2
From the Chair.....	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.....	12
Natural environment .....	17
Built environment.....	21
Economic development.....	26
Transport .....	30
Funding information.....	34
Levels of service.....	35
Financial overview.....	37
Your Waitemātā Local Board members .....	38



# He kōrero mai i te Heamana

## From the Chair

Waitematā is a place of energy and diversity, shaped by its role as Auckland’s city centre and by the strong, distinct communities that live within and around it. It is a place where many thousands of people live, work, study and visit every day, and where local decisions have region-wide impact. This draft Local Board Plan sets out our priorities for the next three years and explains how the Waitematā Local Board intends to use its role to respond to change and support our communities.



The plan is important because Waitematā continues to experience significant growth and investment alongside increasing pressures on housing, infrastructure, public space and the natural environment. Major projects such as the City Rail Link (CRL) are reshaping how people move through and experience the area, while changes to planning rules and climate impacts are influencing how our neighbourhoods will develop. Our focus is on ensuring growth is well designed, people-focused and inclusive, and that our public places support wellbeing, safety and connection.

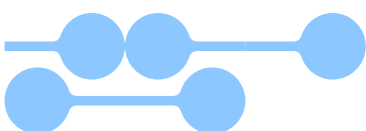
What makes the Waitematā Local Board Plan distinctive is the breadth of places and communities it represents. It is an area of huge importance for iwi. The city centre is an economic powerhouse. It is also one of the most culturally diverse places in the country with 66 per cent of residents born overseas and a large, skilled young adult population. The inner suburbs are the city’s most established with strong identities, heritage and creative energy. The plan recognises the importance of a city centre that works for residents as well as businesses and visitors, the role of arts and culture in creating vibrant places, and the need to integrate nature and climate resilience into our urban environment.

We are pleased with the direction of this draft plan and grateful to those who have contributed their time, experience and ideas so far. Community input is essential to ensuring the plan reflects what matters most to the people who live in, work in and care about Waitematā. We now welcome your feedback and endorsement as we refine the plan and confirm our priorities for the next three years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Alexandra Bonham

**Waitematā Local Board Chairperson**



# He aronga poto ki tā mātou mahere

## Our plan at a glance



### Community

Waitematā is home to a connected, inclusive and resilient community, where residents, students and visitors feel welcome, can participate in community life, and have a strong sense of home and belonging. It is a place that supports and retains young people and talent, builds vibrant neighbourhoods, and works with communities and partners to support people experiencing homelessness.



### Natural environment

The natural environment of Waitematā is woven throughout the urban form and supports the wellbeing of people, plants and fauna. Streams are restored; harbour waters and coastal environs are clean with regenerating ecologies.



### Built environment

From Auckland's city centre to its historic suburbs, the built environment of Waitematā is well-designed, vibrant, inclusive and people-focused, and supports low-carbon living, wellbeing and a strong sense of place.



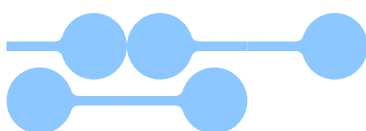
### Economic development

Waitematā has a thriving, resilient and inclusive local economy, supported by a strong city centre and vibrant town centres, where businesses, tertiary institutions, creative sectors and communities work together to attract people to live, study, work and visit.



### Transport

Waitematā leads Auckland's low-carbon transport future. Investment in the City Rail Link, active travel infrastructure and people-centred streets delivers a climate-resilient multimodal transport network that enables safe, efficient and enjoyable movement for people of all ages and abilities.



# 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

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

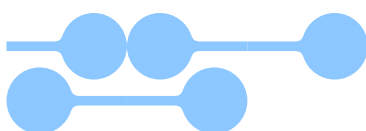
- public feedback from the previous local board plan, annual plans and other consultations
- surveys such as the People's Panel
- early community engagement held in December 2025 and January 2026.

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.

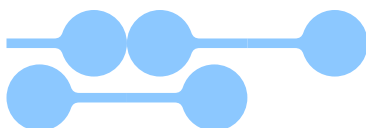


# Te Rohe ā-Poari Local board area



## MAP LEGEND

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





Heard Park, Parnell

## 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:

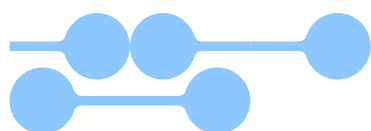
- [Auckland Plan 2050](#) – the 30-year vision for how Auckland will grow and change. This includes the Future Development Strategy.
- [long-term plan](#) – the council’s investment and funding priorities over the next 10 years.
- [annual plan](#) – local funding decisions for each financial year.

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** (transport, water, built environment, natural environment, community, economic and cultural development, well-managed local government) 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.

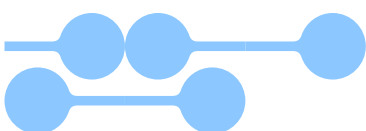
### Local insights

Wai-te-matā means 'obsidian waters'. It refers to the glassy surface of the Waitematā Harbour, which resembles volcanic obsidian rock. Pā were established on the headlands of the Waitematā, but were redeveloped for national defence in the 1880s, and again during World War II.

### Iwi and hapū

The following iwi and hapū are whakapapa to the area.

- Ngāti Whātua Tribal Group
  - Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua
  - Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara
  - Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
- Waiohua-Tāmaki Tribal Group
  - Te Kawerau ā Maki
  - Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki
  - Ngāti Tamaoho
  - Te Ākitai Waiohua
  - Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua
- Marutūahu Tribal Group
  - Ngāti Paoa
  - Ngaati Whanaunga
  - Ngāti Maru
  - Ngāti Tamaterā
  - Te Patukirikiri
- Waikato-Tainui.



## The local board currently supports Māori outcomes through:

- strengthening its connections with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei across governance and operations and is committed to developing a deeper and more collaborative relationship.
- working in partnership with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to support the use of traditional place names that reflect Māori whakapapa.
- restoring local streams and planting native trees, plants and grasses on their banks to improve the mauri of our waterways, such as Waipapa and Waiparuru streams.
- celebrating Māori history through place-based experiences and recreation in partnership with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei.
- championing the use of te reo Māori in our libraries and other facilities.

## 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 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

We want a resilient community and environment that is proactive and adaptable in the face of climate change, and natural hazards. We have an opportunity to refresh the Waitemātā Local Board plan, *Becoming a Low Carbon Community – An Action Plan 2015*, to guide community efforts to reduce emissions and integrate actions that support adaptation to the impacts of a changing climate.

Recent transport infrastructure investment and the CRL provide an opportunity to support sustainable transport initiatives that reduce household emissions and achieve gains in local air quality.

Community-led momentum for electrification is growing to support the energy transition, and we will support local efforts to increase energy resilience.

## He huanga tautika

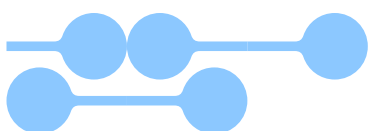
### Equitable outcomes

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

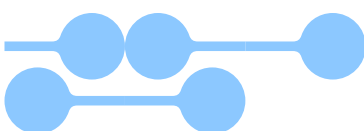


and communities need different things to fully participate in the life of our region, and to feel valued, included, and that they belong.

**Local insights**

The population of Waitematā is extremely diverse in income, cultural background, and age. We need to enable our more vulnerable communities to be better engaged, involved, and heard.

People are the heart of Waitematā and thrive in an environment where there are opportunities to enjoy activities that improve their skills, quality of life and enable people to connect to others. We celebrate our diversity and heritage and encourage equitable access to social, economic, environmental and cultural opportunities.





*WeCare Festival, Ellen Melville Centre*

## Te hāpori **Community**

**Waitematā is home to a connected, inclusive and resilient community, where residents, students and visitors feel welcome, can participate in community life, and have a strong sense of home and belonging. It is a place that supports and retains young people and talent, builds vibrant neighbourhoods, and works with communities and partners to support people experiencing homelessness.**

Waitematā is Auckland’s civic and cultural heart, home to diverse communities living, working and studying in a high-density urban environment alongside historic inner-city neighbourhoods. Our people are supported by a rich network of libraries, community centres, arts and recreation facilities, parks, playgrounds and civic spaces that enable learning, creativity, wellbeing and connection. As a local board, we recognise and respond to complex challenges such as homelessness, public safety perceptions, ageing infrastructure and pressure on limited open space.

We value strong community leadership, volunteering and cultural participation, and partner with mana whenua, community organisations and institutions to deliver inclusive and targeted outcomes. Through well-maintained, fit-for-purpose community spaces and community-led initiatives, we are building social connection, resilience and a sense of belonging for all who call Waitematā home.



## Challenges

- Many parks, playgrounds, community halls, and sports fields are well worn, with increasing upkeep and renewal costs. Limited funding requires careful trade-offs between renewing aging assets, developing new facilities, and maintaining operations.
- For facilities used by the wider community (visitors to the area from outside the local board) such as the Central Library, Parnell Baths, Tepid Baths, and Olympic Pool, a significant amount of funding is required for their maintenance, upkeep and capital improvements.
- Waitemata has limited green space and high urban density, creating pressure on existing parks, sports fields and outdoor areas.
- Affordable spaces for community and arts activities are limited in the city centre and surrounding neighbourhoods.
- Homelessness continues to be a complex and visible issue in parts of Waitemata and requires coordinated responses beyond the local board's direct control.
- Multi-unit living is an important and expanding part of our community. The people living there need enhanced shared amenities, spaces and facilities to address isolation and foster connected, liveable neighbourhoods.
- Many people are facing cost-of-living pressures so free and low-cost community activities and facilities are needed to support wellbeing.
- High density living arrangements, such as apartments, make it difficult to reach people and engage them with local events and get them involved with other members of our community.
- The diversity in our communities (culture, ethnicity, language, age) means that a single approach doesn't work – targeted programming is required for better community outcomes.

## Opportunities

- Waitemata is home to diverse open spaces, from large parks (Western Springs, Grey Lynn Park, Auckland Domain) to smaller neighbourhood reserves, offering recreation, sport, ecological, and passive leisure opportunities.
- Waitemata has a diversity of cultures, ethnicities, languages, and ages that is one of its greatest strengths. More community events, markets, performances, and activations that celebrate this mix give people a reason to show up, meet their neighbours, and feel at home.
- We have a number of active volunteer groups such as friends-of-park groups, environmental restoration groups, and community sports organisations contributing to local stewardship.
- There is very high cultural participation in arts, heritage, and cultural programmes.
- Diverse community organisations with whom we can partner are delivering a range of community benefits.
- We have terrific assets like the Central Library, Studio One Toi Tū and our community centres that can be used to meet the needs and aspirations of a wide range of people.



## Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)
Build a thriving cultural, social and recreational community through strong partnerships	<p>Support and enable emerging artists and community-led arts activity across the local board area, including continued support for TAPAC and partnering with Kahui St David to deliver inclusive music rehearsal, learning, and performance opportunities that support youth development, build creative pathways, and serve as a centre of music for the community.</p> <p>Investigate entering into long-term funding agreements so that our partners can have the security to deliver their programmes while retaining our ability to provide grants to smaller groups to deliver short-term positive outcomes.</p> <p>Investigate a sports partnership with the Ministry of Education to enable more public access to their sports facilities within the board area, with a particular focus on opportunities for women and girls to participate.</p> <p>Strengthen our relationship with Mana Whenua and iwi, and mataawaka to celebrate those partnerships and promote Māori culture and identity through events, placemaking, or narrative wayfinding.</p> <p>Partner with and fund community groups, artists, and grassroots organisers to deliver free, accessible events – markets, performances, and activations, that bring residents and the wider community together and encourage people to spend time in and engage with their neighbourhood.</p>
Every part of our community feels welcome, connected and supported	<p>Explore better ways to engage with our diverse community, particularly those in high-density housing areas, including migrants, seniors and our young adult and student population, such as by using citizen assemblies, to ensure a diverse range of community voices are heard and reflected in decision-making.</p> <p>Explore ways to deliver local programmes that benefit our older and physically less able communities.</p> <p>Support local and regional initiatives and organisations that address homelessness, particularly youth homelessness</p> <p>Continue to support youth wellbeing, ensuring that they have access to the services, spaces and community connections they need.</p> <p>Support local and regional initiatives intended to improve public safety and perceptions of safety in the city centre and outer neighbourhood town centres.</p> <p>Continue to improve community resilience to extreme weather events, ongoing climate change hazards, and other emergencies.</p> <p>Continue to encourage playful and playable elements in our public spaces through implementation of the Waitemātā Play Plan.</p>



	Support and strengthen our network of community gardens and food resilience initiatives that enable communities to grow, share, and access healthy, culturally appropriate kai, while building local capability and connected, sustainable neighbourhoods.
Arts, culture and events are celebrated and create vibrant places and spaces	Use the arts and music to activate our streets, public spaces and CRL stations, and implement programmes that illustrate Auckland’s City of Music status.
	Support and enable community organisations and groups to lead and deliver arts activities, events and programmes in their local areas, such as with seed funding, or access to resources and expertise.
	Support a consistent and reliable offering of free community events across neighbourhoods, markets, music performance, and activations, so there is always something on and everyone has a reason to get outside and connect.
	Make the most of our libraries, community centres and arts studios to deliver free and affordable programmes including play activities, to support wellbeing, resilience and community connections.
We have a rich network of much-loved community spaces	Ensure our community places and spaces are well maintained and looked after in a cost-effective way and are sustainable and resilient to the impacts of climate change.
	Assess our community leases to be more intentional in how groups are placed, creating a strong community lease network that meets the diverse needs of our community and utilises underused facilities.
	Increase access to parks and reserves through greenways connectivity, renewal works and park upgrades and look for opportunities within our park and facilities network to implement play activations.
	Review our portfolio of buildings and consider reducing our asset footprint to have fewer but better assets that are fit for purpose and well used.
	Reduce barriers for community groups wanting to use public spaces and facilities, e.g. simplifying searches, permits, fees, and booking processes, so more people can organise events and activations.

## Advocacy

Some local priorities that matter to our community are not part of our direct decision-making role. Advocacy is how we influence other 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
The delivery of affordable, public, and community housing in the city centre and inner suburbs that helps addresses homelessness, supports quality	Governing Body Central Government



---

urban living, enables people to live close to jobs and services, and sustains long-term community wellbeing.

---

Improved access for people experiencing mental health, addiction, and social challenges through coordinated, place-based service delivery that enhances safety, inclusion, and wellbeing in the city centre.

Governing Body  
Central Government

---

Facility provision, operational arrangements, and funding models that reflect the significant regional use of Waitematā Local Board facilities, ensuring local communities are not disproportionately burdened with the cost of services primarily used by people from outside the area, particularly the aquatics network.

---

Governing Body

---

Establish a downtown Police station and more visible police presence in the city centre.

---

Central Government

---





*Volunteer planting day at Tole Reserve*

## Te taiao māori

# Natural environment

**The natural environment of Waitematā is woven throughout the urban form and supports the wellbeing of people, plants and fauna. Streams are restored; harbour waters and coastal environs are clean with regenerating ecologies.**

Waitematā values its natural environment, but it is a vulnerable taonga shaped by its coastal setting, distinctive geology, and highly urbanised landscape. The area has few remnants of native vegetation remaining, so protecting and restoring biodiversity, waterways and the local ngāhere/forest is critical to the health and resilience of our communities.

The local board will invest in initiatives that integrate nature into the urban realm through green infrastructure, and in initiatives that restore our urban ngāhere and waterways. We will support community, mana whenua and partner-led action to enhance local parks, streets and neighbourhoods in ways that strengthen ecological health and social wellbeing. As climate impacts intensify, we will prioritise solutions that reduce flood risk, cool urban areas, improve environmental performance, harness renewable energy opportunities and ensure the urban environment in Waitematā is resilient, attractive and sustainable for future generations.



## Challenges

- Financial constraints could reduce, pause, or scale back our environmental programming.
- Enabling planning rules, limited tree protections and industry practice to clear sites before construction has a deleterious impact on tree canopy, biodiversity, permeable space, and water quality.
- Communities are increasingly exposed to climate risks such as flooding, heatwaves, drought and sea-level rise but have limited capacity to adapt without clear guidance, funding tools, and political leadership.
- Human-mediated pressures such as pest plants, cats, dogs, pollution, sedimentation, chemical usage and development can present significant threats to indigenous species and ecosystems

## Opportunities

- Local board investment in community conservation programmes and community coordinators can expand environmental action, build local capacity, deliver biodiversity outcomes across the local board area and strengthen connections between residents and their local environment.
- Recent investment in transport infrastructure, such as the City Rail Link and the Central Interceptor, provide an opportunity to support sustainable transport, improve air quality and reduce water pollution.
- Implementing the strategies in the Waitematā Harbour West Shoreline Adaptation Plan will help ensure council assets are resilient, fit-for-purpose and can be adapted for future coastal hazard risk.
- By increasing planting on slopes, gullies, berms, and encouraging planting in private gardens and on buildings, will help us reach our aspirations for 30% canopy cover by 2050 and mean more shade and biodiversity.

## Our Plan

<b>Our 3-year goals (Objectives)</b>	<b>What we will deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)</b>
Maintain, restore and enhance our urban natural environment	Continue to support local stream restoration and water quality improvement projects that boost biodiversity in Waitematā, enable swimmable beaches and reduce flood risk by increasing stream capacity and improving floodplain function.
	Promote the installation of living green walls, rooftops, and assets in public buildings and private developments to improve air quality, green space, biodiversity and water quality.
	Continue to support reduced use of agrichemicals in our parks and open spaces.
	Continue to deliver on the Waitematā Urban Ngāhere Action Plan by planting in areas of low canopy cover, maintaining existing urban forests and encouraging



	<p>more trees and planting in our public spaces and in transport corridors and berms across the local board area.</p> <p>Focus on increasing water quality and improving the eco-systems of Western Springs Park.</p>
Develop and strengthen environmental partnerships	<p>Continue to support our well-established and treasured environmental volunteers and help our community partners to grow participation, including targeted programmes that engage young people and culturally diverse communities in environmental restoration and sustainability initiatives.</p> <p>Support eco-neighbourhood initiatives that strengthen community connections and build community resilience to climate and weather-related impacts.</p> <p>Encourage sponge planting in our public places prone to flooding to increase climate resilience in line with Making Space for Water concepts and blue-green network approaches, including in Hakanoa Reserve and Western Park.</p> <p>Partner with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and mana whenua iwi to protect and enhance our natural taonga through initiatives such as planting, waterway restoration, floodplain reconnection, and climate adaptation.</p>
Champion more sustainable waste management options and community climate action	<p>Empower our communities, schools, and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions and be energy efficient.</p> <p>Support adaptation planning for Waitematā communities.</p> <p>Support community-led transport initiatives, such as bike hubs, cycle skills training and local bike groups to leverage investment in the CRL and other transport infrastructure such as cycle ways.</p> <p>Support zero-waste initiatives that foster a sense of community and environmental responsibility and drive sustainable practices, such as through the Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre and its education hub, Pū Mātauranga, and e-waste drop-off initiatives that focus on diverting electronics from landfill and initiatives that address construction and demolition waste.</p> <p>Support local food growing and composting through community gardens, food forests, and gardens on balconies.</p> <p>Support youth-led climate action and environmental leadership initiatives, including partnerships with schools, tertiary institutions and youth organisations to build capability and pathways into environmental careers</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 decision-makers to prioritise the things our community cares about.



<b>What we will advocate for in the next 3 years (Advocacy)</b>	<b>Who we will advocate to</b>
Increased regional investment in stormwater infrastructure, flood resilience, and coastal adaptation in highly urbanised Waitematā catchments, including the timely delivery of the Waitematā Harbour West shoreline adaptation plans to protect communities, public assets, and the natural environment.	Governing Body
Improved planning and policy settings that strengthen requirements and incentives for solar panels, green roofs, living walls, urban tree retention, increased canopy cover, and permeable surfaces—particularly in the city centre, CRL precincts, and local town centres—to improve biodiversity, reduce urban heat, and enhance climate resilience.	Governing Body
Continued and targeted transport investment that prioritises public transport, walking, and cycling to reduce emissions, improve air quality, and deliver healthier, greener, and more people-focused streets and urban environments across Waitematā.	Governing Body Regional Transport Committee
Continued and equitable regional and central investment to achieve natural environment outcomes in the Waitematā Local Board area, recognising the cumulative impacts of urban density, regional use, and infrastructure pressure on the land, freshwater catchments, and harbour.	Governing Body Central Government
Development of technical guidelines and funding tools to support communities to protect and restore the natural environment and build resilience	Governing Body
Development of a renewable energy strategy to improve resilience and lower costs for businesses and residents.	Governing Body Central Government
The adoption of the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Ratepayers' Assistance Scheme to encourage and enable solar power uptake.	Central Government





*Mercury Lane*

## Te taiao kua hangaia

# Built environment

**From Auckland’s city centre to its historic suburbs, the built environment of Waitemātā is well-designed, vibrant, inclusive and people-focused, and supports low-carbon living, wellbeing and a strong sense of place.**

Waitemātā is experiencing significant change as major infrastructure investment, such as the City Rail Link, and evolving planning rules reshape the city centre and surrounding neighbourhoods. The local board will focus on ensuring growth and increased density deliver high-quality, people-oriented places that are safe, accessible and designed well for daily life.

We will advocate for and invest in urban design that creates welcoming public spaces, activated streets and connected neighbourhoods where people want to live, work and spend time. Arts, culture, play and heritage will play a key role in creating a vibrant city, reflecting te ao Māori, telling local stories, and creating distinctive precincts.

We will support the integration of nature, green infrastructure and resilient design into the urban realm to improve wellbeing, environmental performance and climate resilience. Together, these actions will help ensure Waitemātā remains a dynamic, liveable and internationally recognised city centre and urban community.



## Challenges

- Significant intensification around transport hubs, town centres and major corridors is placing pressure on open space, water infrastructure and biodiversity.
- Ongoing changes to planning rules and frequent consultation processes are creating uncertainty and consultation fatigue within communities.
- Concerns about noise and air quality remain prevalent in the city centre and Newmarket.

## Opportunities

- Completion of major projects such as the CRL, the New Zealand International Convention Centre and associated streetscape upgrades provide opportunities to increase activity, vibrancy and economic vitality in the city centre.
- Trees, berm planting and vertical and rooftop gardens can improve amenity, air quality, biodiversity and climate resilience.
- Changes to planning rules can meet community aspirations for high amenity and well-designed density and enable a greater diversity of housing types to support people at different life stages to live and remain within Waitematā, for example, by enabling perimeter block housing and adaptative reuse of buildings.
- Developing live arts precincts, improving lighting and supporting creative and community hubs, particularly in Karangahape Road, Aotea Arts Quarter and North Wharf, can enhance local identity, safety and vibrancy.
- We value our special character and historic heritage areas and want to enable appropriate development that does not compromise the values that make them special to our community.

## Our Plan

<b>Our 3-year goals (Objectives)</b>	<b>What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)</b>
Continue to build a world-class international city centre by enhancing the public realm, particularly around our train stations	<p>Develop local area plans to enable density done well, including encouraging and enabling perimeter blocks.</p> <p>Enhance lighting in the city centre to help create a unique sense of place and make it feel safer, for example, lighting up the heritage buildings along Queen Street.</p> <p>Work with Uptown Business Association, Albert-Eden Local Board and the Auckland Urban Development Office to create a pedestrian-focused urban realm around Maungawhau Station.</p> <p>Ensure our city and city fringe public areas have attractive and practical amenities, including shade and seating, to provide places for people to gather.</p>



	<p>Enhance pedestrian connections, amenities, accessible play, seating and green spaces for residents living in high-density environments, including Te Tōangaroa and Victoria Quarter.</p> <p>Provide access to free or low-cost, non-corporate and safe third spaces that cater to young people and residents in high density areas.</p> <p>Support a noise strategy to reduce impacts of noise on city centre residents</p>
Nature is woven into our urban form, and local assets, parks and green spaces contribute to storm and flooding resilience	<p>Initiate projects in our local parks that increase resilience to flooding with the increased use of sponge gardening.</p> <p>Investigate daylighting local streams such as the one in Western Park.</p> <p>Space is made for water in our built environment through careful planning and by using methods such as rain gardens, swales and blue-green corridors, e.g. an expanded Hakanoa Reserve.</p> <p>Grow our urban ngāhere/forests and space for nature in our parks, reserves, gullies, slopes, private gardens, and road corridors including enabling berm planting where practicable through the development of berm planting technical guidelines.</p> <p>Encourage the installation of solar panels and water retention tanks.</p> <p>Ensure there is access to green space for residents in high-density areas like the city centre and uptown, including through the promotion of tree planting, pocket parks, vertical gardens and green roofs.</p>
Art and other design elements enliven our spaces and bring our community together	<p>Design and activate spaces for a wide range of users at different times of the day.</p> <p>Look for opportunities to provide local street and public art, for example, through murals or sculpture, to enhance the experience of those living in or visiting our local board area.</p> <p>Support the Heart of the City Vacant Spaces initiative to bring to life empty shops and spaces.</p> <p>Create more opportunities for play that can be used by everyone.</p> <p>Encourage under-used spaces to be made available for community and arts activities.</p>
Our unique special character and our historic heritage is valued, protected and enhanced	<p>Make the most of our heritage buildings by encouraging and enabling access for the community to educate and raise awareness about local history.</p> <p>Complete the refurbishment of the Leys Institute and Gymnasium into a valuable library and community facility and celebrate its reopening alongside the Friends of Leys Institute and the wider community.</p> <p>Tell the stories of our local history through wayfinding, signage and digital methods, for example, the history of Waipapa Valley.</p>



Māori whakapapa, art, heritage and culture is reflected in the built form and names of our places	Working in partnership with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei we will support the use of place names that reflect Māori whakapapa.
	Māori-led design is intrinsic to the design of our new buildings, public spaces and infrastructure.
	Public artwork created by Māori is prominent in our local board area and tells the stories they want to share.

## Advocacy

Some local priorities that matter to our community are not part of our direct decision-making role. Advocacy is how we influence other 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
Meaningful local board involvement in regeneration initiatives across the city centre, city fringe and key precincts, including Karangahape Road, the Aotea Arts Quarter, Te Tōangaroa, Victoria Quarter, Uptown and Westhaven.	Governing Body
A refreshed City Centre Master Plan that prioritises resident wellbeing, good urban design, safety, accessibility and a thriving environment for businesses, visitors and local communities	Governing Body City Centre Advisory Panel Heart of the City
A creative hub that will support the arts sector and serve as a vibrant gathering place for the community in the midtown area.	Governing Body City Centre Advisory Panel
Investment in policy work, regulation and funding to ensure high-quality apartment design and prudent maintenance and management, including mandating emergency preparedness plans for apartments.	Governing Body Central government Developers
Enhance amenity in the city centre to attract residents, including the provision of a primary school, more third spaces, play opportunities, and the use of empty shops and spaces.	Governing Body Central Government
Enabling appropriate development, such as infill housing behind a character property and raising the height of houses, in special character and historic heritage areas without compromising the features that make them valued by the community.	Governing Body
Use emerging and innovative digital tools to deliver improved urban outcomes, such as developing a digital twin (a model of a real-world physical system that serves as a digital counterpart for purposes such as	Governing Body



---

simulation, testing or monitoring) for the city centre to improve efficiencies and lower costs of development and maintenance over time.

---

Reduce barriers to outdoor dining, street trading and activations making it easier for bars, cafes and community groups to use footpaths and street space to create vibrant people friendly streets. Governing Body

---





*Westmere shops*

## Te whanaketanga ā-ōhanga

# Economic development

**Waitematā has a thriving, resilient and inclusive local economy, supported by a strong city centre and vibrant town centres, where businesses, tertiary institutions, creative sectors and communities work together to attract people to live, study, work and visit.**

Waitematā is Auckland's, and indeed New Zealand's, economic heart, anchored by a strong city centre and vibrant town centres including Karangahape, Newmarket, Ponsonby, Parnell, Grey Lynn and Uptown. It is a place of high-value employment, tertiary education, learning, innovation, culture, and major events that attract residents, workers, students and visitors from across New Zealand and overseas. Continued investment through the Long-term Plan and the City Centre Targeted Rate will restore confidence and foot traffic following COVID-19's impacts and a prolonged infrastructure disruption, and to support a high-quality urban environment that underpins economic activity.

Achieving this outcome requires active local leadership and partnerships. The local board will work closely with the Governing Body, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, Heart of the City and our other business associations, tertiary institutions, and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to shape place-based investment and events that respond to local character and aspiration. By supporting resilient businesses, strengthening the night-time, cultural and student economy, and targeting improvements to streets and public spaces the local board will help ensure economic benefits are realised across the city centre and surrounding areas.



## Challenges

- COVID-19 had a significant impact on Waitematā and changed the way people work. While foot traffic and student numbers have reached pre-pandemic levels, spending is down.
- Disruption from major infrastructure works has impacted parts of the local board area. The need to continue to support business resilience remains important as other major projects are initiated by public and private entities.
- Retail vacancy remains a challenge in places such as Newmarket and the city centre.
- The economy is slow, construction materials and fuel is expensive and unemployment is higher than usual, particularly for young people.

## Opportunities

- Waitematā is home to major cultural assets and venues and is host to many events that are enjoyed by many Aucklanders and visitors from across New Zealand and overseas. These events contribute to economy across the wider local board area.
- The local board is a key area for smaller music and arts venues in Auckland. These venues, arts organisations and local artists can be better supported to grow the arts sector and support cultural identity.
- Waitematā is a key technology hub, with a skilled workforce and a high density of technology companies in the Wynyard Quarter, co-working spaces in Parnell and Newmarket for science and engineering companies, several space-sector start-ups linked to the University of Auckland, as well as medical technology, cleantech and software-as-a-service firms.
- The Waitematā area is an increasingly important filming destination, and its reputation as a film-friendly location can be strengthened further.
- Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei owns significant land in the local board area. Working with them to unlock the potential of these sites is an opportunity to get more economic activity within the local board area.
- Young people and students are active contributors to the local economy. By investing in a vibrant, affordable and connected Waitematā we give them a reason to stay and makes us genuinely competitive with other cities.

## Our Plan

<b>Our 3-year goals (Objectives)</b>	<b>What we plan to deliver in the next 3 years to make this happen (Key initiatives)</b>
Waitematā is recognised as a great destination	Enhance and grow local and international visitation to the Waitematā city centre waterfront, including Pier Z in Westhaven, by promoting boating, fishing, diving, and other maritime experiences that support a vibrant waterfront economy.



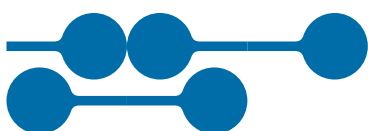
catering to all interests	<p>Enable live music and creative precincts in areas such as Karangahape Road by working with local venues, residents, and council partners to test practical approaches to noise management, street activation, and amenity provision that allow activity to grow organically.</p>
	<p>Support the city centre and fringe nighttime economy by partnering with Tātaki Auckland Unlimited and local stakeholders to deliver activations, events, and place-based initiatives across midtown, uptown, and city fringe areas that respond to local context and demand.</p>
	<p>Strengthen arts organisations and creative activity by supporting audience growth, increasing public visibility, and investigating the establishment of an inner-city arts hub.</p>
	<p>Partner with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to grow visitation and economic activity by leveraging existing events, supporting mana whenua-led initiatives, and enabling place-based activity that builds on existing assets, narratives, and community momentum.</p>
Successful and resilient businesses	<p>Support our business associations in their partnerships with council to deliver events, adapt to new challenges and opportunities, reduce waste and emissions, and help them foster safe and welcoming public spaces.</p>
	<p>Work with businesses to become more sustainable and resilient to disruption and other challenges and continue to use and improve a business support framework during major construction works that affect businesses.</p>
	<p>Support the technology and innovation ecosystem currently growing in Waitemātā and explore ways to connect our local businesses and students to opportunities.</p>
	<p>Work to continue developing Waitemātā as a key technology hub in Auckland.</p>
	<p>Enable community-led and business events on collector and local roads to support economic activity and vibrancy.</p>
Attract and retain people of all ages to live in Waitemātā	<p>Continue to promote student safety and a positive all-round student experience.</p>
	<p>Support programmes that accelerate the growth and development of Māori and Pacific entrepreneurship.</p>
	<p>Identify opportunities to use the City Centre Targeted Rate to support community wellbeing and drive urban realm improvements in residential areas where amenity values are currently low or where funding would have the most impact.</p>
	<p>Position the student population as active contributors to the local economy, including through innovation, entrepreneurship, and workforce development initiatives.</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 decision-makers to prioritise the things our community cares about.

<b>What we will advocate for in the next 3 years (Advocacy)</b>	<b>Who we will advocate to</b>
Ongoing Long-term Plan investment and effective use of the City Centre Targeted Rate to support economic activity, foot-traffic growth, safety and amenity across the city centre.	Governing Body
A coordinated regional approach to growing visitation, major events and the night-time economy that delivers economic benefits across Waitematā and reflects local character and community aspirations.	Governing Body Tātaki Auckland Unlimited
Develop a fair business-support policy for major infrastructure works.	Governing Body Central Government
Investigate ways to align council research projects with tertiary institutions, harnessing the knowledge of students and researchers, and forging connections for prospective employment and other opportunities.	Governing Body Tertiary institutions
Increased support for the innovation and technology ecosystems.	Governing Body Central Government
Support mana whenua-led development, including partnerships with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei that help unlock economic, cultural and visitation opportunities in Waitematā.	Governing Body Central Government Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
Adopting local procurement and resourcing strategies to build local capacity and revenue growth.	Governing Bodies





*Parnell Station*

# Tūnuku

## Transport

**Waitematā leads Auckland’s low-carbon transport future. Investment in the City Rail Link, active travel infrastructure and people-centred streets delivers a climate-resilient multimodal transport network that enables safe, efficient and enjoyable movement for people of all ages and abilities.**

Waitematā hosts Auckland's most complex and high-demand transport environment, where the city centre, major employment precincts and key regional corridors converge. The completion of the CRL will transform access to the city centre and surrounding areas, creating opportunities to reduce reliance on private vehicles and unlock more walkable, people-focused neighbourhoods.

Over the next three years, the local board will prioritise improvements that make streets safer and more adaptable, advance active transport connections, and support greener, more resilient corridors linking the city centre with Newmarket, Parnell, Ponsonby, Grafton and surrounding neighbourhoods. Through advocacy, partnership and targeted local action, the board will support transport investments that improve everyday movement, enhance local neighbourhoods, and enable a more sustainable and accessible Waitematā.



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

- The Downtown Development Programme is about to commence which will cause disruption to the downtown area for the next four to five years.
- The removal of private car parks and increasing parking costs and logistical challenges for residents and those visiting the city centre is politically sensitive.
- Aging and uneven footpaths, along with poorly designed access points or wayfinding, can present barriers to safe and accessible pedestrian movement.
- An increasing level of micromobility modes has created new challenges in managing high-traffic areas.

## Opportunities

- The Local Active Modes Plan (LAMP) is a planning exercise that Auckland Transport is undertaking in collaboration with our local board. It will develop a programme of low-cost, small-scale changes to roads in the inner-west suburbs to make them safer and more user-friendly for people walking and cycling.
- Promoting and completing greenways and local connections that connect parks, neighbourhoods and other destinations, and that link to neighbouring areas such as Ōrākei and Mt Eden will provide more and safer walking and cycling options.
- The opening of the CRL will bring changes to the areas around the stations while reducing dependency on private vehicle use, providing both challenge and opportunity during the transition.
- Urban street and place-making initiatives around the new transport hubs will be key to unlocking the potential of both the CRL and the surrounding areas such as Karangahape Road and Uptown.
- There is strong public support to advance the City Centre Masterplan (CCMP) and associated strategic transport initiatives.

## Our priorities

Set out below, are the transport priorities for the Waitemātā 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.



<b>Our 3-year goals (Objectives)</b>	<b>What we want to happen in the next 3 years (Priorities)</b>
Active modes are encouraged and enabled	<p>Progress the Waitemata Greenways Plan and Local Active Modes Plan (LAMP) projects for west Waitemata and investigate beginning a LAMP for east Waitemata.</p> <p>Optimise the safe walking and cycling network by filling in the gaps, including Meola Road to Surrey Crescent.</p> <p>Implement a pedestrian plaza at the Rose Road and Williamson Avenue junction in Ponsonby.</p> <p>Review the laneways approaches outlined in the Newmarket Plan, working with business and community stakeholders to identify ways to improve the urban realm and enable more active transport.</p> <p>Safer and more accessible transport and public spaces, including improved connections around Parnell Station, safer routes from CRL stations to universities, enhanced wayfinding and lighting.</p> <p>Review streets where slower speeds are appropriate and explore opportunities for low-traffic neighbourhoods and greater safety around schools.</p>
Data and technological innovations are harnessed to improve the transport network and lower emissions	<p>With enhanced local board decision making over local networks, continue to pilot and roll out management of dynamic streets and lanes, using data and emerging digital tools to enable a responsive and effective roading network.</p> <p>Support transport investment that prioritises public transport electrification, and walking and cycling options that reduce emissions, improve safety, and support efficient movement across the local board area.</p> <p>Encourage clear, consistent and data-informed approaches to managing streets, parking across high-activity areas and town centres, and improving safety and accessibility that balance the needs of residents, businesses, visitors and freight.</p>
There are coherent transport and land-use strategies that leverage investment and deliver good urban outcomes	<p>Support a coordinated and people-focused approach to completing and embedding the CRL and associated city centre transport changes, including investment in streets, public spaces, and wayfinding around stations to support businesses, residents, students and visitors during and after the transition.</p> <p>Leverage the Northwest Busway to improve transport and the urban realm from the Grey Lynn Shops to Point Chevalier, including upgrading the Western Springs precinct, progressing stage 2 of the Museum of Transport and Technology (MOTAT) carpark and connecting the cycle network.</p> <p>Continue to support the goals of the City Centre Masterplan to deliver a well-functioning pedestrian-focused urban realm with access for all.</p>



	Continue to give input to Auckland Transport and the Governing Body to ensure local board knowledge and community priorities are considered regarding transport planning and investment in Waitematā.
Our streets are safe, functional, accessible and enjoyable to use	Provide clear direction on the management of micromobility that balances safety, accessibility for different groups, particularly in high-density and pedestrian areas.
	Support enjoyable, accessible movement becoming a core measure of transport success, with investment in design for footpaths, crossings, waiting areas and active travel routes that reflect the needs of an ageing population, people with disabilities, and city and town centres where walking and cycling are primary modes.
	Build climate resilience into transport corridors, with tree canopy and shade along walking and cycling routes to reduce urban heat, stormwater management integrated into street design, and infrastructure upgraded to withstand flooding and coastal inundation.
Encourage public transport usage	Encourage the enhancement of customer experience by offering free Wi-Fi and incorporating poetry, art, and performance within the public transport network.
	Support the marketing of Auckland destinations in stations and bus shelters to encourage greater usage of the public transport network and increase participation in the opportunities the region offers.
	Advocate for improved night-time travel safety and connections to the night-time economy and tertiary institutions.
	Support a fare structure that allows students, young people and low-income residents access to affordable transport options to education, employment and social opportunities.



# 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:

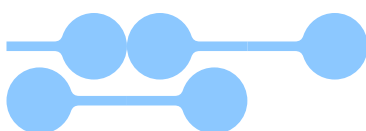
- operating expenditure (opex): to maintain and operate local assets like libraries, pools and parks, and to provide local activities and services
- capital expenditure (capex): to renew and develop local assets.

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

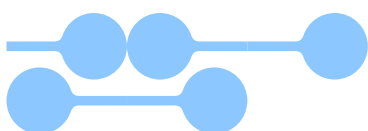
## Levels of service

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><b>Local community services</b></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><b>Local planning and development</b></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><b>Local environmental management</b></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><b>Local governance</b></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.*

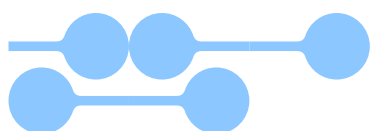
The statement of service provision, default levels of service statements, performance measures and performance targets from our last long-term plan can be found in section 2.6 in [volume 2 of the Long-term Plan 2024-2034](#). The local board’s performance measures and performance targets, can be found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



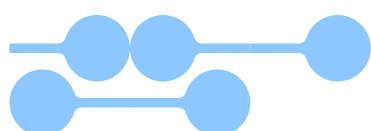
# Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

## 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
<b>Operating funding</b>				
General rates	22,944	23,049	23,573	23,997
Targeted rates	11,117	10,848	11,055	11,265
Fees and charges	2,498	2,569	2,642	2,721
Other revenue	850	1,164	1,188	1,214
<b>Total operating funding</b>	<b>37,409</b>	<b>37,631</b>	<b>38,458</b>	<b>39,197</b>
<b>Operating expenditure</b>				
Community services ( <b>Community</b> )				
Libraries	6,760	6,895	7,025	7,159
Pools and leisure	2,635	2,671	2,710	2,754
Maintenance	10,083	10,263	10,490	10,677
Utilities	2,860	2,735	3,000	3,091
Other community expenses	2,253	2,545	2,428	2,487
Local Environmental Management ( <b>Natural Environment</b> )	312	323	335	347
Local Planning				
BIDs	11,273	10,947	11,155	11,367
Other planning expenses	25	25	26	27
Local Governance	1,209	1,226	1,289	1,288
<b>Total operating expenditure</b>	<b>37,409</b>	<b>37,631</b>	<b>38,458</b>	<b>39,197</b>
<b>Net operating funding</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Capital funding</b>				
Increase in debt	14,147	10,952	10,269	10,475
<b>Total capital funding</b>	<b>14,147</b>	<b>10,952</b>	<b>10,269</b>	<b>10,475</b>
<b>Capital expenditure</b>				
Community services ( <b>Community</b> )	14,147	10,952	10,269	10,475
<b>Total capital expenditure</b>	<b>14,147</b>	<b>10,952</b>	<b>10,269</b>	<b>10,475</b>
<b>Net capital funding</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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



# Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Waitematā

## Your Waitematā Local Board members



**Alexandra Bonham**

**Chairperson**

Phone: 027 262 5560

[alexandra.bonham@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:alexandra.bonham@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

---



**Anahera Rawiri**

**Deputy Chairperson**

Phone: 027 288 7441

[anahera.rawiri@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:anahera.rawiri@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

---



**Peter Elliott**

Phone: 027 241 1810

[peter.elliott@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:peter.elliott@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

---



**Kara Kennedy**

Phone: 027 236 0549

[kara.kennedy@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:kara.kennedy@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

---



**Greg Moyle**

Phone: 09 309 3680

[greg.moyle@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:greg.moyle@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

---



**Sarah Trotman**

Phone: 021 487 583

[sarah.trotman@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:sarah.trotman@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

---

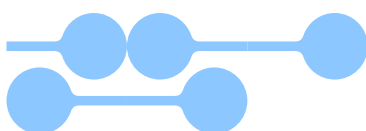


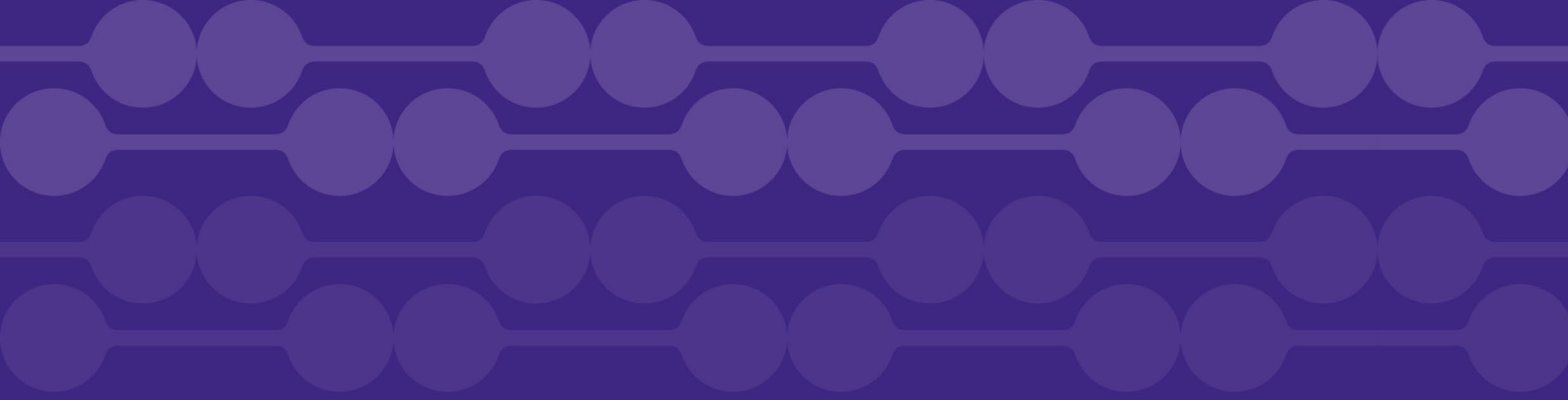
**Caitlin Wilson**

Phone: 027 262 0529

[caitlin.wilson@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:caitlin.wilson@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, Waitemātā Local Board

**Tāmaki Turuki.**  
**Altogether Auckland.**

