



Te mahere ā-rohe o Waitematā 2026

Waitematā

Draft Summary Local Board Plan 2026

**Tāmaki Turuki.
Altogether Auckland.**



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.

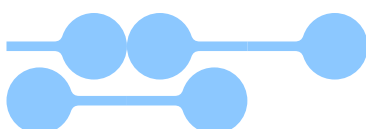
We are pleased with the direction of this draft plan and grateful to those who have contributed their time, experience and ideas so far. Community input is essential to ensuring the plan reflects what matters most to the people who live in, work in and care about Waitematā. We now welcome your feedback 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 'Alexandra Bonham', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Alexandra Bonham

Waitematā Local Board Chairperson

This summary is an overview of the statement of proposal for our draft Waitematā Local Board Plan 2026. We encourage you to read the full draft plan, available online at [akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](https://www.akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz), at public libraries and council service centres and tell us what you think by **Thursday 23 July 2026**. Or tell us what you think in person at one of our local events.



Ngā huanga Māori, he huanga āhuarangi, me he huanga tautika

Māori outcomes, Climate outcomes and Equitable outcomes

This local board plan focuses on five areas where local boards make decisions and can have the greatest influence at a local level. There are three considerations for all decisions and investments:

- Māori outcomes
- Climate outcomes
- Equitable outcomes

These outcomes have shaped the priorities within this Local Board Plan and are reflected throughout the five focus areas.



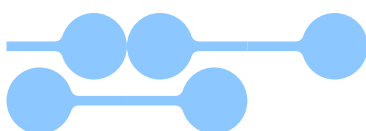
Te hāpori **Community**

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.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)

- Build a thriving cultural, social and recreational community through strong partnerships.
- Every part of our community feels welcome, connected and supported.
- Arts, culture and events are celebrated and create vibrant places and spaces.
- We have a rich network of much-loved community spaces.





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.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)

- Maintain, restore and enhance our urban natural environment.
- Develop and strengthen environmental partnerships.
- Champion more sustainable waste management options and community climate action.



Te taiao kua hangaia

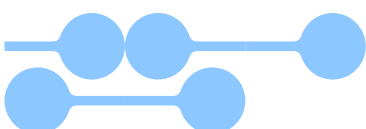
Built environment

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.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)

- Continue to build a world-class international city centre by enhancing the public realm, particularly around our train stations.
- Nature is woven into our urban form, and local assets, parks and green spaces contribute to storm and flooding resilience.
- Art and other design elements enliven our spaces and bring our community together.
- Our unique special character and our historic heritage is valued, protected and enhanced.
- Māori whakapapa, art, heritage and culture is reflected in the built form and names of our places.



Te whanaketanga ā-ōhanga

Economic development



Waitemata 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.

Our Plan

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)

- Waitemata is recognised as a great destination catering to all interests.
- Successful and resilient businesses.
- Attract and retain people of all ages to live in Waitemata.

Tūnuku

Transport

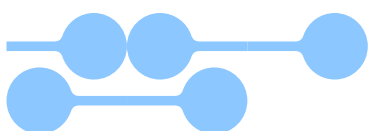


Waitemata leads Auckland's low-carbon transport future. Investment in the City Rail Link, active travel infrastructure and people-centred streets delivers a climate-resilient multimodal transport network that enables safe, efficient and enjoyable movement for people of all ages and abilities.

Our priorities

Our 3-year goals (Objectives)

- Active modes are encouraged and enabled.
- Data and technological innovations are harnessed to improve the transport network and lower emissions.
- There are coherent transport and land-use strategies that leverage investment and deliver good urban outcomes.
- Our streets are safe, functional, accessible and enjoyable to use.
- Encourage public transport usage.



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