

Date: Monday, 19 April 2021

**10-Year Budget 2021/2031
Regional Organisations**

**WRITTEN FEEDBACK Vol. 3
(16729–17351)**

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Forest and Bird

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: How can we be sure Council will hold to %3.5 in future? Future is uncertain

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 16729 for more info

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Submission on the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan)

Date: 22 March 2020

To: AK Have Your Say, Auckland Council, Private bag 92 300, Auckland 1142

From: Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc. (Forest & Bird), PO Box 108 055, Auckland 1150,

E-mail:

1. Introduction

The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Incorporated (Forest & Bird) is New Zealand's largest independent nature conservation organisation, with many members and supporters. Our mission is to be a voice for nature on land, in fresh water, and at sea.

We have 47 branches throughout the country, seven of which, are in the Auckland region and are involved in a wide range of conservation and advocacy activities.

Forest & Bird has for many years had a strong interest and involvement in the greater Auckland area. Our strategic vision for the region is as follows, which ties into our national Forest & Bird strategic objectives:

- **Climate Centred:** Auckland is resilient to the impacts of climate change. Any activities or developments in the region must actively mitigate their contribution to climate change. Aucklanders understand the threat and urgency of climate change and are supported in climate change practices.
- **Economy that Supports Nature:** Auckland's local economy and nature are interconnected. Unhealthy nature, equals an unhealthy economy.
- **Vibrant Landscapes:** Auckland's terrestrial native flora and fauna are protected and enhanced in urban and rural areas. Auckland's landscapes are free from pests. Development can occur without clearing and destroying landscapes and their respective ecosystems.
- **Oceans Alive:** Aucklanders recognise the health of the marine environment is a direct result of on-land activities. Auckland's three main harbours (Manukau, Waitematā and Kaipara) return to their original, healthy states. Fishing and aquaculture activities follow ecosystem-based management principles. Thirty percent of Auckland's marine environment is protected through a network of no-take marine protected areas.
- **Energised Water, Rivers and Wetlands:** Auckland's rivers and streams are clean, healthy and teeming with life. Wetlands are protected and enhanced.

2. Submission

- 2.1. Firstly, we wish to highlight and emphasize the Auckland Plan's 2050 Environment and Cultural Heritage Direction 2: Apply a Māori world view to treasure and protect our natural environment (taonga tuku iho) specifically to *“embed these concepts into our thinking and decision-making supporting a focus on the interrelationships between the natural environment and people”*. The current consultation document presents all key issues as isolated from one another and no emphasis has been put on exploring the interrelationships between each. For example:
 - 2.1.1. We propose that the long term plan treats key issue 2 (*responding to climate change*) and key issue 5 (*protecting and enhancing our environment*) as interconnected issues. If one issue is not addressed, the other will not be achieved. All environmental issues are, in effect, climate change issues and it is important for Aucklanders that this is emphasized,
 - 2.1.2. We propose that the long term plan accounts for the investments into environmental regulation/climate change initiatives having direct benefit to all other key issues outlined and the links should be acknowledged, and
 - 2.1.3. We propose that linkages are highlighted between the Natural Environment Targeted Rate and Water Quality Targeted Rate as both are interconnected (e.g., improvement of management of priority native habitats will have benefit for water quality - water quality requires a 'whole-system' approach and it is important Aucklanders acknowledge and understand this). The two rates do not operate in isolation and for clarity and efficiency we propose that there is only one rate for the region (e.g., the Water Quality Targeted Rate is incorporated into the Natural Environment Targeted Rate).
- 2.2. Forest & Bird supports the proposal to extend and increase the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031 for the ongoing funding of construction projects around the Manukau Harbour, Tāmaki Estuary and along the beaches between Parnell and Glendowie, and funding of additional litter traps, we further propose that:
 - 2.2.1. Some funding is allocated for research around how green infrastructure and water sensitive designs could be used to further manage pollution entering the marine environment whilst providing access to more greenspace and biodiversity (green infrastructure) and mitigate the issues at the root (water sensitive designs),
 - 2.2.2. At present, Auckland is one of the regions with the greatest number of wetlands lost or declining, according to Environment Aotearoa's 2019 [reporting series](#). Increasing wetland area is a natural way to increase water quality in the marine environment as wetlands naturally filter contaminants and pollutants from on land activities. Funding should be set aside from this targeted rate to protect, enhance, and expand existing wetlands in the region,
 - 2.2.3. We propose that some funding is allocated for a litter education programme – installing litter traps is considered a 'band-aid' which fails to address the root cause of the issue – Aucklanders behaviours around littering. Litter traps must go hand-in-hand with education programmes. Stricter regulation and enforcement is needed to stop the issue at its source,
 - 2.2.4. Auckland has seen the largest urban expansion and land fragmentation in comparison to the rest of New Zealand, according to Environment Aotearoa's 2019 [reporting series](#). The Auckland Plan 2050's development strategy anticipates that 40.0 percent of new dwellings will be built outside of the existing urban area, and the Auckland Unitary Plan identifies approximately 15,000 hectares of rural land for future urbanisation as outlined

in the [Auckland Future Urban Land Supply Strategy](#). We use this opportunity to stress the importance of future urban areas adopting best practice infrastructure to mitigate the issues of which the Water Quality Targeted Rate is now being used for to remedy, for example, integration of green infrastructure and water sensitive design mentioned in point 2.2.1.,

2.2.5. Alongside the construction projects listed, we highlight that better guidance and stricter controls are required for sediment run-off and management given that this is the key issue for water quality and ecosystem health in the Hauraki Gulf and Manukau Harbour and thus must be emphasised alongside construction projects as equal importance, and

2.2.6. We propose that the rate is not necessarily restricted to water quality and that further funding toward education for the general public is allocated of the importance of water conservation so less pressure is placed on reservoirs, aquifers and sewage systems and encouragement of re-use of greywater to avoid undermining the life-supporting capacity of rivers and groundwater.

2.3. Forest & Bird supports the proposal to extend the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031, we further propose that:

2.3.1. More of the funding is allocated to education programmes around importance each of the specified objectives outlined e.g., public information campaigns, etc. Given the outcomes rely heavily on individual actions, emphasis needs to be placed on ensuring individuals understand, and have the knowledge and tools to contribute to the effectiveness of the objectives,

2.3.2. According to the recent report – [The health of Tāmaki Makaurau/Auckland's natural environment in 2020](#) – several forest ecosystem types are severely depleted and many of our remaining forests are small and fragmented and urban landscapes have more weeds and fewer native plant species. We highlight the importance of the rate being used to increase ecological corridors, protecting private land with high value biodiversity, improved management of priority native habitats and increased pest management,

2.3.3. The Plan should include explicit reference to, and commitment to fund Auckland Council's Regional Pest Management Plan – which is critical for protecting and enhancing Auckland's native flora and fauna which is currently one of the largest risks to Auckland's natural environment,

2.3.4. Higher priority is given to biodiversity recovery programmes with heightened commitment to fund implementation of the Auckland Biodiversity Strategy, for example, the most optimistic funding proposal would only see a quarter of threatened species under active management,

2.3.5. Forest & Bird branches stress the importance of on-going adequate funding for development of community-based biodiversity strategies and biodiversity supporting projects (e.g., Kelp Gardeners, Native Bird Rescue) that can foster community engagement and increase Aucklanders connections to nature which translate to both sustainability and health and wellbeing outcomes – it is important that funding for community based initiatives are not sacrificed, and

2.3.6. We further highlight the lack of reference to marine protection and restoration in the plan, and specifically no funding allocated from this rate toward restoration programmes of the marine environment (e.g., restoring mussel beds, etc.). This is a significant oversight particularly given the link between health of marine environments and climate change mitigation which is a key focus in the plan.

- 2.4. Forest & Bird supports all additional actions proposed under responding to key issue two - climate change. This is necessary to address the climate emergency that has been declared for New Zealand by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern on 2 December 2020.
- 2.5. Forest & Bird supports alternative one – a larger investment package of \$320 million to significantly accelerate climate action work. Alongside the key areas identified, Forest & Bird proposes:
 - 2.5.1. More funding allocated to education programmes focusing on why climate change is a threat to Aucklanders and what individual decisions and actions can be made to mitigate climate change, and
 - 2.5.2. The link between healthy ecosystems and carbon sequestration is emphasized so that programmes contributing to healthy ecosystems are seen as being beneficial to climate change mitigation. Therefore, projects which undermine the health of an ecosystem are undermining the investment package of \$320 million.
- 2.6. For any further questions relating to the contents of this submission, please contact me below.

Nāku noa iti, nā,



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): The Eden Park Trust

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

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We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

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What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

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Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

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Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

The Eden Park Trust would welcome the opportunity to discuss ongoing Council support for the renewal and replacement of key infrastructure assets at Eden Park, upon the expiry of the current development funding agreement on 30 June 2022, through whatever channel is most appropriate. The current agreement provides for support of \$9.8 million over three years to 30 June 2022. The Eden Park Trust would like to discuss similar support for the following three years which maybe appropriate to note within the 10-year plan.

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Don't know

Tell us why: Unfortunately I have not seen/read the Consultation doc

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Long Term Plan

Submission to
Auckland Council
22 March 2021

Long Term Plan

PSA submission to Auckland Council

22 March 2021

Background

The New Zealand Public Service Association Te Pūkenga Here Tikanga Mahi (the PSA) is the largest trade union in New Zealand with over 77,000 members. We are a democratic organisation representing members in the public service, the wider state sector (the district health boards, crown research institutes, and other crown entities), state-owned enterprises, local government, tertiary education institutions, and non-governmental organisations working in the health, social services, and community sectors.

We are an organisation that is committed to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The PSA has been advocating for strong, innovative, and effective public and community services since our establishment in 1913. People join the PSA to negotiate their terms of employment collectively, to have a voice within their workplace and to have an independent public voice on the quality of public and community services and how they're delivered.

The PSA in Auckland

The PSA represents approximately 22,500 members who live and work in the Auckland region, 3,700 of whom work for the Auckland Council and its agencies.

All of our members have a strong interest, as residents of Auckland, in the 10 Year Budget and its aspirations and intentions. Those members employed by Auckland Council and its agencies have an additional interest in how the Budget will affect their jobs and working conditions.

This submission has been prepared by local PSA members who work for Auckland Council.

PSA vision for Local Government

Local democracy is a cornerstone value for the PSA as vibrant communities are underpinned by strong democratic institutions that aim to support and maximise citizen participation in local decisions. We support public ownership and control of services and facilities.

The PSA believes that the constitutional independence of local government must be supported and strengthened.

Key recommendations on the draft long term plan

Key issue 1: Proposed investment Package - Councils financial response

Our recommendations on the proposed investment package – Councils financial response include the following:

Living Wage

- ***We seek a commitment that Council become an accredited Living Wage Employer and extend the payment of a living wage to all contracted staff including those contracted to Council Controlled Organisations.***
 - *We support the work that Auckland Council has undertaken recently to pay all directly employed council staff a living wage.*
 - *We support the work that Auckland Council has undertaken recently to pay contracted cleaning staff a living wage*

Pay equity

- **We strongly urge Auckland Council to set aside budget for pay equity settlements**
 - PSA has lodged an equal pay claim with Auckland council relating to Library assistants. This will need to be funded once resolved,
 - Increasing salaries across professions affected by pay equity claims to avoid wage compression

]

Rating proposal and debt limits

- **PSA support the proposed 5% rating increase**
- **PSA support increased debt to fund infrastructure and services.**

Climate change

- **PSA support the council's proposed climate change initiatives**
- **PSA strongly urge Auckland Council to work closely with central government so that efforts to address climate change can be coordinated and a shared funding model agreed to.**

Provision of Council services

- **PSA consider services and assets should, in principle, be retained in-house rather than be outsourced.**
- **PSA is against the privatisation of public services.**
- **Asset sales: PSA strongly supports the retention of publicly owned assets in public ownership and control.**
 - We oppose the sale of assets that are large-scale, strategically important to the economic, environmental, cultural and social well-being of the community, and the sale of which will disadvantage future generations.
- **PSA strongly oppose any cuts to Council services, particularly where these will impact on the services available to residents.**

Staff retention

- **PSA strongly urge Auckland council to prioritise the retention of staff in this budget and any actions arising from it.**
 - Council staff are Aucklanders as well as employees. 3700 staff employed by the Auckland Council group are PSA members
 - Council staffing, spending, and delivery of services has a significant impact on the wider Auckland economy. Any job losses due to decisions in this budget have the potential to impact regional employment levels.
 - Existing staff bring huge value to council in terms of their institutional knowledge and their dedication to serving Auckland.
 - The arbitrary staffing cap that has been imposed by the governing body is having an unintended consequence of increasing the reliance on precarious workers being employed / contracted by Council
 - PSA members are willing to work with Council on initiatives to improve productivity, but this will not be possible in an environment of job insecurity.

Further information in support of our key recommendations:

Living Wage

PSA acknowledge and thank Council for the work done thus far to pay the living wage to directly employed staff and contacted cleaning staff. We seek a commitment that Council become an accredited Living Wage Employer and extend the payment of a living wage to all contracted staff including those contracted to Council Controlled Organisations.

PSA urge Council to make it a requirement of all procurement for services by Council and CCO's making it a requirement of the contract that wages be pegged (as a minimum) to the living wage set each year by Living Wage Aotearoa.

PSA urge Auckland Council group to become a leader in the community and become accredited living wage employers, as is the case for local government in Wellington and Dunedin.

The Living Wage emerged as a response to growing poverty and inequality that continues to hold back so many Kiwi workers, their families, and our economy. The Living Wage concept is very simple, yet such a powerful alternative – it's the hourly wage a worker needs to pay for the necessities of life and participate as an active citizen in the community. It reflects the basic expenses of workers and their families such as food, transportation, housing and childcare, and is calculated independently each year by the New Zealand Family Centre Social Policy Unit.

The Living Wage is 73 percent of median disposable household income in New Zealand and 61 percent of the mean disposable income for households with two adults and two children respectively.

The Living Wage rate is voluntary and is currently \$22.10 per hour, however accredited Living Wage Employers must implement it by September 1, 2020. If Auckland Council were to follow the lead of other large Councils and become an accredited employer, then this would be the mechanism to make the adjustments annually. It should also be noted that the current adult minimum wage will be rising to \$20.00 per hour from 1 April 2021.

Pay Equity

In 2019, PSA raised a pay equity claim under the Equal Pay Act 1972 on behalf of Library Assistants (or similar work) with 6 Councils - Auckland, Tauranga, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. The Councils have accepted that the claim is arguable, and we have commenced a joint assessment process of the library assistant (or similar) work to establish the level of undervaluation.

This quantum will not be known until that work is completed, which is scheduled to take a further year with a view to reaching a settlement in 2021.

Whilst the PSA initially raised this claim on behalf of their members, the amendments to the Equal Pay Act in 2020, now means that this claim will cover all staff in these positions, approximately 1000 people across the 6 councils, Auckland is the largest group with 500 staff covered.

The PSA conducted a pay survey of members in 2019, this data used the average FTE salary to give us a gender pay gap of approximately 16.70% for Auckland Council. The overall Local Government sector has a gender pay gap of approximately 14.86%. We have requested full data from Auckland Council and were awaiting this information at the time of writing this submission, we can provide further information when this becomes available.

The gender pay gap for the overall NZ economy is 10% as at November 2020.

Central government agencies have made progress on reducing the gender pay gap as follows:

- Progress in decreasing our gender pay gap in the last year, from 14.4% (June 2019) to 8.7% (June 2020).
- the gender balanced leadership in tiers 2 and 3 in Senior Leadership roles as at June 2020 is 67% women

One of the potential features of pay equity settlements is that they are designed to disrupt relativities in existing pay systems, and this can lead to the need to consider whether or not

other occupations are similarly currently or historically undervalued because they are female dominated occupations. Further claims and remedial action may need to be planned and budgeted for.

Rating proposal and debt limits

PSA submitted on the 2020 Emergency Budget that Council should increase its borrowing to invest in infrastructure, community services and jobs. We were disappointed that this did not happen.

PSA are pleased to see the proposed short-term increase in Council borrowing.

PSA believe that any financial decisions should be taken in the context of the Council's overall financial situation and its strategic objectives, rather than just responding to an immediate and short-term loss of revenue.

This position is founded upon a number of factors:

- The cost of borrowing has never been cheaper and borrowing to invest is prudent
- The significant achievements made in the first decade of Auckland Council are in danger of being undermined by the possibility of the budget reductions being considered.
- Given the scope and scale of Auckland Council's activities and to take decisions based on short term time frames is, at best, narrow minded. The longer-term timeframe must be central to any strategic decisions taken around expenditure which have implications well beyond the current financial year.

Climate change

PSA support the proposed climate change initiatives.

Further to this PSA recommend that Auckland Council:

- aligns itself to the carbon neutral timeframes in line with central government.
- adhere to the CEMARS measuring tools

- advances the electrification of transport
- infrastructure for recharging vehicles
- partnering with central government for subsidies for electric vehicles
- seeks adequate funding from central government for climate change initiatives, e.g.: funding for infrastructure.
- advocates for resource recovery of the electric battery recycling.
- requiring public transport provision in new development
- seeks more central government funding that allows for subsidising public transport to encourage uptake so that there is no impact back on staff.

Provision of Council services

The PSA's view is that services (and assets) should, in principle, be retained in-house rather than be outsourced or removed to a CCO. A key issue for PSA members is ensuring that CCOs and other contracted service providers remain fully accountable to the Council and to the service users. Additionally, we want assurance that Council will require that contractors follow 'responsible contractor' policies, including best practice employment requirements, health and safety best practice, a commitment to workforce and career development and job security.

We are opposed to reductions in service levels because these adversely impact upon the more vulnerable sections of our community and do not correlate with the policies objectives and desired outcomes associated with pursuing the four well-beings: promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities, taking a sustainable development approach.

There are concerns around the health and safety of Auckland Council facilities associated with budget reductions – both for those employed in facilities and service users.

Over and above these identified issues, we believe that the reputational damage to both Auckland Council and Auckland itself would be considerable should services be reduced, or services outsourced.

Staff retention

PSA strongly advocate that the loyalty of the workforce to be central to the budgetary decision taken by Auckland Council – including a clear commitment to retain staff. The loyalty of Auckland Council employees is in danger of being eroded.

Employee turnover within Auckland council is much lower than the New Zealand average – under 13% (Auckland Council Workforce Analytics Dashboard March/April 2020) compared to over 20% nationally (The New Zealand National Staff Turnover Survey, 2019). This reflects a relatively stable workforce with employee commitment and loyalty to Auckland Council and its objectives and obligations to improve the well-being of all Aucklanders. A low turnover provides benefits – both in terms of economic savings, as well as continuing institutional knowledge/business improvement.

There is a deep concern that combined organisational and budgetary review is focussed on a general headcount reduction amongst permanent staff. A reliance on external contractors who lack institutional knowledge, or the organisational loyalty noted above create risks as well as the wider attendant issues and costs associated with the casualisation of work. The trend to outsource functions further accelerate the ‘hollowing out’ of the Auckland Council’s ability to fulfil its statutory responsibilities and undermines the connection between citizens and Auckland Council. We have seen elsewhere that externalisation of roles also undermines the idea of public service motivation. There simply is no longer institutional loyalty and the attendant advantages which Auckland Council currently benefits from.

Reduction in staffing levels and increase in workload and stress will prevent staff from delivering services to the high level that Aucklanders expect, and place Auckland Council at risk in terms of its obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015. The Auckland Council Group is only as good as the people it employs, who are its biggest asset. This is a sentiment which is strongly articulated from feedback collated from our members employed by Auckland Council.

For further information, please contact:



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Heart Of The City

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: My wife and I have good paying job. Investment in the future needs to be done now and not put off so our grandchildren have to pay. Action on environment as climate is important & needs to be done now.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment for more info

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



22 March 2021

Auckland Council
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Heart of the City: Submission to 10-Year Budget 2021/2031

INTRODUCTION

Heart of the City is the business association for Auckland's city centre. We represent the interests of businesses and property owners in the city centre.

KEY POINTS OF OUR SUBMISSION

- The city centre has experienced a significant shock due to the impacts of COVID-19 and long-term, large-scale construction and **more needs to be done to ensure it remains vibrant and successful**, commensurate with its role in Auckland's economy.
- Overall, **we are supportive of capital investment to support anticipated growth over the period of this 10 year budget.**
- However, **given the significant impact to businesses from COVID-19 we would like to see rates increases kept to a minimum to support business recovery.** We would prefer to see **increased borrowing in the short term (within acceptable levels), deeper organisational cost savings and a transparent and strategic approach to selling assets/property.**
- Auckland Council must transform to **become efficient and "customer" focused across its wider group of organisations.**
- Heart of the City is **supportive of the City Centre Targeted Rate.** However, Council must **demonstrate greater transparency and respect for businesses that pay the City Centre Targeted Rate.** We must also see **change in how transformation and change is undertaken in the city centre. Planning must be holistic and integrated, and innovation is essential to underpin change.**
- Auckland Council must also not lose sight of the bigger issues that must be addressed through the period of this 10-year budget, such as ensuring there is a **vision for the land occupied by the port**, as well as ensuring there is appropriate funding in place to enable the implementation of **Access for Everyone (A4E)** on completion and agreement of a sound business case. This may require a review of the priorities and timing for city centre investment in the coming years.
- Auckland Council must also demonstrate its support for economic recovery and the utilisation and optimisation of prior investment in the city centre by ensuring there are **initiatives to bring people back to the city centre** - including the return of its workforce and free public transport

initiatives to use capacity and encourage visitation - **and appropriate levels of spending for maintenance and cleaning.**

- **Effective mitigation of the impacts of construction and support for those impacted by large-scale, long-term construction – with funding allocated to each project - is essential.**
- We maintain that **the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate is an inappropriate mechanism and do not support its reinstatement.**
- We must ensure we **maintain a vibrant major event offering and continue to market Auckland** to the rest of New Zealand and Australia, and the rest of the world, when appropriate. **We do not accept that this activity is tied to the collection of the APTR**, and we believe that Auckland Council must seek more funding from central government to support this activity.
- We are supportive of the proposal **to procure only electric or hydrogen buses from July 2021** as this is a key initiative **to address air quality issues in the city centre.**
- We also believe the ongoing significance of the impacts on businesses necessitate Council considering extending measures such as the **rates postponement for ratepayers impacted by COVID-19**, and introducing new measures, such as **relief in paying hospitality-related fees and charges** (e.g. outdoor dining licence fees).

BACKGROUND

Our submission will cover:

- (1) Impact of COVID-19 and City Centre transformation
- (2) Proposed ten-year budget and city centre priorities
- (3) Rating policy proposals, including the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate
- (4) City Centre Targeted Rate (CCTR)
- (5) Regional Fuel Tax
- (6) Climate Change
- (7) Homelessness
- (8) Other

(1) The impact of COVID-19 and City Centre Transformation

The city centre has experienced a massive shock from COVID-19. Impacted businesses, which employ people from all over the city, have lost half a billion dollars of consumer spending over the last year plus all the costs associated with things like shutting down at short notice and the stress of worrying about what will happen to their livelihood, their staff and paying their suppliers – who also come from across the city.

On top of that, spending in the city centre was already trending down before COVID-19, challenged by ongoing impacts from long-term, large-scale construction.

While Heart of the City is optimistic about the city centre's future, and recently we have seen some positive trends in domestic spending and the benefit of major events such as America's Cup (and we expect to be able to capitalise off opportunities that may come from an Australian bubble), we are under no illusion about the severity of impact in the short to medium term.

Two periods of Level 3 in quick succession have exacerbated the situation for many.

Auckland Council must do more. There must be a material change in how Council respects and considers business needs. There must be effective mitigation of the impacts of construction and

support for those impacted by large-scale, long-term construction, as well as other measures to support the city centre's economic recovery, such as leading the way by returning Council's workforce.

Auckland Council must take action to ensure the city centre remains a vibrant and successful place, and that businesses here are supported. The Recovery Budget 2021-2031 needs to reflect that.

(2) Proposed 10 Year Budget & City Centre priorities

Overall, we support the need to continue with Council's capital investment of \$31 billion over the next 10 years and recognise that Council is projected to have its revenue impacted by around \$1 billion as a result of COVID-19. However, we do not agree with the proposed one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022.

In the current environment we believe that **rate increases should only be used if absolutely essential to fund activities that will help economic stimulation and recovery once all other avenues have been exhausted.**

Instead, we believe Council should:

- keep any rates increase to a minimum for 2021/2022;
- make deeper cost savings and prioritise spending;
- increase Council borrowing in the short-term if necessary, up to an acceptable maximum; and
- sell appropriate assets/property within a transparent and strategic framework.

We note the positive statements made in Council's half year financial results and upgrade in the Council's debt rating, indicating a more optimistic outlook is warranted. We suggest this allows Council to further increase borrowing in the short term.

City Centre priorities

We note that for the first three-year period of this plan there are no additional projects identified for the city centre other than what is already identified in the City Centre Targeted Rate programme, and other major projects such as the City Rail Link.

One of the significant projects underway for the City Centre is the development of the **Access for Everyone (A4E) Business Case**. Whilst we note that there is funding identified for A4E as part of the Auckland Transport Alignment Project 2021-2031 and we are anticipating funding to be allocated in the draft Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP), additional funding may need to be allocated to realise the vision set out for A4E.

Given this, HOTC would like to ensure that appropriate funding is put in place to enable the implementation of **Access for Everyone (A4E)** on completion and agreement of a sound business case. This may require a review of the overall priorities and timing for city centre investment in the coming years, including the current City Centre Targeted Rate (CCTR) capital programme. The Auckland City Centre Advisory Board (ACCAB) will be instrumental in this review.

Auckland Council must also not lose sight of the bigger issues that must be addressed through the period of this 10-year budget. This includes determining the future use of the Port land, with an

agreed masterplan that is integrated into the wider vision for the Waterfront, and confirming the direction of the regionally significant Headland Park in Wynyard Quarter.

(3) Rating Policy proposals

Our overall feedback is that what businesses need most from Council is a fair, transparent, and stable approach to rates.

We also believe the ongoing significance of the impacts on businesses and the regional economy necessitate Council to consider extending measures such as the rates postponement for ratepayers impacted by COVID-19 and introducing new measures, such as relief in paying hospitality-related fees and charges (for example, outdoor dining licence fees).

Business differential

While we appreciate that the business differential is being reduced through the Recovery Budget 2021/2031, fundamentally, we do not accept that a business differential should be applied to rates. This is particularly relevant for small businesses who make up most businesses in Auckland. Of which many of whom are already facing immense financial pressure as a result of COVID-19 as we have already highlighted.

Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (APTR)

We maintain that the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (APTR) must go and not reappear. The Accommodation sector has strongly represented this position to Council since the fund was first conceived and has proposed alternative options for funding (for example, Tourism Industry Aotearoa's presentation to the Finance and Performance Committee's 10-year budget 2021-2031 Regional Stakeholders Have Your Say Event).

We believe in the importance of holding major events in our city, as well as marketing Auckland to the rest of New Zealand, Australia, and when the time is right to the rest of the world. These activities must continue, without being tied to this rate. We would like to see central government acknowledge the value that Auckland brings to the wider economy.

Watercare's increase in charges

We are concerned that the substantial increases in water charges proposed by Watercare have not been highlighted in the Recovery Budget 2021/2031. We question whether these substantial increases in water charges are reasonable at a time when many businesses are struggling to survive.

(4) City Centre Targeted Rate (CCTR) extension

Heart of the City is supportive of the City Centre Targeted Rate. However, Council must demonstrate greater transparency and respect for businesses that pay the City Centre Targeted Rate. In order to support the rate's extension we must see:

- Holistic and connected planning across the Council group to design and deliver the City Centre Master Plan. This is necessary to ensure place, movement and operational needs are met optimally. Too often, this balance has been missing and projects need rework which costs time and money.
- Effective timing and sequencing of projects to ensure the city centre is attractive and accessible while it is being transformed.

- Scheduled works are cost-effective and efficient, with a “do it once, do it fast, do it right” approach. We receive constant feedback that people view Council projects to be expensive, slow and inefficient.
- New spaces must be maintained and looked after – ongoing management, maintenance and activation is vital to success.
- Innovation in how the city operates, for example in servicing and loading to underpin aspirations for the place – businesses need to get stock.

(5) Regional Fuel Tax underspend

Our preference is to introduce initiatives that both manage demand and raise funding equitably as soon as possible, balanced with investment into affordable and more frequent public transport in order to effect sustainable behavioural change.

While we have previously supported a regional fuel tax of 10 cents per litre (plus GST), we ask for greater transparency regarding the spending of this tax on specific transport projects and services. We wish to avoid the regional fuel tax, which is the equivalent of a significant rates increase (especially for transport operators), being used as a ‘top up’ for overall transport budgets.

We note the ongoing underspend of the Regional Fuel Tax. We are concerned that:

- the RFT is being under-spent
- businesses are being over-taxed
- infrastructure is not being built at the required pace.

(6) Climate Change

HOTC is supportive of investment to meet climate change goals. In particular, we support funding that will ensure **all new buses procured from 1 July 2021 will only be electric or hydrogen - this will go some way in addressing air quality issues.**

We welcome initiatives that support and incentivise business to make the necessary changes. Funding for business education is particularly important to raise awareness and drive change.

(7) Addressing homelessness

HOTC supports investment into supporting homeless initiatives in Auckland. However, we would like stronger performance measures for what Council’s contribution is intended to achieve and believe that overall, the responsibility for addressing this issue primarily sits with central government.

(8) Other

Auckland Council must not forget the **importance of ensuring a clean and safe city centre.** To ensure this, service levels must reflect the quality and level of capital investment. We too often see new public spaces compromised by poor levels of maintenance and cleaning, as well as lack of enforcement which ends up seeing beautiful spaces degraded over time.

Auckland Council’s ongoing commitment to the CityWatch programme, which HOTC co-funds, is important. However, more is required to support a safe city centre environment as the city centre has seen an increase in crime and anti-social behaviour since COVID-19 struck.

Conclusion

Impacted businesses are facing cumulative impacts over a long period of time, and for some it goes well beyond COVID-19. All the public and private investment in the city centre, including public transport, is reliant on people. Whilst we have confidence in the future of the city centre, the short to medium term issues are significant **and we are looking for a major change in approach from Council.** We want to see a more efficient organisation that utilises ratepayer funds well and one that cares not only about creating spaces for people, but also about the people who work hard, day in and day out to contribute to our city centre and economy.

Chief Executive
Heart of the City



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Committee For Auckland

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Do not support

Tell us why: If as a result of COVID-19, AC's revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion, let alone us common people? Our income is also affected by the covid, the rates should not be increased. What should be increased is the rates for individuals who own two or more properties.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

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Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

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Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

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See attachment for more info

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The Auckland Recovery Survey (Follow-up)

Ten-year budget: 2021-2031

Background

- Survey period: 13 November – 23 November 2020
- Survey population: Committee for Auckland membership and Future Auckland Leaders Alumni.
- This Auckland Recovery Survey (Follow-up) followed the earlier Auckland Recovery Survey undertaken in May 2020. This was presented to council as part of the Emergency Budget consultation.

The Committee for Auckland was founded almost 25 years ago. It's purpose is to build connection, behaviour and initiatives to create a better Auckland for all.

It has a broad membership base across major corporates, public agencies, iwi enterprises and non-for-profit organisations.



Key Insights

Progress on longer-term issues like climate change at risk because of Covid-19

Opening safe travel “bubbles “ and boosting tech/growth investment are top priority “Covid-19” issues

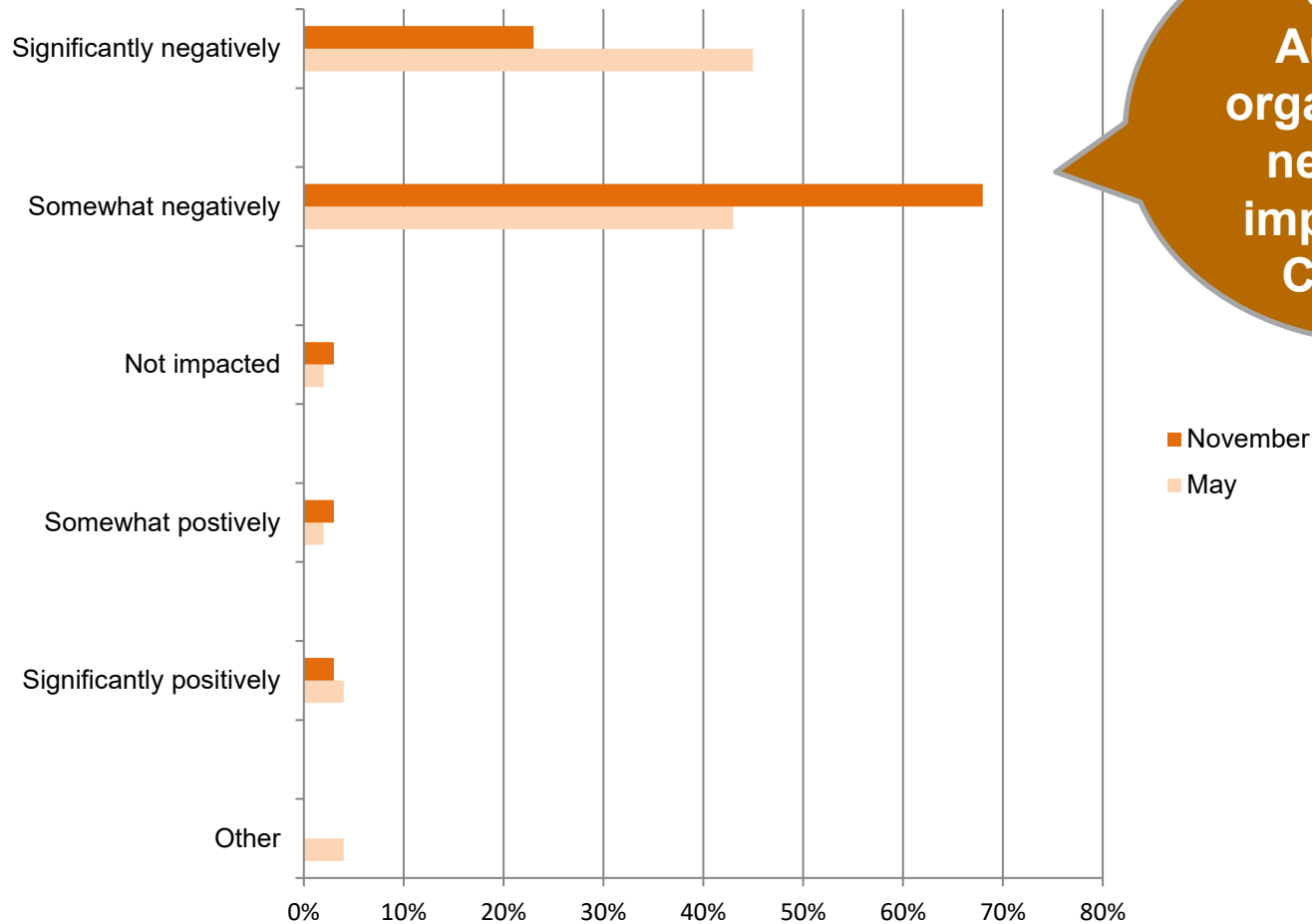
Auckland’s economy and housing need greatest attention

90% of Auckland organisations negatively impacted by Covid-19; 50% say 2021 prospects are worse

Auckland will make less progress on its key issues on current path



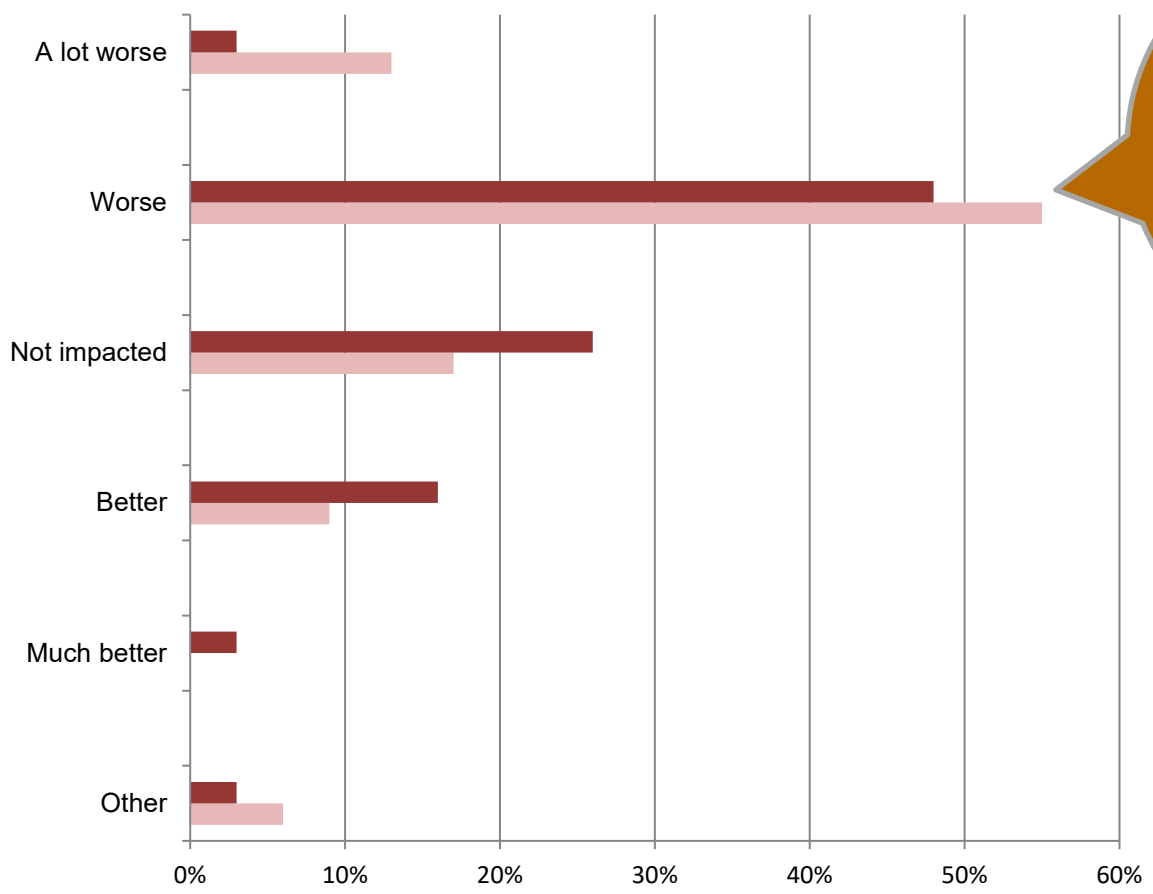
How has your organisation been IMPACTED by Covid-19?



90% of Auckland organisations negatively impacted by Covid-19



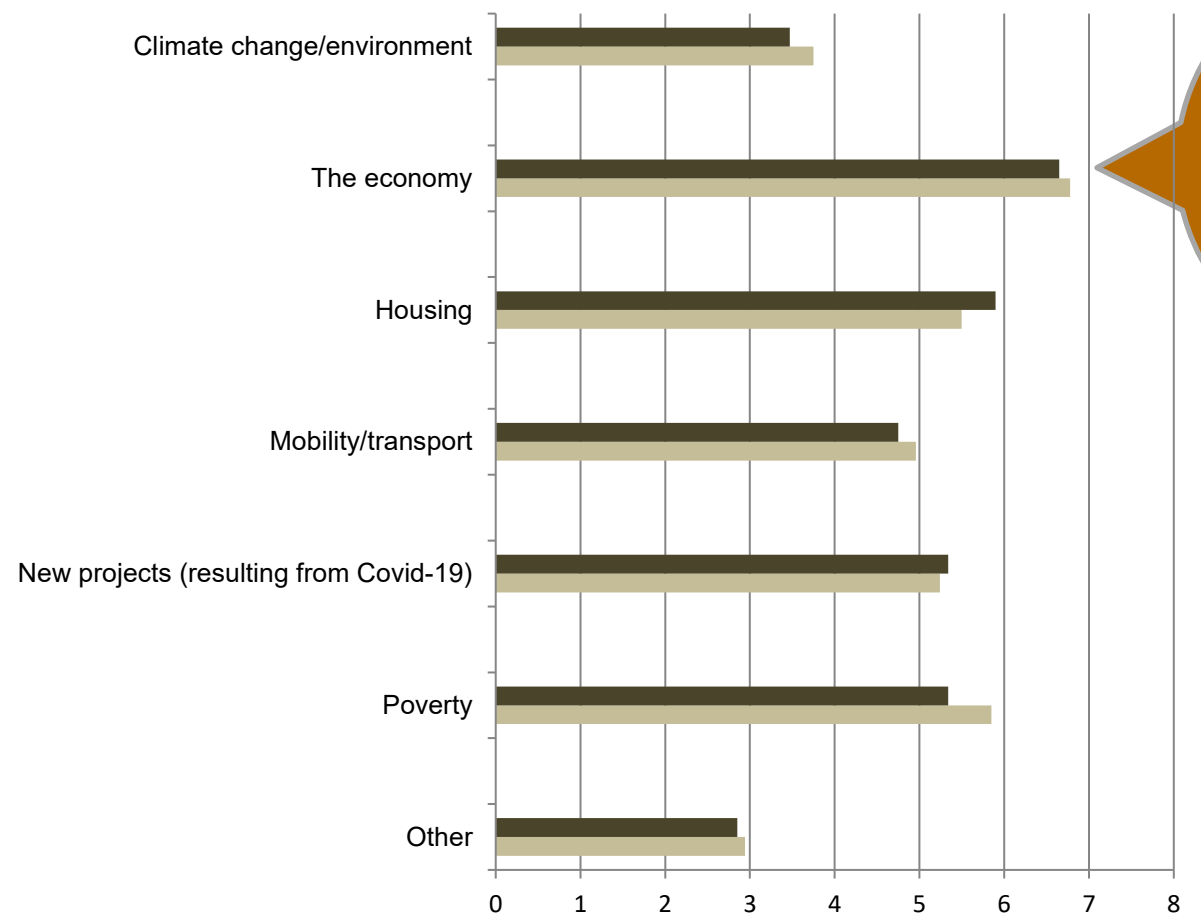
What are your organisation's BUSINESS PROSPECTS between now and 30 November 2021?



50% of Auckland organisations expect worse business prospects (an improvement)

■ November
■ May

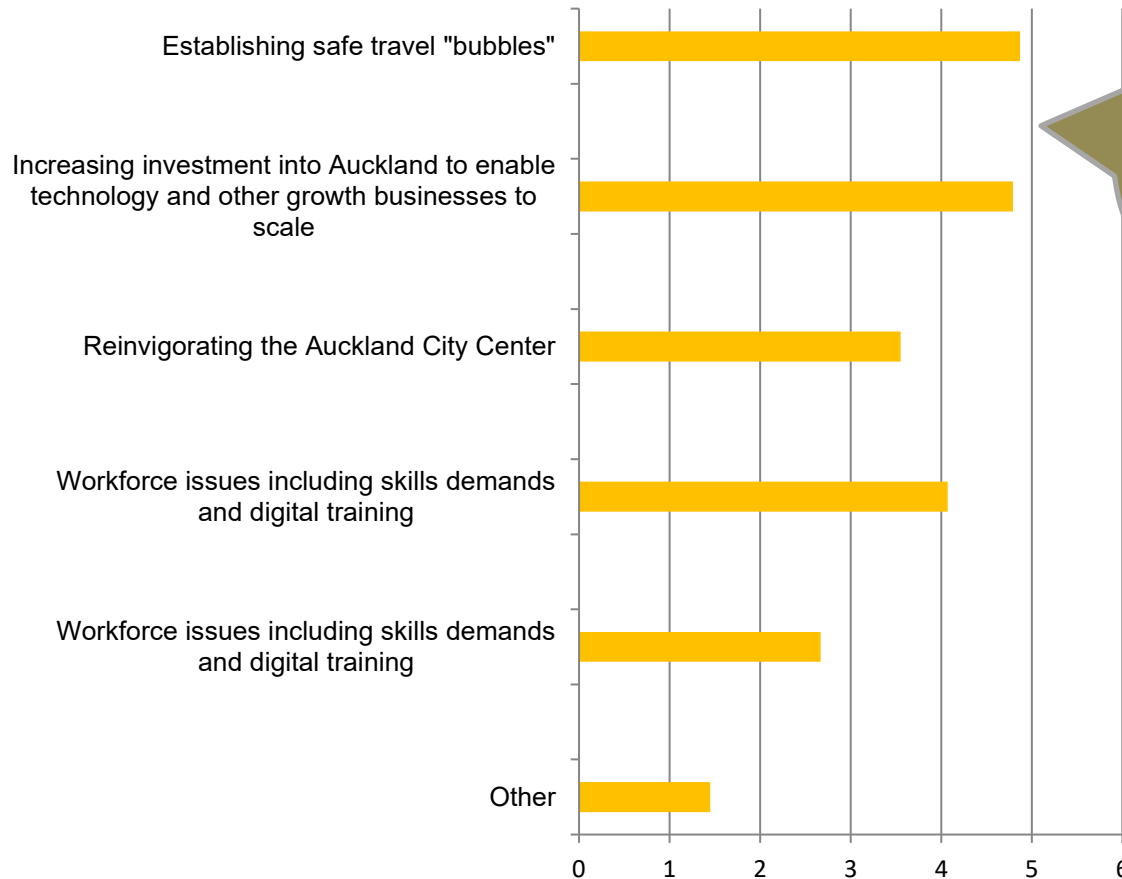
After 7 months of Covid-19's impact, which areas in Auckland do you think need the MOST ATTENTION?



Auckland's economy and housing need greatest attention

■ November
■ May

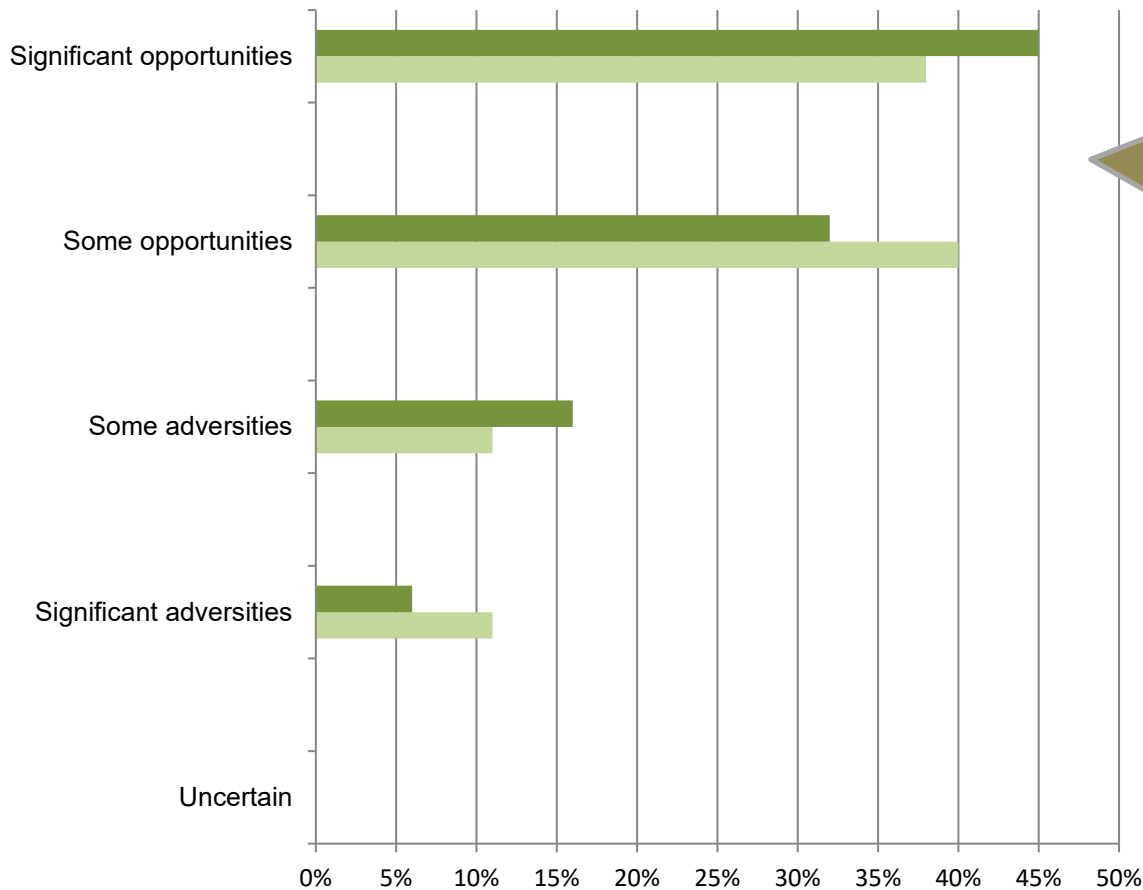
Since Covid-19 began, which issues impacting Auckland should receive the MOST ATTENTION?



Safe travel "bubbles" & boosting tech/growth investment are top priority "Covid-19" issues



Does Covid-19 presents Auckland's leaders with OPPORTUNITIES to take advantage of, or ADVERSITIES to overcome?



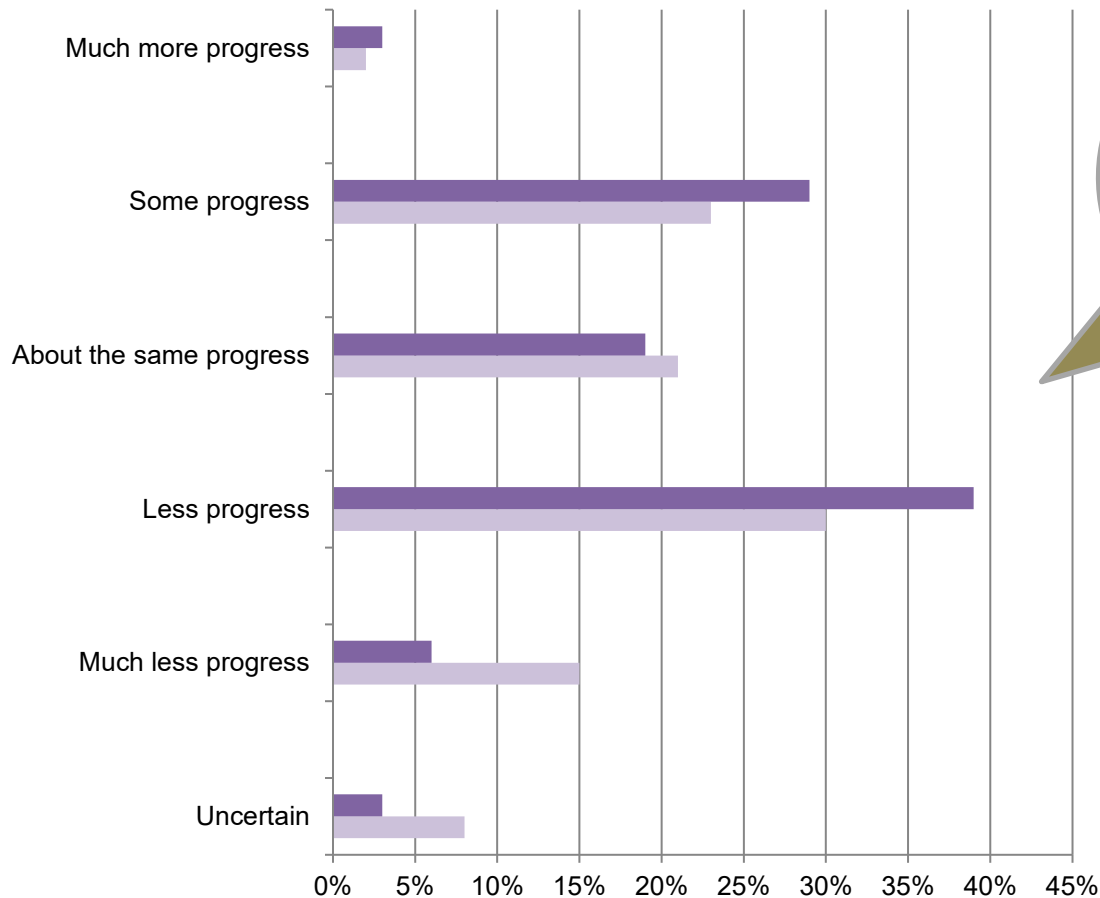
Covid-19 remains a key opportunity for Auckland's leaders

■ November
■ May

The Auckland Recovery Survey (Follow-up)



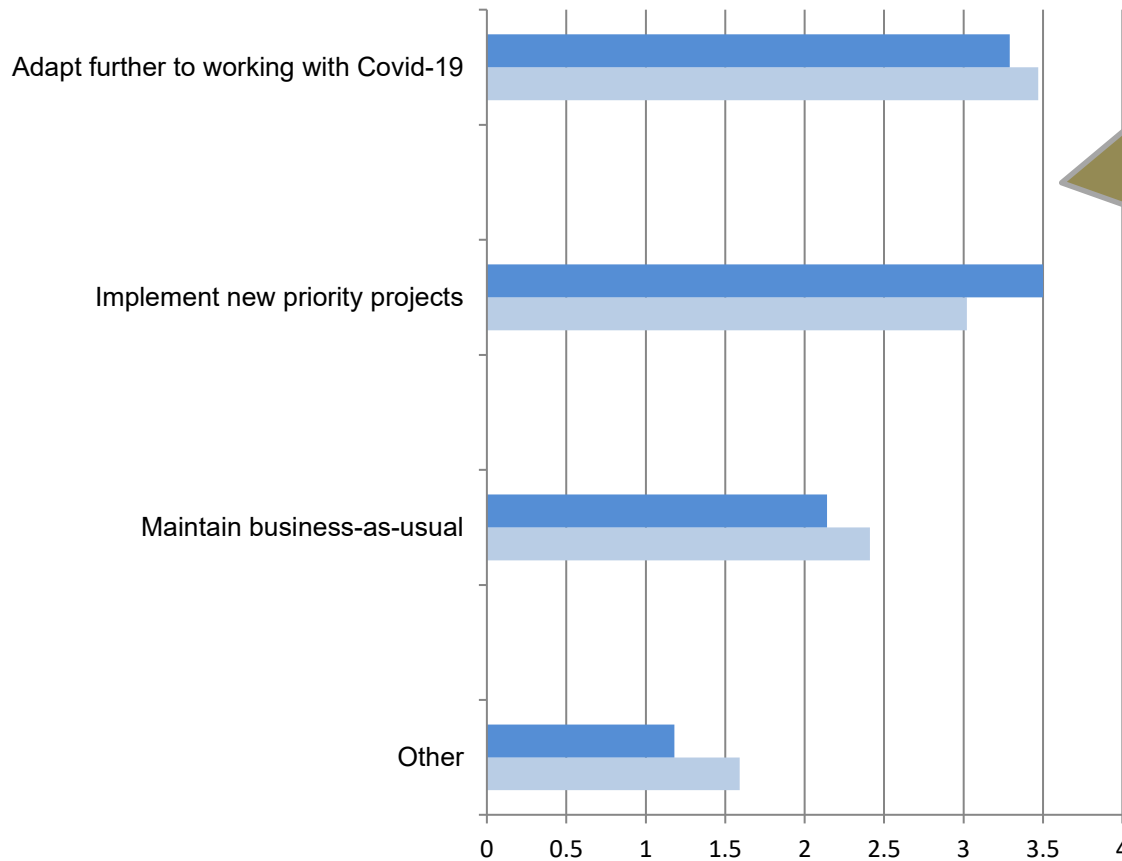
How much PROGRESS do you think Auckland will make on its priority issues between now and 31 November 2021?



On its current path, Auckland will make less progress on its key issues

■ November
■ May

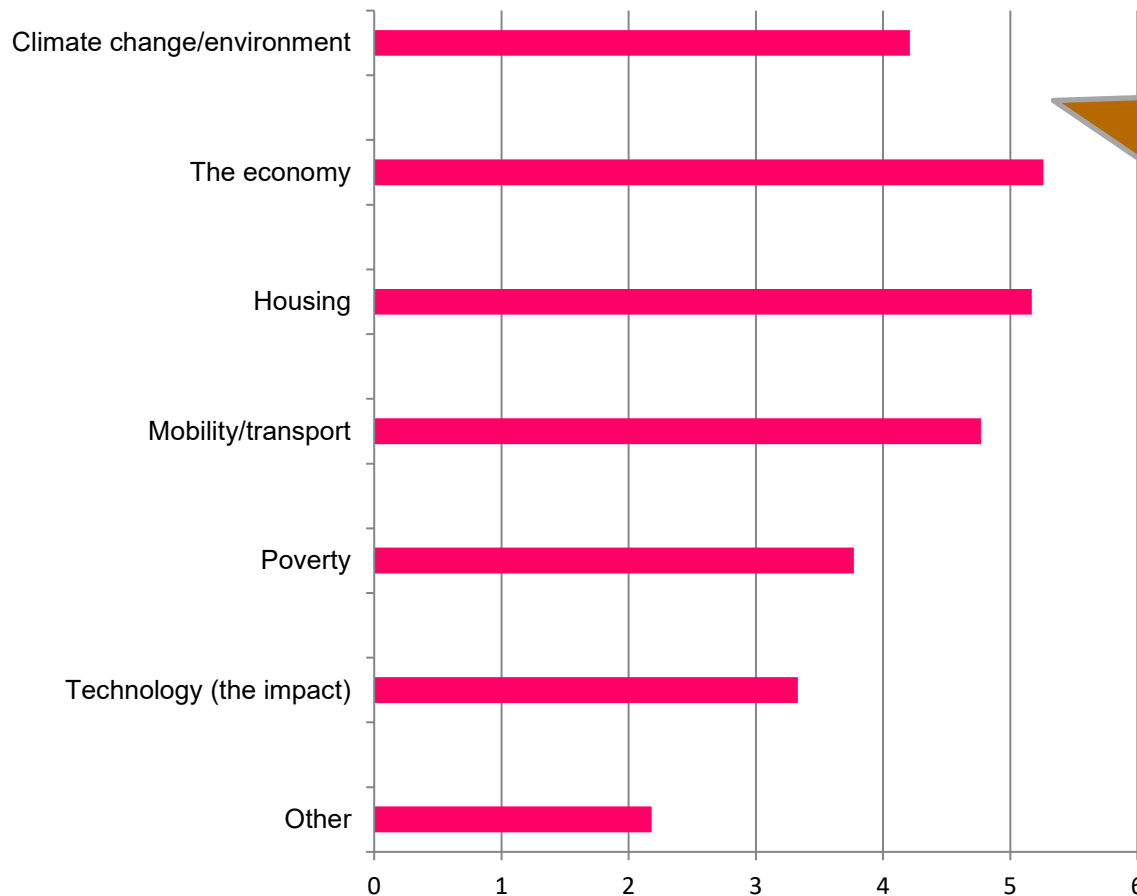
What should Auckland's leaders TOP FOCUS be as they deal with the impact of Covid-19?



Adapting to work with Covid-19 & new priority projects remain a top focus

The Auckland Recovery Survey (Follow-up)

As Auckland Council prepares its ten year plan & thinks about life with Covid-19 under control, what should Auckland's post Covid-19 priorities be?



Progress on longer-term issues like climate change at risk because of Covid-19

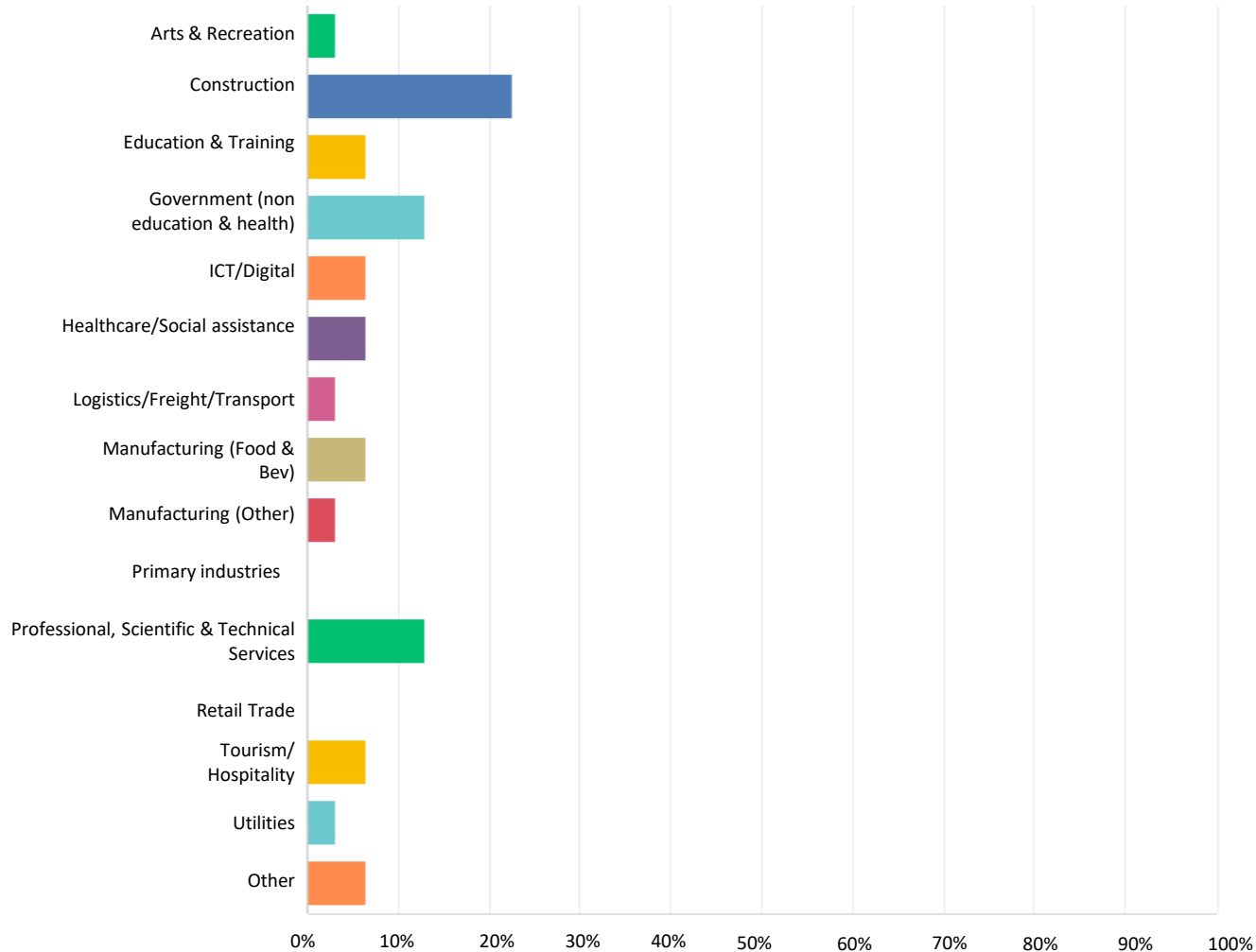
■ November

Conclusions

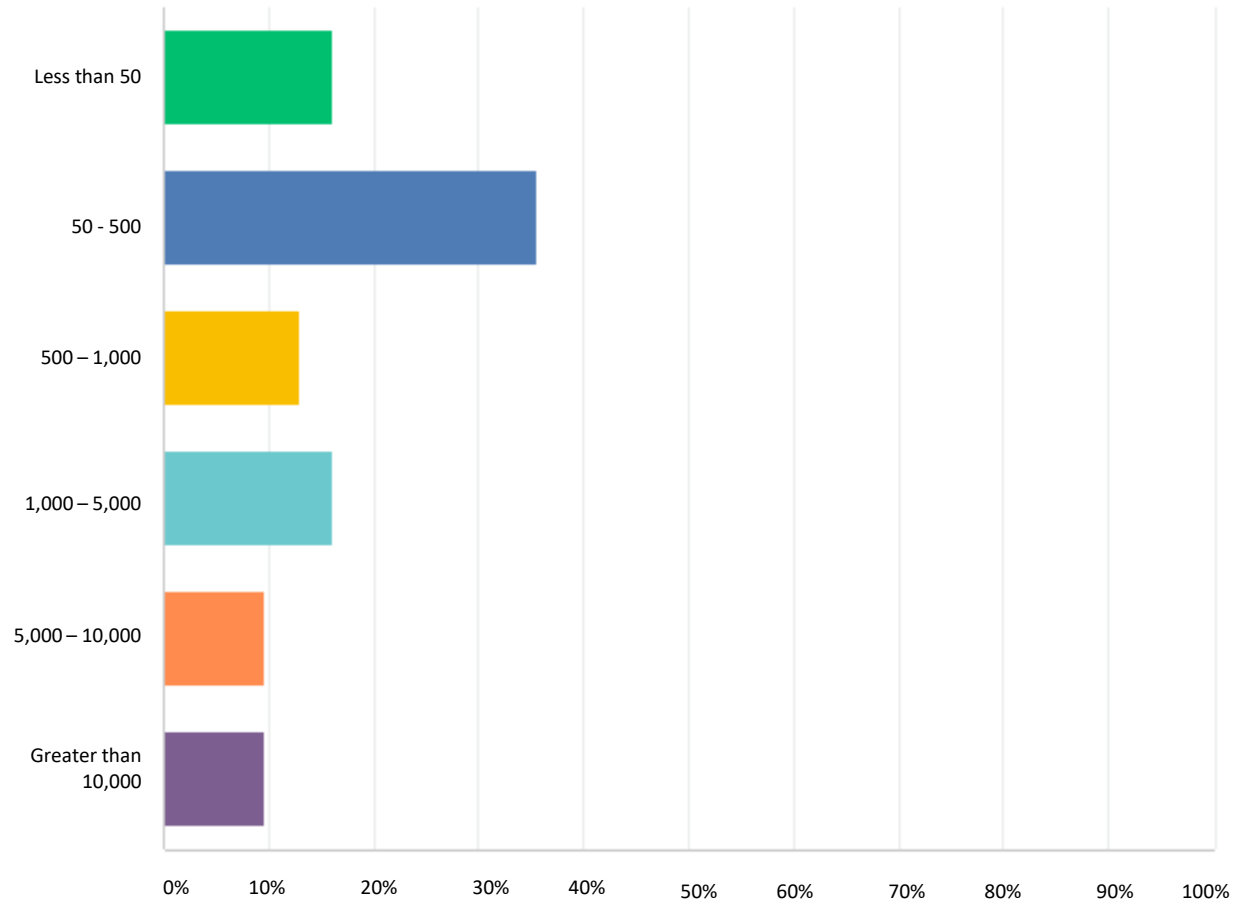
- The **economy** and **housing** are top priority issues for Auckland now just ahead of **poverty**.
- Once Covid-19 is under control, the **economy** and **housing** remain top, followed closely by **transport**. Issues such as **climate change** and the **impact of technology** lagged in the survey.
- 90% of Auckland organisations have been **negatively impacted** by Covid-19. 50% said business prospects over the next year would **deteriorate**.
- Establishing **safe travel “bubbles”** is highest priority “Covid-19” issue followed by **boosting investment** to enable technology and growth.
- 77% still thought Covid-19 presented **greater opportunities** for Auckland than challenges.
- Despite this, 45% (most) thought Auckland Council would make **less progress** in the coming year. 30% said some or more progress.



Survey respondent business sectors



Survey respondent employee numbers



#16737



The Auckland Recovery Survey (Follow-up)

Contact: admin@committeeforauckland.co.nz

www.committeeforauckland.org.nz

March 2021





10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Hapai Te Hauora Tapui Ltd

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

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Tell us why:

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HĀPAI TE HAUORA
MĀORI PUBLIC HEALTH

6-8 Pioneer street,
Henderson, Auckland
Aotearoa, NZ

#16738
Phone: 09 520 4796
Fax: 09 520 4796
Web: www.hapai.co.nz

Submission on behalf of Hāpai te Hauora Tāpui to the proposed Auckland Council Budget 2021 – 2031

1. Hāpai te Hauora firstly thanks the Auckland Council for the opportunity to feed back to this important investment document. This letter formulates the response of Hāpai te Hauora – Māori Public Health to the Auckland City Council in regards to community facility investment.
2. Hāpai Te Hauora Tāpui Ltd is the largest Māori Public Health organisation in New Zealand. We are national leaders in population health, health promotion and education, policy, advocacy, research & evaluation, and infrastructure services. We support Māori communities and whānau to play a role in decision-making on matters affecting their health and well-being
3. As an organisation, Hāpai is committed to realising the health and well-being potential of Māori communities through working towards equitable health outcomes for whānau, hapū and iwi. We affirm that to achieve this the impacts of broader social determinants of health need to be addressed, including sport and recreation.
4. Established as a tripartite agreement between Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua, Raukura Hauora o Tainui and Te Whānau o Waipareira, Hāpai is situated as the conduit between people and policy, utilising the strength of connection to the community to advocate and drive people led policy, for best Population health outcomes. Hāpai works in conjunction with organisations like Sport Waitakere to ensure the social determinants of health are considered when Council is seeking strategic and investment feedback.
5. Hāpai supports the proposal for increased investment in both Te Taruke ā Tāwhiri, as well as the intentions to enhance investment into water services in Tāmaki Makaurau. Whilst the budget tables proposals across a number of areas, Hāpai wishes to respond to the community facilities component of the budget outlined as objective 4.
6. Hāpai te Hauora supports the proposed focused investment approach under point 'services will be tailored to the greatest needs of our communities'. Utilising partnerships and seeking alternatives to ways of delivery will service the growing Maori community under these points:
 - a. That existing urban Maori facilities i.e. Marae, are utilised as a multi-use facility. Marae currently lack the capacity to deliver sport and recreation opportunities for whanau and rangatahi participation outside of cultural (kapahaka and mau rakau). Use of council recreation parks and facilities are utilised well by the community, however Marae are used for education, cultural and health opportunities, sport and recreation and work (office hubs) should be included to increase multi-generational and age inclusion.



HĀPAI TE HAUORA
MĀORI PUBLIC HEALTH



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- b. Upgrade existing Marae facilities to include office hubs and recreation facilities will also aid wider Maori development priorities to increase accessible health and education services for the wider Maori population.
 - c. Increase rangatahi access and participation in community services and increase physical activity rates in a safe, whanau environment.
 - d. Include recreation facilities e.g. basketball courts in new Maori facility builds. Te Atatu Marae in Te Atatu Peninsula is a new upcoming build. Council should support recreation planning within new builds to meet the priorities set out in this proposed budget.
7. We once again thank the Auckland Council for the opportunity to feed back to this process, and look forward to seeing further meaningful engagement with Māori organisations to enhance Māori Outcomes across Tamaki Makaurau.

CEO Hāpai Te Hauora Tāpui Ltd



HĀPAI TE HAUORA
MĀORI PUBLIC HEALTH



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Heritage Hotels

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: see attachment 17280 - submission from Heritage hotels re APTR

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See attachment 17280 - SUBMISSION ON 10 YEAR BUDGET 2021-2031 REINSTATEMENT

ACCOMMODATION PROVIDER TARGETED RATE FEEDBACK

We are responding to the 10-year budget document, in particular, we wish to comment on the proposed reinstatement of the Accommodat

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See attachment 17280 - submission from Heritage Hotels on APRT

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**SUBMISSION ON 10 YEAR BUDGET 2021-2031 REINSTATEMENT
ACCOMMODATION PROVIDER TARGETED RATE FEEDBACK**

We are responding to the 10-year budget document, in particular, we wish to comment on the proposed reinstatement of the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (APTR).

We note there are three budget scenarios for visitor attraction, events and destination marketing, all based on the premise of compulsory extraction of funds from the hotels and others in the commercial accommodation sector.

However we also note there is no 'opt-out' option in these three scenario choices, which would mean that there is no real veracity in the invitation for 'feedback' on this *fait accompli* proposal.

Heritage Hotel Management Ltd is a hotel group unique to New Zealand operating the Heritage Auckland and CityLife Auckland Hotels in Auckland city, which have been part of the Auckland hospitality scene since the mid-1990s.

Neither of our hotels are in the managed quarantine programme, in deference to the mixed-use model of our Auckland strata-title properties. This has meant long periods of closure during the high Alert levels and even when open, we experience the Yo-Yo effect of new bookings often followed by mass cancellations with each lockdown.

The Covid-19 pandemic brought Auckland hotels to a standstill. Other Auckland industry sectors however are reported to have rallied and even prospered from a closed border, with record spend on property, renovations, luxury cars and boat sales. The hotel industry has by contrast, suffered anything from 70% to 50% reductions of revenue compared with trading years prior to Covid-19.

With the border still closed at the time of writing, even for the key Trans-Tasman sectors, it could be several years before long haul visitors return in the numbers needed to sustain the existing and new hotels that have opened in Auckland in the past months. That is if the key international airlines, also seriously debilitated at this juncture, ever return to their previous frequencies and routes to New Zealand.

Proposing the Auckland hotels subsidise Auckland's destination marketing whilst the world remains in the grip of Covid-19 is tone deaf and brutal to say the least.

The logic that Auckland commercial accommodation sector alone be targeted to subsidise the city's destination marketing, continues to baffle the hotel industry.

To recap, commercial accommodation, even in the pre-Covid years, accrued less than 10 percent of the total spend by visitors, but were singled out from the private sector in 2017 to be the underwriter of the Auckland Council's tourism promotion costs. The other 90% of the tourism industry were exempt.

As CBD hotel operators, the APTR became our fourth Auckland Council rate to pay, as we already pay business rates, Central City Targeted Rates and Heart of the City contributions.

Many misconceptions circulated at the time Auckland Council voted to yoke the commercial accommodation sector with the APTR in 2017.

The APTR is not based on actual guest stay performance, so no matter how low hotel occupancy rates go during the border closure and ongoing world crisis, the APTR rate demand remains the same.

It is also often mistakenly described as a 'bed tax' which it is not. This type of tax in other countries is often run through the state government. The 'tax' only applies if someone actually stays and pays for a hotel room night. It is not front loaded as a fixed cost like the APTR.

The impact of the addition of the APTR on our Auckland Council bill from 2017 onwards was huge, affecting our head count, marketing expenditure, repair and maintenance and reinvestment budgets.

If the Auckland hotel industry is again burdened with the APTR, we at least ask that the CCO demonstrates restraint in the current and post Covid-19 crisis recovery budget years, if they are to spend our hard earned money.

This would mean operating with the same austerity measures the commercial hotel sector is currently operating on since Covid-19, including but are not limited to measures such as salary sacrifice, reduced staff levels, careful line by line budget management of expenses, and rigorous accountability for every dollar spent.

Chief Executive Officer
Heritage Hotel Management Ltd



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Organisation (if applicable): The Campaign for Better Transport Incorporated

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: see attachment 17282 for full submission from The Campaign for Better Transport

Proposed Rates Increase

The Campaign for Better Transport acknowledges that Auckland Council are facing a difficult set of circumstances. Income from sources other than rates has plummeted due to the collapse in tourism. A significant amount of capital

expenditure is required to catch-up on an infrastructure deficit going back at least half a century. Raising rates by too much can generate angst among the voting public resulting in politicians losing elections. We acknowledge balancing out all these factors would have required significant amounts of work from Council.

We consider the proposed rates increase (5% this year, and then 3.5% per annum every year for the following nine) is reasonable given the current set of circumstances. We acknowledge some will argue that further efficiencies could be obtained, and they may well be right. If additional efficiencies were obtained, however, we would hope it would be recycled into either engaging in more capital investment or to pay down debt instead of rates decreases.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Other
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Other
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Other
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Other
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Other

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

See attachment 17282 - Other Items

Franklin Local Board Advocacy:

We support the Franklin Local Board's advocacy for the introduction of bus services in the Wairoa sub-division to link communities such as Clevedon and Brookby with locations such as the Pa

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Support Option 1 – targeted rate of \$238 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located within 500m walking distance of a proposed bus stop

Tell us why: See attachment 17282 for full submission from The Campaign for Better Transport - Proposed Paremoremo Bus Service:

In our opinion, funding option 1 (so a targeted annual rate of \$238 for each separate dwelling or business within 500 metres of a proposed bus stop) is more appropriate. While it can be argued that people might walk further to access public transport services in rural areas, we question this argument and would hypothesise that someone further away would more likely drive to a more frequent suburban public transport service (e.g., drive to the Albany Bus Station).

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

Franklin Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support most priorities

Tell us why See attachment 17282 for full submission from The Campaign for Better Transport - Franklin Local Board Advocacy:

We support the Franklin Local Board's advocacy for the introduction of bus services in the Wairoa sub-division to link communities such as Clevedon and Brookby with locations such as the Papakura Train Station. The success of similar initiatives in the Rodney Local Board area (the 126, 128 and 998 bus services).

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 17282 for full submission from The Campaign for Better Transport - Capital Investment Programme:

We are generally in agreement with the capital investment programme as outlined in page 68 of the supporting information provided and congratulate Council on achieving a public transport friendly capital investment programme.

Maintaining Service:

Something that has not been commented on in the Budget is ensuring that public transport levels of service are maintained throughout Auckland. We are quite concerned that Auckland Transport have over the last few years engaged in reductions in service, including reductions in evening and weekend service, and the wholesale removal of a couple of routes.

While we acknowledge that some bus services cannot be justified due to low patronage, a culture of service cuts is more likely to breed a downward spiral in public transport. We already note that the public transport patronage target for 2022 in this Budget is 18% less than what it was five years ago (115 million annual patrons versus 140 million annual patrons, which was the target in 2016 for 2022). If passengers need to wait an hour on a weekend evening for bus services (this is the case on the 31 bus route, for example), then they are less likely to use public transport and would contribute to private vehicle usage during peak.

Smaller Scale Improvements:

We are disappointed the Budget does not look at the myriad smaller scale transport improvements that might be possible without requiring the spending of tens of millions or even hundreds of millions of dollars.

Ad hoc interchanges:

When the bus network was reworked in the period 2016-18, one of the key elements was the ability for passengers to interchange between bus services to have access to a wider range of destinations. The fare system was modified at this stage to remove the transfer penalty, and Auckland Transport at the time assured Aucklanders that infrastructure improvements would be undertaken in due course to make it more comfortable to make those transfers. While a couple of major interchanges have been developed in the interim (Otahuhu and Manukau being the most notable), there has generally been a lack of investment in these more ad hoc interchange points. We would suggest that it might be time for Council to start funding these smaller scale interchange points – we anticipate the amount of funds that would need to be spent would be quite low (in some cases, it might be something as simple as relocating bus stops) but would make life easier for passengers and so would encourage uptake on public transport services.

We appreciate that some of these items might fall within the local board section of the Budget. Nevertheless, the Budget integrates all these

Bus lanes:

We are concerned there appears to be no provision for expanding the network of bus lanes. Council would be fully aware that bus lanes help enhance the reliability of bus services during peak, as well as increasing service speed, both of which attract passengers to the public transport network. We would even acknowledge transit lanes would be better than the status quo. The implementation of bus lanes is again a low-cost option that would yield plenty of benefits to Aucklanders.

Service speed:

While service provision is outside the scope of the Budget, we consider it is something worth discussing at this point because of the flow through impacts to capital spend. We note that a train from Papakura to Auckland is currently scheduled to take 50 minutes. In 2004, that same train was scheduled to take 47 minutes, and with station closures in the intervening period, it might be possible for such a train to take 45 minutes. If a faster service were provided, then less rolling stock would be needed to maintain service frequency – in the above example, it would require 10% less rolling stock. This is quite significant given the \$404 million needed to purchase rolling stock for “CRL Day One”.

Historic Lack of Planning for Public Transport Options:

While outside the scope of the Budget, we note the lack of historic planning for public transport options. This was made manifest in last year when central government funded shovel ready projects – the projects chosen in the Auckland area were roading projects (for example, Penlink and Mill Road), primarily because advanced planning existed for these projects, while there was no advanced planning for public transport options (for example, track amplification along the North Island Main Trunk).

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



22 March 2021

AK Have Your Say
Auckland Council
AUCKLAND

Sent via email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Dear Sir/Madam

COUNCIL 10-YEAR BUDGET 2021-31

On behalf of the Campaign for Better Transport Incorporated (**CBT**), we would like to thank Auckland Council for the opportunity to submit on the 10-year Budget 2021-2031, both in person and through the below submission.

The CBT is an apolitical advocacy group lobbying for transport improvements in New Zealand, with a specific focus on Auckland. We note that while our efforts have historically focussed on public and non-vehicular forms of transport, we are not necessarily adverse to roading improvements where these can be justified.

Our submission will primarily focus on the transport side of the Budget, but we do acknowledge that other areas are of importance and that Council need to balance out the competing needs of each area to implement a Budget that achieves the most for Auckland out of limited resources.

Proposed Rates Increase

The Campaign for Better Transport acknowledges that Auckland Council are facing a difficult set of circumstances. Income from sources other than rates has plummeted due to the collapse in tourism. A significant amount of capital expenditure is required to catch-up on an infrastructure deficit going back at least half a century. Raising rates by too much can generate angst among the voting public resulting in politicians losing elections. We acknowledge balancing out all these factors would have required significant amounts of work from Council.

We consider the proposed rates increase (5% this year, and then 3.5% per annum every year for the following nine) is reasonable given the current set of circumstances. We acknowledge some will argue that further efficiencies could be obtained, and they may well be right. If additional efficiencies were obtained, however, we would hope it would be recycled into either engaging in more capital investment or to pay down debt instead of rates decreases.

Capital Investment Programme

We are generally in agreement with the capital investment programme as outlined in page 68 of the supporting information provided and congratulate Council on achieving a public transport friendly capital investment programme.

Maintaining Service

Something that has not been commented on in the Budget is ensuring that public transport levels of service are maintained throughout Auckland. We are quite concerned that Auckland Transport have



over the last few years engaged in reductions in service, including reductions in evening and weekend service, and the wholesale removal of a couple of routes.

While we acknowledge that some bus services cannot be justified due to low patronage, a culture of service cuts is more likely to breed a downward spiral in public transport. We already note that the public transport patronage target for 2022 in this Budget is 18% less than what it was five years ago (115 million annual patrons versus 140 million annual patrons, which was the target in 2016 for 2022). If passengers need to wait an hour on a weekend evening for bus services (this is the case on the 31 bus route, for example), then they are less likely to use public transport and would contribute to private vehicle usage during peak.

Smaller Scale Improvements

We are disappointed the Budget does not look at the myriad smaller scale transport improvements that might be possible without requiring the spending of tens of millions or even hundreds of millions of dollars.

Ad hoc interchanges

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If a faster service were provided, then less rolling stock would be needed to maintain service frequency – in the above example, it would require 10% less rolling stock. This is quite significant given the \$404 million needed to purchase rolling stock for “CRL Day One”.

Other Items

Proposed Paremoremo Bus Service

In our opinion, funding option 1 (so a targeted annual rate of \$238 for each separate dwelling or business within 500 metres of a proposed bus stop) is more appropriate. While it can be argued that people might walk further to access public transport services in rural areas, we question this argument and would hypothesise that someone further away would more likely drive to a more frequent suburban public transport service (e.g., drive to the Albany Bus Station).

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While outside the scope of the Budget, we note the lack of historic planning for public transport options. This was made manifest in last year when central government funded shovel ready projects – the projects chosen in the Auckland area were roading projects (for example, Penlink and Mill Road), primarily because advanced planning existed for these projects, while there was no advanced planning for public transport options (for example, track amplification along the North Island Main Trunk).

If you have any queries about the submission, please contact me at

Yours faithfully

The Campaign for Better Transport Incorporated

Convenor



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Sport New Zealand

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: see attachment 17289 - submission from Sport New Zealand

Sport New Zealand, Aktive and Auckland Council share a common interest to ensure the wellbeing of all Aucklanders using physical activity as a core building block. We know if we can raise the physical activity levels of New Zealanders it will lead to better health and social outcomes.

We urge greater investment in the sport and recreation sector under this Long-term Plan. Without this commitment from Council our current and future community sport and recreation spaces will be compromised. This means our growing, increasingly diverse population will not have access to suitable infrastructure and spaces to participate in physical activity – whether it's playing at a park, an inter-church kilikiti competition or a competitive rugby match

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: See attachment 17289 for full report

Auckland Council capital investment in sport and recreation facilities

Sport NZ acknowledges the challenges faced by Council in providing community services

through its sporting and recreation assets and that Auckland has a large network of facilities, many of which are ageing and require significant renewal investment.

Council is proposing a new approach which is to consider better use of partnerships, grants, along with non-asset-based solutions to address community needs. Sport NZ would advise caution in any move away from Council's commitment to spending on renewals and maintenance in the short-term as this may have a negative impact on delivering the services Aucklanders need in the medium to long-term.

Of the three options being considered on how to invest in the community portfolio, Sport NZ submits that Option Two: Additional investment – increased funding to retain existing portfolio and provide for anticipated growth is required given the importance and significant contribution that that community facilities and services make to overall community well-being. We make this submission on the basis of providing additional investment for a period of time (5 years) until Council can provide itself the assurance that such a new approach will not diminish access to facilities and services and subsequently levels of participation.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

Albert-Eden Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why: See attachment 17289 - Those initiatives supported by Sport NZ which we believe will have the most positive impact on increased physical activity are:

Albert-Eden Local Board

- sports field upgrades to address the shortfall in sports capacity
- funding to realign the Chamberlain Park golf course, to develop a new park
- continued provision of aquatic facilities in the Mt Albert area

What is your opinion on the Dominion Road Business Association boundary expansion of the Dominion Road BID programme?

Tell us why

Franklin Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Franklin Local Board

- investment for the development of Karaka Sports Park and community hub

Henderson-Massey Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Henderson-Massey Local Board

- a permanent facility for Waka Ama in Te Atatū South

Howick Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Howick Local Board

- investment for improved play spaces

Feedback we received during the local board plan consultation last year clearly told us that we need to focus on renewals and upgrades for the 69 play spaces in our local board area.

In addition, we want to explore the idea of a “destination” play space and would love to hear your thoughts on what one would look like.

What should a "destination" play space include for all ages?

Where do you think is the best location for a "destination" play space in the Howick Local Board area?

Kaipātiki Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Kaipātiki Local Board

- a multi-sport facility at Birkenhead War Memorial Park

With additional regional funding likely to be limited in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031, do you support us investigating options for a future locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects that are beyond the existing funding available to the local board?

If we were to introduce a locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects, how would you rank these key initiatives from our 2020 Local Board Plan? (1 = most like to be funded, 3 = least like to be funded)

Addressing flooding and seawater inundation at Little Shoal Bay, Northcote

Multi-sport facility and improved aquatic play space at Birkenhead War Memorial park

Commuter and recreational walking and cycling links, such as shared paths, bush tracks and connections to the Northern Pathway (to be prioritised in the update of the Kaipatiki Connections Network Connections Plan)

If we were to introduce a locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects, how much would you be willing to pay annually on top of your rates bill?

Manurewa Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Manurewa Local Board

- sports field improvements, floodlighting and a multi-purpose community facility at Memorial Park

What is your opinion on the Manurewa Business Association boundary expansion in our area?

Tell us why

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

- the implementation of the Waikaraka Park Masterplan

What is your opinion on the Glen Innes Business Association boundary expansion into our area?

Tell us why

Ōrākei Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Ōrākei Local Board

- improvement of sports fields at Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road

What is your opinion on the Glen Innes Business Association boundary expansion into our area?

Tell us why

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board

- progress with urgency the Manukau Sports Bowl master plan and Papatoetoe facilities gap analysis
- Sportsfield and lighting upgrade: Rongomai and East Tamaki Reserve

We are proposing to increase fees and charges on community places of hire by 6 per cent. This increase would reflect inflation adjustment cost of 1 per cent per year for the previous six years, as the rates have not been adjusted for inflation over that period. This increase will go towards the running costs of the community places.

What is your opinion on this inflation adjusted increase in fees and charges?

Tell us why

Are you a regular user of community places in Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area? (e.g. Ōtara Music Art Centre, East Tāmaki Community Hall, Papatoetoe Town Hall, Te Puke ō Tara Community Centre)

Rodney Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Rodney Local Board

- deliver the Kumeū-Huapai indoor courts facility

Upper Harbour Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Upper Harbour Local Board

- develop the Scott Point Sustainable Sports Park
- provide sub-regional indoor court facility in the Upper Harbour area

Whau Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why See attachment 17289 - Whau Local Board

- delivery of the Whau aquatic and recreation facility

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 17289 - The impact of COVID-19 on the play, active recreation and sport sector:

COVID-19 has placed significant pressure on Aotearoa New Zealand's play, active recreation and sport system.

- Through our insights, we know the COVID-19 lockdowns has exacerbated inequalities, putting some population groups at even more risk regarding their physical and mental wellbeing.
- Analysis of media commentary also identified concerns about returning to previous activities in shared public spaces due to safety.
- Sector organisations which play a key role in allowing New Zealanders to be active were also impacted by COVID-19. These impacts include lost revenue, cash flow difficulties, reduced capacity and change of membership.

All these things have hit the sector hard and Sport NZ is working with regional sports trusts, councils, and other local stakeholders to find solutions to help address these.

Target audiences and activity areas:

Sport NZ remains committed to making progress towards our primary goal of ensuring more tamariki and rangatahi (aged 5 – 18) have access to quality physical activity options. We aspire to reduce the drop off in activity levels of rangatahi from ages 12 to 18 and increase the levels of activity for those tamariki and rangatahi who are less active.

Auckland has a high representation of communities we know are most at risk of missing out, including:

- Maori and pacific communities
- Low income communities where participation is declining
- Growth of new ethnic communities where physical activity preferences differ

Aucklanders have also experienced the greatest disruption from COVID-19 with prolonged time in lockdowns, restricting the operation and access of normal activities.

Auckland Council capital investment in sport and recreation facilities:

Sport NZ acknowledges the challenges faced by Council in providing community services through its sporting and recreation assets and that Auckland has a large network of facilities, many of which are ageing and require significant renewal investment.

Council is proposing a new approach which is to consider better use of partnerships, grants, along with non-asset-based solutions to address community needs. Sport NZ would advise caution in any move away from Council's commitment to spending on renewals and maintenance in the short-term as this may have a negative impact on delivering the services Aucklanders need in the medium to long-term.

Of the three options being considered on how to invest in the community portfolio, Sport NZ submits that Option Two: Additional investment – increased funding to retain existing portfolio and provide for anticipated growth is required given the importance and significant contribution that that community facilities and services make to overall community well-being. We make this submission on the basis of providing additional investment for a period of time (5 years) until Council can provide itself the assurance that such a new approach will not diminish access to facilities and services and subsequently levels of participation.

Sport NZ also supports the proposed additional \$65 million over the next three years to address the highest priorities for community services and facilities including an appropriate level of renewals and support sport and recreation facility projects that address the needs in the city's areas of growth.

Sport NZ, Aktive, and Auckland Council have been working with the sports sector to develop a co-ordinated and collaborative approach for future sport facility provision in Auckland. The Auckland Sports Facilities Network Priority Plan provides Council with a high-level strategic view of sports infrastructure needs for the region and the evaluation criteria to prioritise investment and ultimately make better decisions.

An unprecedented collaboration of indoor sport codes developed the Auckland Region Indoor Courts Facility Plan in 2019 and which identified short, medium, and long-term priority projects to address current and future demand. The plan concluded that the region is currently more than 30 courts short and that another 24 will be required in the next 10 years. Participation in these sports is being severely constrained in Auckland by decades of underinvestment in indoor sports infrastructure.

Sport NZ commends Auckland Council for its establishment of the \$120M Sport & Recreation Facility Investment Fund and strongly urges Council to increase or at least retain this funding level over the 2021-2031 Long-Term Plan period, giving priority to allocating investment to addressing the identified priority indoor facility projects in the Plan and identified as being in proposed development zones.

- continued commitment to Western Springs College community school partnership
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Operational investment in sport and recreation facilities:

Sport NZ supports the recent Council decision to introduce a contestable operational fund for a sub-regional and regional facilities that increase Aucklanders participation in sport and recreation. Operational costs are a significant issue for many community facilities, and this has been exacerbated by Covid-19. Clubs are struggling with the impacts of shortened seasons, reduced memberships, loss of volunteers and cancelled events. It is very likely that that the fund will be over-subscribed and many deserving organisations will miss out and struggle to survive.

This fund will become even more critical if Council's proposed approach to shift the focus onto non-asset-based provision to provide for community sport and recreation goes ahead. Community owned and operated assets, which are already under pressure, will be required to pick up the shortfall to meet the needs of a rapidly growing Auckland.

We submit that the level of investment of \$1M per year will be insufficient to sustain the necessary levels of service to meet the needs across the region. We recommend that investment of \$2.5M is the minimum annual requirement for the contestable operations fund.

Play in Auckland:

Play is self-directed activity which a young person freely chooses, usually for its own sake. Play is not just about the provision of fixed assets in the form of playgrounds. Commitment to playful communities requires consideration of all the decisions and factors made by Council and its partners that create space, time and permission for our whanau to play.

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It has been taken for granted that play will always be a part of New Zealand childhoods. However, levels of play are in decline due to shifting cultural values, increasingly sedentary behaviours, family circumstances, urbanisation and fears about children's safety.

Auckland Council is the city's largest investor and provider of play. Council delivers a wide range of community activation programmes and fixed-play assets. Auckland Council has inherited a range of different legacy approaches to play that have created inequalities across the city. The Active NZ Survey (2018) points to disparity of access and shows that Auckland is behind the rest of the country.

Auckland Council's 2017 discussion document Tākaro – Investing in Play provides some good thinking on play that would go a long way to addressing these inequities. But with a series of delays to signing off Takaro, momentum has been lost. Revisiting and completing Takaro would provide guidance, consistency, efficiency and equity to Auckland Council and Local Board investments in play.

Creating a Play Advocate role would bring leadership and ownership to the play work currently being done by various Council departments and Local Boards. A Play Advocate would ensure there is integrated planning, consistent implementation of Takaro, as well as bringing about efficiencies and cost savings to the current approach.

Sport NZ recommendations - summary

1. Capital investment in sport and recreation facilities:

- Sport NZ advises caution in any move away from Council's commitment to spending on renewals and maintenance.
- Sport NZ supports increased funding to retain the existing portfolio and provide for anticipated growth given the importance and significant contribution that community facilities and services make to overall community well-being.
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- Sport NZ strongly urges Council to increase or at least retain the \$120M Sport & Recreation Facility Investment Fund.
- Sport NZ submits that Council provides the levels of funding requested for Local Board sport and recreation facility initiatives.

2. Operational investment in sport and recreation facilities:

- Sport NZ commends Council on introducing a contestable operational fund for a sub-regional and regional facilities.
- Sport NZ recommends that contestable operations fund be increased to \$2.5M per annum minimum.

3. Play:

- Sport NZ advocates that Council recognises that levels of play are in decline and that this is an issue for young people's participation, resilience and wellbeing.
- Sport NZ requests that Council completes Tākaro – Investing in Play, to provide guidance, consistency, efficiency and equity to Auckland Council and Local Board investments in play.
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Sport New Zealand, Active and Auckland Council share a common interest to ensure the wellbeing of all Aucklanders using physical activity as a core building block. We know if we can raise the physical activity levels of New Zealanders it will lead to better health and social outcomes.

We urge greater investment in the sport and recreation sector under this Long-term Plan. Without this commitment from Council our current and future community sport and recreation spaces will be compromised. This means our growing, increasingly diverse population will not have access to suitable infrastructure and spaces to participate in physical activity – whether it's playing at a park, an inter-church kilikiti competition or a competitive rugby match

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



**SPORT
NEW ZEALAND**
IHI AOTEAROA



Auckland Council Long Term Plan submission

March 2021

sportnz.org.nz

New Zealand Government

About Sport New Zealand

Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) is the crown agency responsible for contributing to the wellbeing of everybody in Aotearoa New Zealand by leading an enriching and inspiring play, active recreation and sport system. Sport NZ's vision is simple – to get **Every Body Active in Aotearoa New Zealand**.

Our role as kaitiaki of the system focusses on lifting the physical activity levels of all those living within Aotearoa and having the greatest possible impact on wellbeing. We achieve our outcomes by aligning our investment through partnerships, funds and programmes to our strategic priorities set out in our four-year strategic plan.

Auckland is critical to the work of Sport NZ as a region which represents a third of the country's population.

The importance of Council

Auckland Council is the major provider of sport and recreation facilities in Auckland. We greatly appreciate this support and investment – without it much of what happens in our sector would not be possible. Council investment has provided positive outcomes for a wide range of sports codes, demographics, cultures, ages and abilities. We also acknowledge the commitment of council staff in supporting the sector.

Play, active recreation and sport make an enormous contribution to the health and wellbeing of all Aucklanders. Physical activity, its wide-ranging benefits and its importance to our communities are fundamental to meeting the outcomes identified in the Auckland Plan. Council itself notes *“community infrastructure supports the essential services in helping people to participate in society, promote health and wellbeing and create a sense of belonging.”*

We also acknowledge the challenges Council faces with balancing the various competing demands such as growth, transport, climate change and water quality within a context of falling revenue. The impact of Covid-19 will be with us for some time to come, so too the decisions made in this 10-year Budget.

The impact of COVID-19 on the play, active recreation and sport sector

COVID-19 has placed significant pressure on Aotearoa New Zealand's play, active recreation and sport system.

- Through our insights, we know the COVID-19 lockdowns **has exacerbated inequalities**, putting some population groups at even more risk regarding their physical and mental wellbeing.
- Analysis of media commentary also identified **concerns about returning to previous activities** in shared public spaces due to safety.
- Sector organisations which play a key role in allowing New Zealanders to be active were also impacted by COVID-19. These **impacts include lost revenue, cash flow difficulties, reduced capacity and change of membership**.

All these things have hit the sector hard and Sport NZ is working with regional sports trusts, councils, and other local stakeholders to find solutions to help address these.

Target audiences and activity areas

Sport NZ remains committed to making progress towards our primary goal of ensuring more tamariki and rangatahi (aged 5 – 18) have access to quality physical activity options. We aspire to **reduce the drop off** in activity levels of rangatahi from ages 12 to 18 and **increase the levels of activity for those tamariki and rangatahi who are less active**.

Auckland has a high representation of communities we know are most at risk of missing out, including:

- Maori and pacific communities

- Low income communities where participation is declining
- Growth of new ethnic communities where physical activity preferences differ

Aucklanders have also experienced the greatest disruption from COVID-19 with prolonged time in lockdowns, restricting the operation and access of normal activities.

Auckland Council capital investment in sport and recreation facilities

Sport NZ acknowledges the challenges faced by Council in providing community services through its sporting and recreation assets and that **Auckland has a large network of facilities, many of which are ageing and require significant renewal investment.**

Council is proposing a new approach which is to consider better use of partnerships, grants, along with non-asset-based solutions to address community needs. Sport NZ would advise **caution in any move away from Council's commitment to spending on renewals and maintenance** in the short-term as this may have a negative impact on delivering the services Aucklanders need in the medium to long-term.

Of the three options being considered on how to invest in the community portfolio, Sport NZ submits that **Option Two: Additional investment – increased funding to retain existing portfolio and provide for anticipated growth is required given the importance and significant contribution that that community facilities and services make to overall community well-being.** We make this submission on the basis of providing additional investment for a period of time (5 years) until Council can provide itself the assurance that such a new approach will not diminish access to facilities and services and subsequently levels of participation.

Sport NZ also **supports the proposed additional \$65 million over the next three years to address the highest priorities for community services and facilities** including an appropriate level of renewals and support sport and recreation facility projects that address the needs in the city's areas of growth.

Sport NZ, Active, and Auckland Council have been working with the sports sector to develop a co-ordinated and collaborative approach for future sport facility provision in Auckland. **The Auckland Sports Facilities Network Priority Plan provides Council with a high-level strategic view of sports infrastructure needs for the region** and the evaluation criteria to prioritise investment and ultimately make better decisions.

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Local Board initiatives

Local Boards play a vital role in working with sport and active recreation community groups and organisations to ensure everyone can get active whatever their age or ability. **Sport NZ submits that Council provides the levels of funding requested for Local Board sport and recreation facility initiatives** and gives positive consideration to the 21 Local Board initiatives for the provision of inclusive and fit for purpose sporting and recreation facilities.

Those initiatives supported by Sport NZ which we believe will have the most positive impact on increased physical activity are:

Albert-Eden Local Board

- sports field upgrades to address the shortfall in sports capacity
- funding to realign the Chamberlain Park golf course, to develop a new park
- continued provision of aquatic facilities in the Mt Albert area

Franklin Local Board

- investment for the development of Karaka Sports Park and community hub

Henderson-Massey Local Board

- a permanent facility for Waka Ama in Te Atatū South

Howick Local Board

- investment for improved play spaces

Kaipātiki Local Board

- a multi-sport facility at Birkenhead War Memorial Park

Manurewa Local Board

- sports field improvements, floodlighting and a multi-purpose community facility at Memorial Park

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

- the implementation of the Waikaraka Park Masterplan

Ōrākei Local Board

- improvement of sports fields at Thomas Bloodworth Park and Shore Road

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board

- progress with urgency the Manukau Sports Bowl master plan and Papatoetoe facilities gap analysis
- Sportsfield and lighting upgrade: Rongomai and East Tamaki Reserve

Rodney Local Board

- deliver the Kumeū-Huapai indoor courts facility

Upper Harbour Local Board

- develop the Scott Point Sustainable Sports Park
- provide sub-regional indoor court facility in the Upper Harbour area

Whau Local Board

- delivery of the Whau aquatic and recreation facility

Operational investment in sport and recreation facilities

Sport NZ **supports the recent Council decision to introduce a contestable operational fund for a sub-regional and regional facilities** that increase Aucklanders participation in sport and recreation. Operational costs are a significant issue for many community facilities, and this has been exacerbated by Covid-19. Clubs are struggling with the impacts of shortened seasons, reduced memberships, loss of volunteers and cancelled events. It is very likely that that the fund will be over-subscribed and many deserving organisations will miss out and struggle to survive.

This fund will become even more critical if Council's proposed approach to shift the focus onto non-asset-based provision to provide for community sport and recreation goes ahead. Community owned and operated assets, which are already under pressure, will be required to pick up the shortfall to meet the needs of a rapidly growing Auckland.

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Auckland Festival of Photography

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: [see attachment for whole report, including photo attachments]

Key point: Collaborate with the region's arts communities to find creative solutions that address financial constraints while strengthening the ngā toi / arts and culture sector of Tāmaki Makaurau

- The budget is light on detail regarding funding relating to the arts and culture sector. What we would recommend, however, is that;
 - o while spending is constrained and changes are made to the facilities, venues, and other Council resources available to the sector, that active, direct and comprehensive engagement with the sector and the various arts communities is pursued to build a strategic approach to meeting the sector's needs. This would
 - ensure a shared understanding of the varied needs of the sector across the diverse arts communities (art form, location, culture) in the region to inform and guide funding and investment decisions
 - create an opportunity for collaboration between Council and the sector to find creative solutions to sector needs
 - o maintaining at least current levels of funding for the sector remain a priority until such time as the Council is able to further invest in developing the region's arts and culture infrastructure.
- We support a budget re-work an increase that would secure
 - o the proposed additional funding of \$95m for Parks and community
 - o Propose to cut funding Eden Park grass and re-seed (pardon the pun) the \$60 million back into the arts and cultural Covid recovery budgets which benefits more ratepayers.
 - o Our Festival also suggests a pro rata investment strategy for equity of pay for women in the creative sector, currently there are no measures that allow for gender specific investment or at least weighting towards equal payments for the creative workforce
 - o The Festival Trust strongly believe the value chain has shifted from a ARAFA and physical property investment strategy to a digital infrastructure value chain in tandem for the Covid 19 recovery. It cannot just be BAU.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: [see attachment for whole report, including photo attachments]

Key point: Consult with the region's arts communities to ensure that in reshaping the Council's portfolio of facilities the ngā toi / arts and culture sector retains affordable access to fit-for-purpose facilities

- We support Council's proposal to reduce costs through taking 'a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.'
- Any changes to venues that are currently used to support arts and culture needs to be done in consultation with the sector – and as noted above, this consultation needs to be 'active, direct and comprehensive engagement' appropriate to the various arts communities.
- Venue costs are already a barrier for some smaller arts and culture organisations, particularly those in some of our diverse communities. Cost increases will be unmanageable for many. As the Council looks to greater use of leasing or partnership arrangements, increases in the costs of using community facilities should be avoided.
 - o The Council's focus, in developing a slimmed down, 'fit for purpose' portfolio of owned and leased facilities, should be on increasing venue access and reducing venue costs for emerging artists, arts companies, cultural organisations from Auckland's diverse communities, and groups who are supporting specific community needs, such as rangatahi arts. Preserving current costs for established artists, arts companies, and cultural organisations as the sector recovers over the coming years from the impacts of COVID-19 is also key
 - o The Festival fosters the building of community spirit - We partner with Council venues all the time by offering in addition to the exhibitions, the festival also provides the forum for an extensive range of activities that are curated by the Festival's team and aimed to generate dialogue and engagement among all the local communities of photos as well as aficionados of art and culture: seminars, slide shows, live performances and events, and walks
- Council and local boards need to work with the sector to find innovative ways to use community facilities and cost-neutral ways to support the sector such as by providing low-cost spaces for activities like exhibitions. The creativity of the ngā toi / arts and culture sector is an asset the Council and local boards can draw on, both to find sector-specific solutions, and for creative thinking about the wider challenges relating to getting best value for the community from these facilities.
- The potential for artists and creative practitioners to provide wider support to the Council in designing and delivering innovative, strategic, and cost-effective solutions to the unique challenges faced by the region should also be considered. The sector is a rich resource for the Council to draw on.
- It's obvious there is a financial elitism (because they have great funding/security) inherent in the multimillion dollar venues – Art Gallery, Aotea Centre, Town Hall, Waterfront Theatre, Q Theatre. Perhaps as part of the public investment all these public venues should be compelled to providing low-cost or free spaces for activities like key exhibitions, talks, events which are presented by external recognized charities (not commercially driven) and performance rehearsals by other groups in return for their millions invested by public money?

- It's fantastic that Council has recognized – post Covid - that online services to provide for our diverse communities has shifted to a outdoor and digital infrastructure value chain in tandem not necessarily going to be appropriate for physical venue – theatre/studios/ngā toi /arts and culture engagement.
- Auckland Festival of Photography activations provide opportunities for the face-to-face connection within Zoom, as well as outdoors and between communities that support the Council's wellbeing and social cohesion goals.
- Our 2020 combined physical, outdoor and online audience is hovering around 112,000 which potentially makes the best value for the ratepayers of any community arts and cultural charity.
- Our activities compliment what Council does and Auckland Festival of Photography has had a digital Festival engagement since 2010, via these outcomes – our identified audiences Migrants, People with disabilities - deaf, house bound, and Women. Women are a high % users of this Festival and our online resources.
- Rising unemployment makes a FREE Festival likes our even more important to those who find cost a barrier to participation plus we are available for online engagement everywhere via our You Tube
- Developing visual literacy through photography - Visual literacy is the ability to interpret, negotiate, and make meaning from information presented in the form of an image, extending the meaning of literacy, which commonly signifies interpretation of a written or printed text.
- As society has shifted due to Covid, the Auckland Festival of Photography has proven leadership, agility and resilience and so we argue that the our winter offering has gained more significance for the Council's long term plan. The Festival is now more relevant than ever to Council's community outcomes for value.
 - o We understand it also needs to be recognised that not all communities are going to be easily able to access online content however youth audiences are a priority in the Auckland Council's KPI's and they are high % users. Investment in community accessibility to technologies is needed if Council want more demographics to use these options. Equity considerations need to be addressed when exploring options for delivery of online services
 - o The Festival Trust strongly believe the value chain has shifted to a digital infrastructure value chain in tandem for the Covid 19 recovery.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

[see attachment for whole report, including photo attachments]

We support the Council's statement of commitment to the Māori outcomes outlined in the consultation document, and its commitment to provide funding to support Māori outcomes. We note that support for ngā toi Māori will help the Council meet the identified mana outcomes, in particular Māori Identity and Culture; Whānau and Tamariki Wellbeing; Realising Rangatahi Potential; Te Reo Māori; Kaitiakitanga; and Māori Business Tourism and Employment.

For the Auckland Festival of Photography an inclusive approach to continued annual funding for the Trust in the Council Long Term Plan seems the best way to save the Festival team from the vulnerability it currently faces from the removal of a multi year funding grant in June 2020 due to a pre Covid decision in 2018, that simply can no longer be valid given the millions invested to the wider sector that sit idle or frozen under Alert levels 2,3 and 4.

Conclusion:

The ngā toi / arts and culture sector of Tāmaki Makaurau is both an asset for Council to nurture, and a resource for Council to draw on. We ask that Council, local boards, and CCOs:

- o work collaboratively with the sector to approach the shared challenge of rebuilding and renewing the sector as a unique Regional organisation asset
- o draw on the creative capacity of the sector, both to address the needs of the sector, and to address the wider challenges facing the Tāmaki Makaurau as a result of the pandemic
- o The Festival Trust strongly believe the value chain has shifted and this must be recognised in tandem with the Covid 19 cultural recovery package.

Important privacy information

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Feedback

Auckland Council Recovery Budget - 2021-2031

Arts and culture can make a powerful contribution to transforming Auckland into the world's most liveable city. Arts and culture are fundamental to quality of life in Auckland. Being a culturally rich city, where the arts are integrated into our everyday lives, is essential if we are to achieve the Auckland Plan vision of becoming the world's most liveable city.

Toi Whītiki – Auckland Council Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the Council's proposed 10-year Budget 2021-2031.

We appreciate the financial constraints arising from the impact of COVID-19, and the many calls on the Council's funds.

We have provided some sector context, and then focused our response on four of the questions on which the Council has invited specific feedback:



Sector context

Key point: *Investment in the recovery and rebuild of this critical sector should be a priority, to avoid systemic weakening of the sector's ecosystem due to COVID-19 financial constraints.*

- The vibrant ngā toi / arts and culture sector of Tāmaki Makaurau is a taonga in its own right. It reflects indigenous Māori culture, and the diversity of voices of people attracted from around the world to live in the region. It is a contributor to our sense of wellbeing; a source of connection between our diverse communities; a wellspring of talent that feeds the region's creative industries; a major employer; a domestic and international tourism asset.
- The Council has recognised the central role of ngā toi /arts and culture, in its development of a long-term vision for the Auckland region; and in the development of the Toi Whītiki Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan. Ngā toi /arts and culture can play an important role in supporting an inclusive Auckland where everyone can participate and belong.
- The sector, particularly the parts of the sector that are reliant on in-person audiences concerts, theatre, dance, and indoor events and festivals that include arts and culture, such as Matariki and Pasifika), has been hard hit by COVID-19. More remarkable than that the Auckland Festival of Photography supplied a master class in innovation and delivery of a regionwide Festival during late May and June 2020 during level 3,2 and 1 by innovation and leadership. The recovery from the COVID-19 crisis will require both support for the creative workforce and for financial recovery for arts companies and organisations. The Council, alongside Government, philanthropic and other funders, must continue to be an investor in this recovery in order to secure the long-term benefits to the region of a strong ngā toi / arts and culture sector. BUT THERE NEEDS TO BE A RESET ON INVESTMENT PRIORITIES. The value chain has irrevocably shifted and public investment has to follow not be stuck in a beauraucratic inertia.



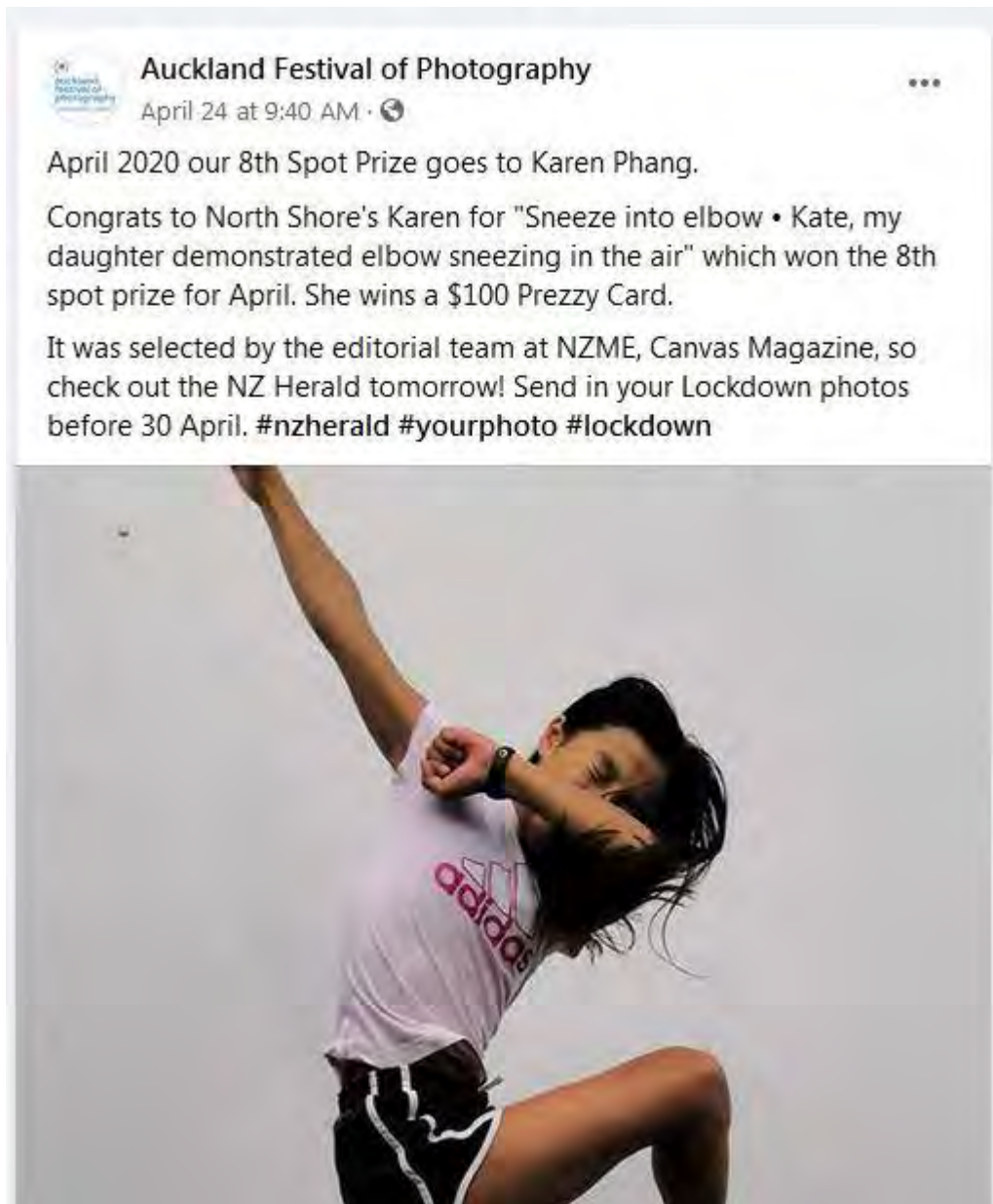
  

Top: Julie Adams – Sixties Heroes
Middle: Annelise Greenfield – Cold Start
Bottom left: Stephen John Hardy – Cruising Queen Street on a Saturday Night Light
Bottom right above: Alan Porter – French Flair
Bottom right below: Zahn Trotter – Taking a Break

- Auckland Festival of Photography supplied a master class in innovation and delivery of a regionwide Festival during late May and June 2020. We are very

proud we were able to show resilience and provide hope and leadership in the sector at that most difficult time. As a funded partner of Auckland Council we offered incredible value for the ratepayers, and as such we believe it is time for a complete overhaul of the sector funding models which saw millions of dollars sitting idle due to outdated funding ideas and lack of leadership by those favored with \$ millions within our sector.

- Auckland Festival of Photography rely on community engagement as any other cultural organisations does, but in comparison, in particular the ARAFA investment organisations did very little, given the vast budgets they have, to present their programmes or shift their programmes to a digital offering by June 2020. We question this sluggishness given they have large teams (10 times as many people employed and massive budgets). We doubled our team size and created jobs as most places were letting people go!! The Festival Trust strongly believe the value chain has shifted from a ARAFA and physical property investment strategy to a digital infrastructure value chain in tandem for the Covid 19 recovery. Given the loss of revenue faced by Auckland Council and the shift in value of current investments, it seems, like the investigation and report into the Aktive, set up eight years ago by Auckland Council to deliver programmes and administer funding throughout the region's sports trusts, this recommended overhaul needs mirroring for the arts sector. Like the sport funding model review and overhaul this now needs extending into the cultural sector funding in the region.
- As a result of the Covid crisis, at level 4, the Festival Trust we were forced to re-think, re-imagine and innovate this year's programme but NOT cancel or postpone it. This was done by the following strategies, goals and outcomes –
 - Being a world leader in Festival delivery
 - Support cultural innovation – You Tube series, TV series
 - Economic - Job creation - 3 new roles supported doubling our team to 6 part time/full time- April to end June.
 - Skills training – Interns
 - Regionwide
 - Value for ratepayers
 - Free - given the new high level of unemployment - less discretionary expenditure
 - Adaptable, flexible, and build awareness of Auckland nationally and internationally
 - Sustainable model, sector leadership
 - Commissioning of artworks
 - Artist support - 60 paid income under contract since Jan 2020, inc 2 cash prizes for Awards and camera prizes supplied by Nikon
 - Te Reo Māori – bi lingual website for 2020 Festival and infrastructure in place to create policy for Maori engagement
 - Public health safety messaging – Lockdown theme for Auckland Photo Blog. Health + wellbeing topics are encouraged with 2020 featuring artist contributing photos from the Lockdown during a time of disconnection, created a sense of belonging



- In addition to the recovery from the impacts of COVID-19, the sector also has pressing development needs. Greater priority needs to be given to recognition, visibility and celebration of ngā toi Māori; and the sector needs to grow to be more inclusive of the arts of our Moana Oceania, Asian and other diverse communities.
 - Increased recognition and inclusion of the arts of Moana Oceania, Asian and other arts sector communities can also help Council to deliver wellbeing outcomes to Auckland's increasingly diverse population.
 - Auckland Festival of Photography has developed, initiated and engaged in a diversity of voices since 2004.



auckland
festival of
photography
[Whakaari/Te Whakapikare]

CityRailLink

LinkAlliance

Left: Peng Chen—Tending The Tranquil Garden

The following are exhibitions and talks exclusively curated and delivered 100% by the Auckland Festival of Photography Trust with the participation of Maori/Pasifika/Asian artists and/or Maori/Pasifika/Asian content:

2016 – “Annual Commission by Sacred Hill” commissioned photographs by Russ Flatt at Silo 6

Annual Commission by Sacred Hill - Russ Flatt

Silo 6 • 2 June - 20 June

Opens 6:00pm on Thursday 2 June

Hours 10:30am - 4:30pm daily

Where Silo Park, Wynyard Qtr

☎ 3077055

🌐 photographyfestival.org.nz

👤 Yes

Artists Russ Flatt

Theme **Annual Commission**

The Auckland Festival of Photography 2016 features the 6th Annual Commission, this year presented by Sacred Hill. Each year, an Auckland-based photographer is commissioned to create a new body of work for exhibition during the Festival. The commission provides an opportunity to support and promote an Auckland photographer as well as create a cultural and artistic asset for present and future Auckland audiences to enjoy. This year's commissioned artist is Russ Flatt.

Kia whakatomuri te haere whakamua.

I walk backwards into the future with my eyes fixed on the past.

Russ Flatt's carefully staged photographs utilise different genres, modes and points of view in order to recover and reconstruct memories and past events. His work addresses notions of identity by looking towards a re-imagined past in order to recognise the present.

Russ Flatt graduated with a Post Graduate Diploma in 2013 from Auckland University's Elam School of Fine Arts. His work is held in collections including Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, the James Wallace Arts Trust, Auckland Council and the University of Auckland.

Other shortlisted artists this year were Solomon Mortimer and Helen Clegg. The selection panel included Julia Durkin, Festival Director; Associate Professor Linda Tyler, Director, Gus Fisher Gallery and Alasdair Foster, international art consultant and Asia-Pacific Photoforum Ambassador.



Russ Flatt - Bedroom 2013 (courtesy of the artist and Tim Melville Gallery)

Presented by:

 auckland
festival of
photography



SACRED HILL

2016 – “Indian Photography Festival Showcase” projections at Studio One Toi Tu and talk at Auckland Art Gallery by Indian Photography Festival Director Aquin Matthews

Indian Photography Festival Projections

Studio One Toi Tu • 2 June - 16 June

Hours 9am-7pm Mon-Thu, 9am-5pm Fri, 9am to 4pm Sat

Where 1 Ponsonby Road

☎ 09 376 3221

🌐 <http://www.indianphotofest.com/>

🎫 Yes

Artists Various

Theme Exhibitions

Auckland Festival of Photography presents a selection of photography direct from the Indian Photography Festival, one of Asia's newest photographic events, in one of the world's most populated countries.

Established in 2015, the Indian Photography Festival is international and held in Hyderabad in Telegana state. It aims to provide more opportunities to view and exhibit high quality Indian photographic work. The selection showing in this year's Auckland Festival of Photography has been specially selected by IPF director, Aquin Mathews. Artists include Saptarshi Sanyal - a commuter's journal, Srisailam Pasupula - Celebrating Krishna, Kommidi Vishwender Reddy - Echoes: A pictorial saga of Deccan rocks, Bandi Rajan Babu - The Nude in Nature, Veeresh Babu - The Lambadas, Kaushal Parikh - Emerging from the darkness Satyanarayana Gola - From the streets, D. Ravinder Reddy - Flash back - Ayodhya, Nikita Upreti - Letting Go, Swarat Ghosh - Purulia - Painted Walls & Mask-Makers, Bharath Bhushan - Rural Telangana, Vinod Babu - Right here Right Now, Shuchi Kapoor - The Unreasonables, Ramesh Babu - Through my eyes, Sujatro Ghosh - 25th Hour, Amit Mehra - Kashmir

Running time: Approx 36 minutes



Vinod Babu - Untitled

Presented by:



Supported by:



2016 "My Quiet Dream" talk by Oh Soon Hwa, Nanyang Technological University at Auckland Art Gallery

Talking Culture - Oh Soon Hwa

Auckland Art Gallery Auditorium • 4 June

Hours 3pm
 Where Cnr Kitchener and Wellesley StCBD
 093077700
www.photographyfestival.org.nz

Yes
 Artists Oh Soon-Hwa
 Theme [Talking Culture](#)
 Assoc Professor Oh Soon-Hwa, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore in an exclusive presentation on - Project title: Quiet Dream:

My Quiet Dream series consists of narrative portrait photographs. This series took place in and near a small Island in the Mekong Delta nicknamed "Taiwanese Island" where many young women have married foreigners such as Taiwanese or Korean men and left their homeland to get a better life and provide some financial support back home in order to maintain a "good daughter status". The narrative is about these young women's decisions about marriage and their dream to somewhat fit with some expectations on them under traditional Asian familial values based on a patriarchal family structure.

This photographic essay explores the beauty and the serenity of the environment surrounding these women who are expected to leave behind what is part of their identity, which includes the landscapes, the climate, the language, the family, the friends, the traditions and the way of living, and build a new life where everything is foreign. It shows the high risks and sacrifices these young women are expected to bear.

This project re-looks at women's conditions and lives in our complex cultural, social, and religious system. It reveals our society more than women as the other gender.

Thanks to Asia NZ Foundation.

Presented by:



Oh, Soonhwa, Tide out, 67x43 inches, Archival Inkjet print, 2012



Supported by:



2016 "Out of Context" talk by Raymond Sagapolutele at Auckland Art Gallery

Talking Culture - Raymond Sagapolutele

Auckland Art Gallery Auditorium • 12 June

Hours 3pm
 Where Auckland Art Gallery AuditoriumCnr Kitchener and Wellesley Streets
 09 3791349
photographyfestival.org.nz

Yes
 Artists Raymond Sagapolutele
 Theme [Talking Culture](#)
 Presented by:



Uoka By Raymond Sagapolutele



Out of Context is a project that looks to tell the stories from Raymond Sagapolutele's generation of Polynesians born to migrant Pacific Island parents as well as Urban Maori who also relate to the theme of disconnection from their culture, from his point of view with his camera as a witness.

2016 "Russ Flatt in conversation with Ron Brownson" at Auckland Art Gallery

Talking Culture - Russ Flatt

Auckland Art Gallery Auditorium • 4 June

Hours 1pm
Where Cnr Kitchener & Wellesly Street City
☎ 09 307 7700
🌐 www.photographyfestival.org.nz

🗳 Yes
Artists Russ Flatt
Theme [Talking Culture](#)

Key presentation about our Annual Commission 2016 with artist Russ Flatt in conversation with Ron Brownson.

Russ Flatt's carefully staged photographs utilise different genres, modes and points of view in order to recover and reconstruct memories and past events.

His work addresses notions of identity by looking towards a re-imagined past in order to recognise the present. His new work is on show at Silo 6 from 2 June.

Russ Flatt graduated with a Post Graduate Diploma in 2013 from Auckland University's Elam School of Fine Arts. His work is held in collections including Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, the James Wallace Arts Trust, Auckland Council and the University of Auckland.



Russ Flatt - Bedroom 2013 (courtesy of the artist and Tim Melville Gallery)



[< Back to the programme](#)

2016 “China International Press Photo Contest” presentation by Wen Huang at Auckland Art Gallery

Talking Culture - Wen Huang PhD

Auckland Art Gallery Auditorium • 6 June

Hours 3pm
Where Cnr Wellesley & Kitchener StCBD
☎ 09 307 7700
🌐 www.photographyfestival.org.nz

🗳 Yes
Artists Wen Huang
Theme [Talking Culture](#)

Wen Huang introduces the China International Press Photo contest, now in its 12th year. What is its influence in the field of international photojournalism? Wen will discuss this along with broader considerations around digitisation and its impact.

Huang Wen joined the Xinhua News Agency in 1989 and worked as a photographer and photo editor at the Xinhua Photo Department for 16 years.

In 1995 Wen became the first Chinese participant of the Joop Swart Masterclass, and served on the World Press Photo contest jury in 2006 and 2007. She has also been a jury member for POYi in the US and the 2009 Walkley Photo Prize in Australia. Since 2005, Wen has been involved in the organization of the China International Press Photo (CHIPP) contest, serving on its jury in 2014 and 2015. She is currently the Secretary General of the Chinese Photojournalists Society.

Thanks to Asia NZ Foundation.

[< Back to the programme](#)

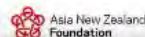


Europe refugees - Sergey Ponomarev - Russia - Picture of the Year CHIPP 2016 Freelance/The New York Times



Wen Huang, Chair of jury 2014 and co-founder China International Press Photo

Supported by:



2016 “The Rat Tribe” digital presentation by Sim Chi Yin at Silo6

Sim Chi Yin - The Rat Tribe

Silo 6 • 2 June - 20 June

Hours 10am - 4pm
Where Silo Park, Wynyard Quarter
☎ 09 307 7055
🌐 <http://www.chiyinsim.com/>
👤 Yes

Artists Sim Chi Yin

Theme **Exhibitions**

Faced with sky-high property prices, living underground is often the only option for this legion of low-waged migrant workers, who make up one-third of Beijing's estimated 20 million people.

But it may now be a matter of time before the basement dwellers face eviction.

In mid-December of 2010, the authorities issued new regulations contradicting earlier ones, effectively stopping basement leases from being renewed.

These images tell the broader story of a China on the move, of the world's biggest tide of migration, and of a generational shift to an urban income and lifestyle. Curious about this underworld, Sim Chi Yin started photographing it in 2010. If she went into it hoping to document the tough and musty lives these migrants lead, she also been inspired by their spunky fighting spirit and life-affirming aspirations.

Waiters, karaoke hostesses, hairdressers, chefs, security guards, domestic workers and kitchen helpers, these basement dwellers are the backbone of Beijing's service industry. But they have been unkindly dubbed the "rat tribe" for making a home in Beijing's 6,000 basements and air raid shelters — about one-third of the city's underground space.

Sim Chi Yin is a photographer based in Beijing, a member of VII Photo Agency.

Chi Yin was a finalist in W. Eugene Smith Grant in Humanistic Photography with a personal project on Chinese gold miners in 2013.

She is on the British Journal of Photography's Ones to Watch list of photographers in 2014. She was also among the PDN30 - Photo District News' top 30 emerging photographers - in 2013.

She works on projects on social issues in the region, and since going freelance in 2011 has also done photo, multimedia and video commissions for TIME, the New York Times, The New Yorker, National Geographic, Le Monde, Newsweek, Vogue



The Rat Tribe 1 - Sim Chi Yin / VII

VII

Panuku
Development
Auckland
AN AUCKLAND COUNCIL INITIATIVE

2015 "Angkor Photo Workshop Projections" projections of photographs by Asian photographers at Silo 6 and Studio One Toi Tu

Angkor Photo Workshop Projections

Studio One Toi Tu • 27 May - 10 June

Opens 6:00pm on Tuesday 2 June
Hours 9am-7pm Mon-Thu, 9am-5pm Fri, 9am to 4pm Sat
Where 1 Ponsonby Road, Ponsonby
☎ 09 376 3221
🌐 www.angkor-photo.com/

👤 Yes

Artists Various

Theme **Talking Culture**

Asia Pacific Photoforum exchange between Angkor and Auckland.

A projection of images created in the Angkor Photo Workshops, seen here in an Asia Pacific Photoforum exchange between Angkor and Auckland. Angkor Photo Workshops are highly selective in the talent they enrol, and this selection of images by workshop alumni showcases great Asian photography, both fine art and photojournalism.

Includes award winning photojournalist Noriko Hayashi (Japan), plus

Rony Zakaria (Indonesia)
Veejay Villanfranca (Philippines)
Kishor Sharma (Nepal)
Binh Dang (Vietnam)
Amirtharaj Stephen (India)
Ore Huiying (Singapore)
Munem Wasif (Bangladesh)
Go Takayama (Japan)
Maika Elan (Vietnam)
Mitsui Maeda (Japan)
Rahman Roslan (Philippines)
Ronny Sen (India)
Karan Valid (India)
Sophal Neak (Cambodia)
Soham Gupta (India)
Miti Ruangkriya (Thailand)
Zishaan Akbar Latif (India)
MD Farhad Rahman (Bangladesh)
Arko Datto (India)
Aechath Adam (Maldives)

2015 – “Paramita” photographic installation by Han JIANGANG at Silo 6

Paramita

Silo 6 • 28 May - 17 June

Hours 10am-4pm daily
Where Silo Park Wynyard, Quarter
☎ 09 307 7055
🌐 www.photographyfestival.org.nz

👤 Yes

Artists Han JIANGANG

Theme **Exhibitions**

Paramita, the boat of the other shore, the life of the other shore. This work represents beliefs around the origins of life. A mother's warm uterus is dark and quiet, with a little body floating in the amniotic fluid. At this moment, the mother's body seems like a boat that brings life to the world. The beautiful and fantastic bodies of women appeal to both men and women - for beauty, for a mother's love, for sexual pleasure. Most significantly, one can always find a sense of belonging and security in the arms of the women they love.

This exhibition is presented as part of a cultural exchange through the Asia Pacific Photoforum between Auckland and Pingyao. The artist's exclusive NZ presentation is a 3m high mural of individual photographic boats. Born in 1971, Han JIANGANG is a visual art artist based in Xi'an, specializing in photography, installation, oil painting, sculpture, mural, and Chinese ink painting. Photography installation Paramita was displayed in Pingyao International Photography Festival in 2014.



Installation image from Pingyao International Photo Festival 2014

ASIA PACIFIC
PHOTOFORUM



2014 – “Cultural Memory Symposium” including presentation by Qiane Matata-Sipu on Ihumatao Pa in Mangere

Cultural Memory Symposium

Auckland Art Gallery Auditorium • 31 May

Hours 1045am - 4pm
Where Auckland Art Gallery Auditorium, Cnr Kitchener & Wellesley Streets
☎ 09 3077055
🌐 photographyfestival.org.nz

👤 Yes

Artists Qiane Matata-Sipu, Ans Westra, Wayne Quilliam, Chris Rainier

Theme **Talking Culture**

Memory exists as an individual psychological faculty that creates the narrative of our lives and also as a collective culturally constructed phenomenon. Collective cultural memory and knowledge are incorporated into the body and passed on through speech, gesture, action, dance and ritual. Memory is also passed on through inscribed practice which, like photography, is “something that traps and holds information, long after the human organism has stopped performing.”¹. Through photography, the speakers at this year's Symposium are inscribing aspects of the cultural memory of indigenous cultures as well as incorporating technology to represent and share their living memory and knowledge.

11.15am: Ihumatao Pa in Mangere, the the longest continual settlement of Maori in Auckland, can trace its roots back more than 800 years. Over time the iwi has had its lands confiscated, maunga quarried, waterways polluted. Further developments at Auckland International Airport, Watercare's Waste Water treatment plant and the continued industrial sprawl show 'Pa life' is still under threat. Auckland writer and photographer Qiane Matata-Sipu speaks about the importance of storytelling through documentary photography and shares the stories of Ihumatao Pa.



Chris Rainier; Masai Warriors, Kenya

auckland
festival of
photography

AUCKLAND
ART GALLERY
TOI O TAMAKI

2014 – “Annual Commission by Sacred Hill” commissioned photographs by Tanu Gago at Silo6

Annual Commission by Sacred Hill

Silo 6, Silo Park • 29 May - 17 June

Opens 6:00pm on Tuesday 3 June
Hours Daily 1030am - 430pm
Where Silo Park Wynyard Quarter Auckland
☎ 09 3077055
🌐 photographyfestival.org.nz

♿ Yes

Artists Tanu Gago

Theme **Annual Commission**

The Auckland Festival of Photography 2014 features the fourth Annual Commission, this year presented by Sacred Hill. Each year, an Auckland-based photographer is commissioned to create a new body of work for exhibition during the Festival. The commission provides an opportunity to support and promote an Auckland photographer as well as create a cultural and artistic asset for present and future Auckland audiences to enjoy. This year's commissioned artist is Tanu Gago.

Tanu Gago holds a Bachelors degree in Performing and Screen Arts and his practice as a photographer, heavily informed by traditional film making processes, began in 2010. In his photographs, Tanu likes to utilize many of films collaborative aspects to design and articulate his own visual vocabulary. The result is a marriage of narrative structure and commercial aesthetics, delivered within a conceptual framework that looks at his own world and the people that inhabit it. As an Image-maker, Tanu engages directly with the urban social issues related to the modern re- presentation of Pacific representation. He is interested in exploring Pacific identities, experience and space and what these elements may look like and potentially mean to NZ and the rest of the world. Other shortlisted artists this year were Qiane Matata-Sipu and Raymond Sagapolutele.



Peter and William by Tanu Gago

[auckland festival of photography]



2014 – “Melody of Kunqu Opera” photographs by Yang Jianchuan from Pingyao International Photography Festival

Melody of Kunqu Opera

Silo 6, Silo Park • 29 May - 17 June

Hours 1030am - 430pm Daily
Where Silo Park, Wynyard Quarter, Auckland
☎ 09 307 7055
🌐 www.photographyfestival.org.nz

♿ Yes

Artists Yang Jianchuan

Theme **Exhibitions**

With a history of more than 600 years, Kunqu Opera is known as the “mother of Chinese dramas”, and considered an “orchid” in this field. In Chinese culture, “orchid” is recognized as elegant, neat, and clean; together with plum flower, bamboo, and chrysanthemum, they represent Chinese people’s interpretation on the traditional “culture of elegance”. In 2012, Yang Jianchuan’s “Nature of Landscape” won the award for landscape photography in the Pingyao International Photography Festival. This exhibition is presented as part of the cultural exchange in the Asia Pacific Photoforum.



Untitled



[auckland festival of photography]



2014 – “Tatsumi Orimoto” video work by Tatsumi Orimoto at Silo6

2013 “Repsonse Symposium” including presentation by Fofoga Setoga-Tuala on Samoan Tsunami of 2004

Tatsumi Orimoto

Silo 6, Silo Park • 29 May - 17 June

Hours 1030am - 430pm Daily
Where Silo Park, Wynyard Quarter, CBD

☎ 09 307 7055

🌐 www.photographyfestival.org.nz

👤 Yes

Artists Tatsumi Orimoto (Japan)

Theme **Exhibitions**

“Art is not only white space gallery, it is also public places, railways stations and restaurants. It is a very important thing”. So says Japanese performance artist and photographer Tatsumi Orimoto who, in caring for his elderly dependent mother with Alzheimer’s, has made this daily routine a whimsical art experience filled with humour and compassion. As she gradually forgets, Orimoto has remembered her steadfast support for his art from an early age, despite the sometimes cruel discouragement of his father, and includes her in his performances as collaborator and muse. Orimoto has made his caregiver’s life with Mama a playful, creative, sometimes macabre and disturbing experience and his performances make visible not only his boundless love for her but also that which is usually hidden from view.



Art-Mama + Son

Auckland Festival of Photography presents a series of posters and performance video by artist Tatsumi Orimoto. 1 - Beethoven-Mama: Performance 2012, Kawasaki City. Home, Japan (DVD, 16 minutes) 2 - Mozart-Mama. Dinner: Performance 2013, Kawasaki City. Home, Japan (DVD, 60 minutes) 3 - Elvis Presley Changing Diapers: Performance 2013, Kawasaki City. Home, Japan (DVD, 22 minutes). Some content may offend.

2013 “Chen Haiwen: Features of China” photographs selected by Zhang Guotian, Artistic Director of Pingyao International Photography Festival, China at the Aotea Gallery

Chen Haiwen: Features of China

Aotea Gallery - Aotea Centre • 30 May - 7 June

Opens 30th May at 6pm - Opening Function
Hours 10am - 5pm Daily
Where Level 4, Aotea Center Aotea Square Queen Street, Auckland

☎ 09 307 7055

🌐 photographyfestival.org.nz

👤 Yes

Artists Chen Haiwen

Theme **Exhibitions**

Selected by Artistic Director Mr Zhang Guotian of Pingyao International Photography Festival, China.



Auckland Festival of Photography presents Chen Haiwen in partnership with Pingyao International Photography Festival, as part of a cultural exchange between partner Festivals in the Asia Pacific PhotoForum. Chen is a member of Chinese Photographers Association, vice Chairman of Shanghai Photographers Association, executive vice Editor-in-Chief of “Shanghai Photography”. His work will be on show during the Festival as part of the cultural exhibition exchange between Auckland and Pingyao, cementing the cultural ties that exist between China and New Zealand.



Chen Haiwen - Untitled

From 2008-2009, Chen planned and photographed “Features of China’s 56 Ethnic Groups”, and shot 1125 representatives from each group within one year period. In August 2009, the book was first published in Shanghai, and exhibition first presented in Beijing in October. In 2010, the exhibition was brought to 25 major cities worldwide. During the making of the book and exhibition which was to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the People’s Republic of China, over 57,000 photos were taken over a 12 month period across the whole of the country. “Time after time, I was deeply touched when viewing the numerous photos: the Chinese people of 56 ethnic groups all over China, from the lush and vast prairie to the southern frontier, from the snow-covered plateaus to the Tianshan Mountains, from the village field to the coast of rivers and sea...all watch and guard their hometowns, lean or fertile, dry or rainy, and lead a diligent and harmonious life.”

AUCKLAND
FESTIVAL OF
PHOTOGRAPHY

ASIA PACIFIC
PHOTOFORUM

2013 "China" photographs by Paul Batt and Fernando Montiel Klint at Hum Salon

China

Hum Salon • 5 June - 21 June

Opens 5pm on Tuesday 4 June

Hours 7.30am - 6pm Mon-Fri, 10am - 7pm Sat-Sun

Where 123 Grafton Road, Grafton, Auckland

☎ 09 374 4388

🌐 humsalon.co.nz

♿ No

Artists Paul Batt and Fernando Montiel Klint

Theme **Exhibitions**

Two contemporary photographers Paul Batt (Australia) and Fernando Montiel Klint (Mexico) document China at a point of upheaval.



Paul Batt

As an ancient culture becomes an increasingly individualistic society, while making its tentative shift from a communist to the capitalist superpower.

2012 "Annual Fine Arts Commission: Jame K Lowe" photographs commissioned by the Auckland Festival of Photography by Chinese New Zealander James K Lowe at the Aotea Gallery

Annual Fine Arts Commission - James K Lowe

Aotea Gallery • 9 June - 24 June

Opens 6:00 pm on Saturday 9 June

Hours Daily 9am to 5pm

Where Aotea Center Queen Street Auckland Central

☎ 09 307 7055

🌐 www.photographyfestival.org.nz

♿ Yes

Artists James K Lowe

Theme **Annual Commission**

2012 is the second year of the Auckland Festival of Photography's Annual Commission - the sole public commission of photographic art by a fine arts photographer in New Zealand.

The Commission provides an opportunity to support and promote an Auckland photographic talent as well as creating an important cultural and artistic asset for present and future Auckland audiences to enjoy.

This year's commissioned artist is James K Lowe, a 23-year-old graduate from Elam School of Fine Arts. James is relatively new to the art of photography, having begun experimenting while at Elam, but already he demonstrates a sophisticated style and very particular point of view. His meticulous photography is influenced by existentialist philosophy and also heavily informed by film - his images carefully constructed to create a heightened naturalism. His photographs suggest captured moments within a larger narrative, a larger unknown which happens before and after the image. It is the suggestion of this larger unknown which gives his images their depth and resonance-or as he says "like a chip of something bigger..."

"I am a New Zealander whose grandparents were Chinese immigrants. In recent years I've experienced a strong connection with the wider Asian culture that I formerly rejected in my youth. Reading Tze Ming Mok's essay Race You There, about growing up as a foreigner in what was to become a multicultural society, opened up a new dialogue for me within my art and within my own social periphery.....The photographs are set in an in-between state: the situation is in the midst of a greater picture, a snippet of what is to come, and what happened



The Channel by James K Lowe

**SACRED HILL**

Wine supplied by donation

2010 – “Climate Change and Environmental Photography Symposium” including presentation by Jocelyn Carlin on Kiribati and Tuvalu

Talking Culture presents a one-day symposium exploring aspects of photography's representation of the foremost global issue of our time - climate change. National and international photographers display and discuss their work, bearing witness to the current impact of climate change on the environment. Photojournalist Jocelyn Carlin focuses on Pacific Stories from Kiribati and Tuvalu (see separate 'Pacific Stories' listing). Rodney Dekker (Australia) brings to New Zealand for the first time his stunning work around the Australian Droughts, Black Saturday and Bangladesh. Peter Evans discusses his photographic work and essay "Manipulated by the Human Hand". Fine arts photographer Professor Anne Noble ONZM MFA presents her work from Antarctica. Seating is limited and available on a first-come, first served basis.

Programme: 10.30 Introduction by Linda Tyler; 10.45 Jocelyn Carlin; 12.00 Rodney Dekker; 1.30 Peter Evans; 2.45 Professor Anne Noble

Thanks to [New Zealand Geographic](#)

2010 – “Stumps of Silence” photographs by Masaki Hirano at Projectspace, Corbans Art Exhibition Centre

Stumps of Silence: Masaki Hirano

An on-site exhibition by Masaki Hirano of Japan. Most of Tasmania's magnificent temperate old growth forests are being cut down to export raw materials to Japanese paper companies in the name of the tree-planting programme. The local logging monopoly logs old growth forests and replants trees as if this is sustainable and earth-friendly. Japanese citizens, who use all the paper production - mainly as computer paper, are not aware of the fact that they use 90 percent of the wood chips produced in Tasmania. Due to the combination of corporations' continued attitude of profit before principle and ignorance on the part of consumers, Tasmania's old growth forests will be converted into plantations in a few years. On loan from Ballarat FOTO Biennale.

A further exhibition of this work is at Projectspace, Corbans Art Exhibition Centre, Henderson, from Monday 7 June to Sunday 13 June, 10am to 4:30pm daily.

2009 “Lantern” an online public submission exhibition on the theme of the Chinese Lantern Festival, on the Auckland Photo Blog.

Lantern

Auckland PhotoBlog • Now

Hours Ongoing

Where see website

☎ 09 307 7055

🌐 www.photographyfestival.org.nz/photo-blog/2009



Artists Various

Theme **Culture**

An online exhibition of the Chinese New Year celebration, **Lantern** is a showcase of cultural fusion between East and West through the eyes of the public of Auckland. Over 200 photographs on display.



People-I, Malcom McNeill.



< [Back to the programme](#)

2008 “Sushi” a photography project by members of the public on the theme of Japanese sushi, exhibited at the Aotea Gallery

Sushi

Aotea Gallery • 6 June - 27 June

Opens Friday 6 June at 6.30pm

Hours Daily from 9am

Where Aotea Square, Queen Street, Auckland City

☎ 09 309 2677

🌐 www.the-edge.co.nz

👤 yes

Artists Various

Theme **Culture**

In Japanese cuisine, sushi is a food made of vinegared rice, usually topped with other ingredients including fish (cooked or uncooked) and vegetables. The original word in Japanese means 'snack' and refers to the rice, but not fish or other toppings.

In 2007 the Auckland Festival of Photography gave members of the Japanese community involved in making sushi in Auckland's CBD the use of disposable cameras. For the purpose of the project 'sushi' was used to define the entire sushi eating experience, from its preparation and consumption to restaurant life, culture, and practice. It was a project that saw Japanese-made disposable cameras used by Japanese Aucklanders. They capture the sushi-making process, from their perspective and show how their work - delivering sushi to the hungry workers, residents and visitors to the CBD - defines an ancient ritual and cultural tradition that is now an international food icon.

This exhibition presents the best photos taken by workers at several central restaurants and reflects how Japanese traditions have progressed from the use of a samurai sword to a sushi chef's knife.

The exhibition is supported by Creative Communities and the NZ Japan Exchange Programme. Thanks to: Kura, Masato, Ariake, the \$3 Shop, Daikoku, Ichiban, Made in Nippon, Mentatz, Kiraku, The Don, Tanya Romanuk, Izumi, and Alicia Kake.



1. Chef at Kura, Toshiro Kato.
2. Fish for Sale, Toshiro Kato.
3. Sashimiware at \$3 Shop, Queen Street, Unknown.

2007 “Light” a photography project by members of the public on the theme of the Diwali Festival, exhibited at Stanbeth Gallery



Light

Stanbeth Gallery

1 June – 24 June

Hours Tue–Fri 10–5, Sat–Sun 11–5.

Where Ground floor, 24 Custom Street East, Britomart, Auckland City

T 307 7055 • E info.photo.festival@xtra.co.nz

There are over 181 different ethnicities making up 21st century Auckland and one community which is making a growing impression with their contribution to our colourful cultural landscape is the Indian community. One of the most popular festivals on the Indian calendar is Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and increasingly this is becoming one of the most eagerly awaited festivals in Auckland's cultural year.

Traditionally Diwali was a religious festival particular to Hindus, Sikhs and Jains but increasingly Indians of all faiths celebrate Diwali as a national festival, both in India and in Indian communities around the world. Diwali is a time when observers decorate their homes with lights and flowers, give gifts and set off fireworks to celebrate life and hope and the victory of good over evil, light over darkness. Auckland's Diwali revellers of 2006 were encouraged to share their photographs capturing the celebrations at home or at public events such as the Britomart festivities. The result is *Light*, an exhibition comprising the 60 best images from 45 photographers who were selected from the hundreds of public submissions. Just as Diwali celebrates the awakening of our inner spiritual light, *Light* celebrates the capturing of light through the medium of photography.

CULTURE



J. Whoopoo, Meng Cui (Sean)

2006 "Lantern" a photography project by members of the public on the theme of the Chinese lantern festival, exhibited at the Aotea Gallery.



Lantern

Aotea Centre

3 June – 25 June

Open daily from 9am

Aotea Square, Auckland • T 307 2677 • www.the-edge.co.nz

Lantern is a selection of images taken from many perspectives by different photographers to immortalise the celebration of Auckland's burgeoning Asian cultures at this year's three-day Asia NZ Chinese Lantern Festival in Albert Park. Over 100,000 people attended to celebrate the Year of The Dog.



1. Togetherness; 2. Glow; 3. Floating Angels; Mabelle Teh; 4. Free Lotus; John Hardy; 5. Cooling Off Under The Lotuses; Stephanie McNeil.

We would suggest that priority for investment in the ngā toi / arts and culture sector should be in maintaining and developing the region's creative workforce; its artists and performers, core arts organisations and facilities, the emerging arts organisations that support toi Māori, and other arts communities that are currently considered on the margins of the sector. Direct engagement with the arts sector can help the Council to identify the best opportunities for investment to benefit the sector.

- Sector investment priorities need to shift away from central Auckland and pivot towards the wider region, and due to the shift in value that's occurred we think the existing regional arts policy has no merit in it's business case about how to define a regional delivery model.
- It took years after the 2011 creation of the Council to even have a regional policy and therefore there is a lot of over investment in the city centre vs Manukau vs North Shore and Waitakere, Rodney and Franklin. So our recommendation would be the review of the policies which are driving such poor regional reach for the ratepayer.

- Our Festival also suggests a pro rata investment strategy for equity of pay for women in the creative sector, currently there are no measures that allow for gender specific investment or at least weighting towards equal payments for the creative workforce.

Question 1 - Proposed 10-year budget

***Key point:** Collaborate with the region's arts communities to find creative solutions that address financial constraints while strengthening the ngā toi / arts and culture sector of Tāmaki Makaurau*

- The budget is light on detail regarding funding relating to the arts and culture sector. What we would recommend, however, is that;
 - while spending is constrained and changes are made to the facilities, venues, and other Council resources available to the sector, that active, direct and comprehensive engagement with the sector and the various arts communities is pursued to build a strategic approach to meeting the sector's needs. This would
 - ensure a shared understanding of the varied needs of the sector across the diverse arts communities (art form, location, culture) in the region to inform and guide funding and investment decisions
 - create an opportunity for collaboration between Council and the sector to find creative solutions to sector needs
 - maintaining at least current levels of funding for the sector remain a priority until such time as the Council is able to further invest in developing the region's arts and culture infrastructure.
- We support a budget re-work an increase that would secure
 - the proposed additional funding of \$95m for Parks and community
 - **Propose to cut funding Eden Park grass and re-seed (pardon the pun) the \$60 million back into the arts and cultural Covid recovery budgets which benefits more ratepayers.**
 - Our Festival also suggests a pro rata investment strategy for equity of pay for women in the creative sector, currently there are no measures that allow for gender specific investment or at least weighting towards equal payments for the creative workforce
 - The Festival Trust strongly believe the value chain has shifted from a ARAFA and physical property investment strategy to a digital infrastructure value chain in tandem for the Covid 19 recovery. It cannot just be BAU.



Lockdown Blog, April 2020 – Paul Belli, Keep Calm

Question 4 – Community investment

Key point: *Consult with the region’s arts communities to ensure that in reshaping the Council’s portfolio of facilities the ngā toi / arts and culture sector retains affordable access to fit-for-purpose facilities*

- We support Council’s proposal to reduce costs through taking ‘a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.’
- Any changes to venues that are currently used to support arts and culture needs to be done in consultation with the sector – and as noted above, this consultation needs to be ‘active, direct and comprehensive engagement’ appropriate to the various arts communities.
- Venue costs are already a barrier for some smaller arts and culture organisations, particularly those in some of our diverse communities. Cost increases will be unmanageable for many. As the Council looks to greater use of leasing or partnership arrangements, increases in the costs of using community facilities should be avoided.

- The Council's focus, in developing a slimmed down, 'fit for purpose' portfolio of owned and leased facilities, should be on increasing venue access and reducing venue costs for emerging artists, arts companies, cultural organisations from Auckland's diverse communities, and groups who are supporting specific community needs, such as rangatahi arts. Preserving current costs for established artists, arts companies, and cultural organisations as the sector recovers over the coming years from the impacts of COVID-19 is also key
- The Festival fosters the building of community spirit - We partner with Council venues all the time by offering in addition to the exhibitions, the festival also provides the forum for an extensive range of activities that are curated by the Festival's team and aimed to generate dialogue and engagement among all the local communities of photos as well as aficionados of art and culture: seminars, slide shows, live performances and events, and walks
- Council and local boards need to work with the sector to find innovative ways to use community facilities and cost-neutral ways to support the sector such as by providing low-cost spaces for activities like exhibitions. The creativity of the ngā toi / arts and culture sector is an asset the Council and local boards can draw on, both to find sector-specific solutions, and for creative thinking about the wider challenges relating to getting best value for the community from these facilities.



Outdoor exhibition, May/June 2020 – Freyberg Place, CBD – Alert Level 3/2/1

- The potential for artists and creative practitioners to provide wider support to the Council in designing and delivering innovative, strategic, and cost-effective solutions to the unique challenges faced by the region should also be considered. The sector is a rich resource for the Council to draw on.
- It's obvious there is a financial elitism (because they have great funding/security) inherent in the multimillion dollar venues – Art Gallery, Aotea Centre, Town Hall, Waterfront Theatre, Q Theatre. Perhaps as part of the public investment all these public venues should be compelled to providing low-cost or free spaces for activities like key exhibitions, talks, events which are presented by external recognized charities (not commercially driven) and performance rehearsals by other groups in return for their millions invested by public money?
- It's fantastic that Council has recognized – post Covid - that online services to provide for our diverse communities has shifted to a outdoor and digital infrastructure value chain in tandem not necessarily going to be appropriate for physical venue – theatre/studios/ngā toi /arts and culture engagement.
- Auckland Festival of Photography activations provide opportunities for the face-to-face connection within Zoom, as well as outdoors and between communities that support the Council's wellbeing and social cohesion goals.



Photobook Friday 2020, June – Alert Level 2. In person and online.

- Our 2020 combined physical, outdoor and online audience is hovering around 112,000 which potentially makes the best value for the ratepayers of any community arts and cultural charity.
- Our activities compliment what Council does and Auckland Festival of Photography has had a digital Festival engagement since 2010, via these outcomes – our identified audiences Migrants, People with disabilities - deaf, house bound, and Women. Women are a high % users of this Festival and our online resources.
- Rising unemployment makes a FREE Festival likes our even more important to those who find cost a barrier to participation plus we are available for online engagement everywhere via our You Tube
- **Developing visual literacy through photography** - **Visual literacy** is the ability to interpret, negotiate, and make meaning from information presented in the form of an image, extending the meaning of literacy, which commonly signifies interpretation of a written or printed text.

- As society has shifted due to Covid, the Auckland Festival of Photography has proven leadership, agility and resilience and so we argue that the our winter offering has gained more significance for the Council's long term plan. The Festival is now more relevant than ever to Council's community outcomes for value.



Talking Culture, June 2020 - Alert Level 1.

- We understand it also needs to be recognised that not all communities are going to be easily able to access online content however youth audiences are a priority in the Auckland Council's KPI's and they are high % users. Investment in community accessibility to technologies is needed if Council want more demographics to use these options. Equity considerations need to be addressed when exploring options for delivery of online services
- The Festival Trust strongly believe the value chain has shifted to a digital infrastructure value chain in tandem for the Covid 19 recovery.

Question 6 – local boards

Key point: Draw on local knowledge to identify the needs of local arts communities, and to inform a regional approach to developing the ngā toi / arts and culture sector

- We note the inclusion of arts and culture in the priorities set by local boards for 2021/22 and acknowledge the value of having funding decisions made close to communities across the region. We recommend:
 - Council encourage engagement around the Toi Whītiki strategy between local boards, regional arts organisations, and community arts organisations and leaders to build relationships to inform local board decisions, facilitate a regional perspective of activity and funding in the sector, and identify opportunities for partnership between the boards and sector organisations.
 - We would see this extending to closer engagement between Council, CCOs and the sector to build on Toi Whītiki to deliver a cohesive strategy and investment plan for the region.
 - **We would welcome the opportunity to be invited onto any consultancy or advisory panel for the sector.**

Question 7 – What is important to you?

- We support the Council’s statement of commitment to the Māori outcomes outlined in the consultation document, and its commitment to provide funding to support Māori outcomes. We note that support for ngā toi Māori will help the Council meet the identified mana outcomes, in particular Māori Identity and Culture; Whānau and Tamariki Wellbeing; Realising Rangatahi Potential; Te Reo Māori; Kaitiakitanga; and Māori Business Tourism and Employment.

For the Auckland Festival of Photography an inclusive approach to continued annual funding for the Trust in the Council Long Term Plan seems the best way to save the Festival team from the vulnerability it currently faces from the removal of a multi year funding grant in June 2020 due to a pre Covid decision in 2018, that simply can no longer be valid given the millions invested to the wider sector that sit idle or frozen under Alert levels 2,3 and 4.

Conclusion

The ngā toi / arts and culture sector of Tāmaki Makaurau is both an asset for Council to nurture, and a resource for Council to draw on. We ask that Council, local boards, and CCOs:

- work collaboratively with the sector to approach the shared challenge of rebuilding and renewing the sector as a unique regional asset
- draw on the creative capacity of the sector, both to address the needs of the sector, and to address the wider challenges facing the Tāmaki Makaurau as a result of the pandemic

- The Festival Trust strongly believe the value chain has shifted and this must be recognised in tandem with the Covid 19 cultural recovery package.

Ngā mihi nui,

Public Participation Director
Auckland Festival of Photography
ART; CULTURE; EXHIBITIONS PARTICIPATION; EVENTS



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Waikato Regional organisation Council

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why: See attachment for more info

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

NETR - see attachment for more info

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

see attachment for more info

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

File No: 01 12 21A
Document No: 18253055
Enquiries to:



15 March 2021

Chief Executive
Auckland Council
Private Bag 92300
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

Dear Jim

Waikato Regional Council Submission to Auckland Council's 2021-2031 draft Long Term Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the proposed Auckland Council's 2021-2031 draft Long Term Plan. Please find attached the Waikato Regional Council's submission regarding the plan. The submission was formally endorsed by the council's Strategy and Policy Committee on 23 March 2021.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this submission, please contact Anthea Sayer, Senior Corporate Planner, Corporate Planning directly on (07) 859 0512 or by email anthea.sayer@waikatoregion.govt.nz.

Regards,

Chair

Chief Executive

Submission from Waikato Regional Council on the Auckland Council's 2021-2031 draft Long Term Plan**Introduction**

1. We appreciate the opportunity to make a submission on Auckland Council's 2021-2031 draft Long Term Plan.

Inter-regional connections and opportunities for synergies

2. Waikato Regional Council (WRC) would like to thank Auckland Council for the collegial working relationship shared between our two neighbouring councils. Significant growth pressures and a changing climate are necessitating greater inter-regional collaboration in how we allocate our land, water and other resources to optimise the wellbeing of our regions.
3. As we respond to these challenges and changes in resource management legislation and the move towards more integrated regional spatial planning, we look forward to exploring further opportunities for synergies between our organisations.
4. The flow of people and goods between our regions and beyond to the 'golden triangle' means our close cooperation to provide for travel as well as urban growth to meet our cities' demands and those of the upper North Island is important.
5. We look forward to establishing the regular Te Huia Auckland-Hamilton rail service that will enable people to live and work across our regional boundaries. We value the strong and productive relationship that already exists between our regions that has enabled this to become a reality.
6. Your continued support and engagement will be essential to enabling Te Huia to grow in value, better connecting our communities and economies by providing an increasingly attractive and climate friendly travel choice.
7. We strongly support Auckland Council's continued investment in the Auckland rail network to provide additional capacity enabling, better network access for Te Huia and support the ongoing movement of people and freight between our regions.

Climate change

8. WRC supports Auckland Council's Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan and the programme of activities presented in the draft LTP that will lead to lower greenhouse gas emissions.
9. We recognise the value that Auckland Council's membership of the Upper North Island Strategic Alliance (UNISA) of Councils has in the response to common climate change projections. These projections are expected to change the way we access and use freshwater in the future.
10. We are mindful of the need to understand how a changing climate will affect the way we support our regional communities into the future, particularly with the provision of services and the design, construction and operation of infrastructure.
11. We look forward to partnering with Auckland Council in the development of local climate change risk assessments as part of the UNISA relationship.

Extension of the Natural Environment targeted rate and pest management

12. WRC supports Auckland Council's proposal to extend the Natural Environment targeted rate to address the spread of kauri dieback disease and control pests. Additional resourcing in these areas is aligned with the objectives of the national strategy for kauri dieback and the Predator Free 2050 vision, both of which WRC supports.

13. WRC appreciates the close working relationship it has with Auckland Council regarding several high priority cross boundary biosecurity programmes, for example marine biosecurity and kauri dieback. As neighbouring regions, it is vital both councils work together well. We look forward to building and strengthening our relationship focussed on the collaborative work we do together.

Three waters reform

14. WRC recognises the pressures local authorities face in relation to three waters and compliance with all water take, wastewater and stormwater consent obligations. We encourage Auckland Council to invest to ensure full compliance with its Resource Management Act obligations as it relates to three waters infrastructure.
15. We also note that climate change will exacerbate the pressure on water takes from the Waikato River and this should be taken into consideration when planning for future water infrastructure.

Waste management

16. WRC applauds the work Auckland Council does in waste including food waste prevention and diversion from landfill, demonstration of zero waste deconstruction practices and behaviour change projects. Waste puts pressure on the Waikato region as we house landfills and thus the waste from other parts of the country, including from Auckland region.
17. Waste is everyone's problem and we all need to actively participate in transitioning to a circular economy for improved environmental and community benefits. We encourage Auckland Council to work closely with WRC through joint projects, open communication and sharing of research and expertise to support a cross boundary transition to a circular economy.



10-year budget 2021/2031

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Organisation (if applicable): Nga Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

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What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

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What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment for further info

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



19 March 2021

Phil Goff
Mayor
Auckland Council
Albert Street
Auckland

Tena koe e Heamana Phil,

**Re: AUCKLAND COUNCIL 10-YEAR FEEDBACK -
Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust**

We acknowledge, due to the recent events of a global impact, this is effectively a recovery budget. We therefore wish to commend the Council on the review of its operations and finances post pandemic and provide this feedback on Auckland Council's 10-year Budget 2021 – 2031.

For clarity, we will only give comment on areas we consider aligned to our mana whenua wider forward planning. This is due to a plethora of consultation requests from Councils which are additional to our settlement core business. Our comment in this regard reiterates¹ the statement previously made given our resource and capacity for such external² comment.

This document serves as the written submission from Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust. For context, we remind you of the overview of the Ngati Whatua o Kaipara rohe and our organisation being the post-settlement governance entity establishment from statute. As you would appreciate, it also is one of the two co-governance partnering organisations forming Te Poari o Kaipatiki ki Kaipara involved with reserve whenua in Parakai.

Should you have any queries regarding our written submission, please feel free to contact our Te Poari secretariat at email secretariat@kaiparamoana.com or alternatively the below-signed trustee.

¹¹¹ 2018 LTPlan and Auckland Plan presentation and submission to both Auckland Council and Local Boards.

² Central and Local Government and various lead projects and reviews.

Copy to: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz / smay@innov8consulting.co.nz

10-YEAR BUDGET 2021 – 2031 (the Recovery Budget)
Submission to Auckland Council
Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust

19 March 2021

Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust (NMWOKDT) is the post-settlement governance entity for Ngāti Whatua o Kaipara. It is primarily enabled by the Ngāti Whatua o Kaipara Claims Settlement Act 2013. Representing the wider interests of nga Marae of Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara situated at the lower end of Kaipara Moana, the Trust governs the collective assets and interests for the benefit of its registered members from the below-named marae.

Whiti Te Ra - Reweti Marae
Otakanini - Haranui Marae
Te Aroha Pa - Araparera Marae
Te Kia Ora - Kakanui Marae
Puatahi Marae

Ko te pae tawhiti, whaia kia tata. Ko te pae tata, whakarimaua ki tina
Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, we are the future, let's be the change

The above-mentioned reminds us not to be like the waves that crash against the foreshore but like the waves that bring new growth and new life to another generation. This is a responsibility taken seriously. Trustees (past and present) of Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust have partnered with Central and Local government.

Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara whanui are bound together by whanaungatanga and the expression of our common values around te whaia kotahitanga. There is engagement with the wider community, schools, community groups, and organisations operating in our traditional³ rohe all of which our whanau and mokopuna relate to in their normal daily lives.

³ Traditional rohe is wider than the 'area of interest' for the purposes of claim settlement.

ROHE

Location of nga marae e rima with ancestral pathways to the extremes of our rohe traverse both coasts. In saying this, the 'Area of Interest' is not the traditional wider rohe often acknowledging other hapu, iwi whom we acknowledge and work with on joint initiatives, projects covering regional development.



The rohe of Ngati Whatua o Kaipara nga marae e rima and Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust is demonstrated from these two visuals. Marae location and haukainga whanau ara (pathways) between both coasts show the extent of our rohe. In modern day, this blends to the Electoral Commission creating Kaipara ki Mahurangi as the wider electorate proposed by ourselves and our Pouwhenua located at Orewa aside Te Ara Tahuna pathway around the estuary.



Revenue and Financing aligned to proposals for comment:

The premise of the proposal to make identified amendments to the Revenue and Financing Policy (in line with the proposals for the 10-year Budget 2021-2031) are acknowledged. The need to balance rising investment demand with reduced investment capacity needs some bravery to make the call.

WHAKAARO - RESPONSE

	Proposed Amendments (in summary)	Positive	Negative	Other
	Change the matters used to define the general rate Urban Rating Area to include activities that are permitted, controlled, or discretionary for the area in which the land is situated, and the rules to which the land is subject under the Auckland Unitary Plan	yes		
	Change service being funded by the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate to remove reference to ATEED (now part of Auckland Unlimited)	yes		
	Add the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate applicable to Vector Limited only to fund the maintenance of trees near powerlines	Yes		Query
	Add the Rodney Drainage Districts Targeted Rate to fund maintenance of drainage assets in the drainage districts		no	
	Add the Clevedon Wastewater and Water Connection Targeted Rate to fund connection costs to reticulated wastewater and water systems	Yes		
	Updates to reflect our revised timing for fully funding depreciation and clarify the description of the long-term differential strategy.	Yes		
	Fund existing contractual commitments equating to responsible borrowing levels with high future proofing measures.	Yes		

Spending and investment

Key issue 1: Proposed investment package in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031

\$31 billion package of spending and investment that will enable continued delivery of key services and strong investment in new and renewed assets, supported by:

- \$90 million of ongoing savings
- \$70 million asset recycling target for the next 3 years
- increased council borrowing in the short term
- a one-off 5 per cent increase in average general rates.

WHAKAARO - RESPONSE

	Proposed Amendments (in summary)	Positive	Negative	Other
	A constrained programme is supported in all areas with preferred increased council short to medium term borrowing with exception of below mentioned.	yes		
	A one-off increase in average general rates less than 5 per cent (2.5 - 3 per cent maximum) .	yes		new
	Three Waters Stormwater to continue delivering on committed capital works while deferring new developments in stressed infrastructure areas (equating to reduced support to growth enabling infrastructure).	Yes		aligned
	Water and Wastewater identification of growth projects be deferred for a minimum of one year or more.	yes		aligned
	Repairing assets with identified high risk projections.	Yes		aligned
	While stating that Māori and Pasifika are disproportionately impacted, accelerate the change approach (asset-based and service delivery) to actively work with organisations in the short-medium term. Services can then be adapted to prioritise those of greatest need and create opportunities for innovation.	Yes		new

Climate action

Key issue 2: Urupare ki te huringa āhuarangi

Responding to Climate Change and introducing new climate action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impact of climate change in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031.

- ✓ Supported as a premise however requires a more details 'reality' check brand. Refer to the Mana Whenua Kaitiaki Forum assessment and mitigation document.
- ✓ Establishing a nursery to grow 200,000 seedlings a year to planting an additional 200 ha of native forest by partnering with hapu, iwi nursery operations.
- ✓ Partnering with others regionally to tackle our biggest emission challenges and supporting Māori-led climate change action.

Infrastructure to support growth

Key issue 3: Urupare ki ngā take kāinga noho me te tupuranga
Infrastructure provisions to support population growth.

- ✓ Post pandemic population growth figures need to be realistic to fund the services as required. This will require a cap on population growth in terms of immigration influx from ex-pat returning home and/or people choosing to live in Aotearoa due to adverse pandemic impacts overseas.
- ✓ Priority should be given to areas with stressed infrastructure assets where adverse environmental impacts are documented but minimal or short-term mitigation was completed. Rural areas have been disproportionately marginalised in this regard.
- ✓ All other priority points are agreed with.

Community Services

Key issue 4: Te whai haumi i tō tātou hapori:
Community Assets and Services

- ✓ Being innovative in a post pandemic environment to maintain and provide community services requires some bravery to engage on the options.
- ✓ The question of *“Should we move to a new way of providing community services that is less reliant on our assets?”* can be tempered with, *“When will Councils consider co-partnering with iwi Maori in providing community services through building community assets and delivering services through those co-governed assets?”*.
- ✓ Recommend adopting an approach of co-providing with iwi, hapu tribal entities who are aware of being ‘out-populated’ due to the push for population growth to Auckland. The ethnic diversity is a richness that is celebrated in events only. Post-pandemic economic recovery needs to be innovative and brave to maintain the large network of community facilities requiring varying levels of renewal.
- ✓ Taking this approach allows for Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnerships in co-governed to be realised with values of manaakitanga to those living in traditional tribal areas. Between Ngati Whatua, rural and urban, tribally there is a combined history of this ideology and events are well documented to this effect forming Tamaki Makaurau traversing both coasts. For ease of understanding, this is an extension to the manaaki given to those visiting, residing and/or departing life within our rohe.

Environmental protection

Key issue 5: Te tiaki me te whakapai ake i te taiao:
Protecting and enhancing the environment

The current commitment to improve water quality in its various forms is vital to human life and human activity, social cohesion.

- ✓ We consider a priority is the contribution to the clean-up of the Kaipara Moana. The degradation of the Kaipara Moana is well documented. It did not get into this condition in any one 10-year long term plan duration but several decades.
- ✓ Subsequent planning regimes of infrastructure end pipes positioned at beaches for the purpose of storm and wastewater overflows into harbours and streams has attributed to this problem. Mitigation works where identified as priority should continue thus allowing current gains and achievements.
- ✓ Funding of current and additional litter trap projects to improve freshwater and coastal water quality through contaminant removal across the entire region should continue. It is short-sightedness to cease this activity given the minimal impact on the debt-to-revenue ratio identified.



19 March 2021

Phelan Pirrie

Chairperson, Rodney Local Board

Auckland Council

50 Centreway Road

Orewa

E: phelan.pirrie@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Tena koe e Heamana Phelan,

**Re: AUCKLAND COUNCIL 10-YEAR BUDGET FEEDBACK
Submission to the Rodney Local Board**

In response to our reading of your above-mentioned document, we provide feedback on Auckland Council's 10-year Budget 2021 – 2031. We acknowledge, due to the recent events of a global impact, this is effectively a recovery budget.

This document serves as the written submission from Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust. For context, we remind you of the overview of the Ngati Whatua o Kaipara rohe and our organisation being the post-settlement governance entity establishment from statute. As a member you would appreciate, it also is one of the two co-governance partnering organisations forming Te Poari o Kaipatiki ki Kaipara involved with reserve whenua in Parakai. We are also engaging with the current review of the Auckland Regional Parks Management.

For ease of reference, we have referred to sections of interest also indicating some follow-up with Auckland Council. Should you have any queries regarding our written submission, please feel free to contact us via our Te Poari (Board) secretariat at email secretariat@kaiparamoana.com.

Copy to:

akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

smay@innov8consulting.co.nz



10-YEAR BUDGET 2021 – 2031 (the Recovery Budget)
Submission to the Rodney Local Board –

19 March 2021

Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara Development Trust (NMWOKDT) is the post-settlement governance entity for Ngāti Whatua o Kaipara. It is primarily enabled by the Ngāti Whatua o Kaipara Claims Settlement Act 2013. Representing the wider interests of nga Marae of Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara situated at the lower end of Kaipara Moana, the Trust governs the collective assets and interests for the benefit of its registered members from the below-named marae.

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 Te Kia Ora - Kakanui Marae
 Puatahi Marae

The Trust has a three-layer subsidiary structure. There are two main subsidiaries that have appointed whanau trustees and directors working alongside independent directors. Like other organisations and enabling documents, DT representative subsidiary trustees and directors are appointed from Te Poari Board trustees elected from nga marae e rima registered members. Changes are made upon term review.

Ko te pae tawhiti, whaia kia tata. Ko te pae tata, whakarimaua ki tina
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community groups, and organisations operating in our traditional¹ rohe all of which our whanau and mokopuna relate to in their normal daily lives.

ROHE - AREA

Location of nga marae e rima with ancestral pathways to the extremes of our rohe traverse both coasts. In saying this, the 'Area of Interest' is not the traditional wider rohe often acknowledging other hapu, iwi whom we acknowledge and work with on joint initiatives and projects covering regional development.



The rohe of Ngāti Whatua o Kaipara is demonstrated from these two visuals. Nga marae e rima location and whanui ara (pathways) with the public space areas between both coasts show the extent of our rohe. This was further acknowledged with the establishment of the new wider electorate 'Kaipara ki Mahurangi' as the wider electorate.



¹ Traditional rohe is wider than the 'area of interest'



WHAKAARO - RESPONSE

	Proposal (in summary)	Positive	Negative	Other
	Proposed Priorities for the Local Board area EY2021/2022 generally supported for progress and/or service delivery	yes		
	Consider sporting recreation facilities are important to cater for improved health, social cohesion. Our support is continued for the Kumeu Huapai indoor courts facility to a regional and national sporting level.	yes		
	Villages and town centre improvement should continue to completion ensuring public transport services are well incorporated in addition to local movement capacity.	yes		Follow Up
	Returning the usage of original place names. Work with the Local Board commenced to return Te Awaroa to replace Helensville so named. Documentation of process to make the change can be made available.	yes		Follow Up
	The focus on improving water quality of all waterways needs priority.	yes		Follow Up
	Improving local biodiversity and te tari taiao natural environment by eradicating pest animals, plants, and diseases by participating and/or leading restoration remediation work in all feeding streams to Kaipara Moana.	yes		Follow Up
	Supporting the community resource recovery and recycling centres to minimise waste, turn waste into resources and to promote education on waste reduction	yes		
	Progressing the outcomes identified in the Green Road master plan		no	
	Progress all plans for refurbishment construction of Kumeu library, Wellsford toilets and Mahurangi community centre	yes		Follow Up

PROPOSAL - KEY ADVOCACY INITIATIVES 2021/2022	Tautoko
<i>Advocate for funding to continue progressing the delivery of the Kumeū-Huapai indoor courts facility, Rodney's one local initiative (OLI)</i>	✓ Yes
<i>Advocate for enough funding for Auckland Transport to renew and maintain 12 per cent of Auckland's roading network each year to ensure safe, well-maintained roads.</i>	✓ Yes
<i>Advocate for \$121 million in funding for Auckland Transport's Unsealed Roads Improvement Programme to improve unsealed roads through strengthening and other methods.</i>	✓ Yes
<i>Aligned to unsealed roads (road policing also applicable) advocate to central government to review outdated statute allowing vehicles on recreational</i>	✓ Yes



KAIPARA

beaches due to the contaminants in the receiving environment (water quality and sands).





Appendix 1 – Actions We Would Like Followed Up

No.	Follow-up Action (<i>italics</i>)
1	<p>Villages and town centre improvement should continue to completion ensuring public transport services are well incorporated in addition to local movement capacity.</p> <p><i>Te Awaroa, Kumeu and Huapai should have the rail infrastructure option reviewed for a re-establishment of the service. This should be advocated by Rodney Local Board in lieu of any financial changes to the roading infrastructure.</i></p>
2	<p>Returning the usage of original place names. Work with the Local Board commenced to return Te Awaroa to replace Helensville so named. Documentation of process to make the change can be made available.</p> <p><i>A meeting with planners to review the process for commencement within the next 6 months is requested.</i></p>
3	<p>The focus on improving water quality of all waterways needs priority.</p> <p><i>Advocating improved infrastructure of wastewater in rural areas to ensure that there are no overflows in adverse weather events.</i></p>
4	<p>Improving local biodiversity and te tari Taiao natural environment by eradicating pest animals, plants, and diseases by participating and/or leading restoration remediation work in all feeding streams to Kaipara Moana.</p> <p><i>Supportive of biocontrol management of self-sustainability.</i></p>
5	<p>Progress all plans for refurbishment construction of Kumeu library, Wellsford toilets and Mahurangi community centre.</p> <p><i>Wellsford toilets should have priority over Kumeu and Mahurangi. The Wellsford toilets are at a high-user, high-traffic location.</i></p>