
Local Board Plan 2023

Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

WRITTEN FEEDBACK

Date published: Friday, 01 September 2023



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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.

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

I would like to see more pedestrian infrastructure support, walkways between MG and pah beach

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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Port Fitzroy Holdings Ltd

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

I think key areas are broadly covered in the plan, but it's kind of a 'carry on' approach which could be a reflection of the current financial constraints.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

I don't know

Tell us why

I'd like to see more support for alternative energy solutions.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Everything is outlined in collaboration between community and mana whenua.

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

I think things are on track, but with the aging population some things may need to be 'fast tracked'.

Our Environment

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

I have concerns about reaching the zero waste target-not through lack of trying but lack of options due to the way products are packaged. Another hurdle is the online shopping and the packaging involved in getting things here. I'd also like to see reticulated alternative power sources and less generator power.

Our Places

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why**7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**

I'd like to be able to access a database of some description where people can post information about ways they've found of reducing packaging and waste. For example, maybe a local business owner has found an alternative plastic drink bottles. It would be great to have a place to both post and look for answers.



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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

No, mostly disagree

Tell us why

What percentage of the island is Māori - when you speak of tangatawhenua- what of those who have built this island to what it is those to whom this term does not cover. It is disrespectful

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

No

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

No

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

No

Tell us why

Our Places

- 6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

No

Tell us why

If you don't live on million mile then your roads are not maintained you have part of the island with roads in total disrepair for ongoing periods and have taken no Action

- 7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, strongly agree

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

perhaps more emphasis on this , ie pest removal via a 1080 drop likely to be more carbon and long term efficient, and successful.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

I don't know

Tell us why

Our People

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

I don't know

Tell us why

I am unsure how mana whenua aspirations differ from the rate payers aspirations?

Our Environment

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Food security seems more about people than the environment, i believe the environment needs to be prioritised over people. Both marine and land.

Our Places

- 6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

- 7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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ZARA \DESIGN \ FINE ART . CO .NZ

LOCAL BOARD: Devonport-Takapuna

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, strongly agree

Tell us why

Yes you have included all essentials and provided auckland with compost bins keep up the great work

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

No

Tell us why

Our Places

- 6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

- 7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

Great plan for Great Barrier



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

Seems innovative.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

You seem to really care.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Very good trying to correct the wrongs of the past.

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

You do seem to genuinely care.

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Yep! Definitely implementing measures that will have success.

Our Places

- 6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Very progressive and out of the box thinking.

- 7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

Keep it up!



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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

It addresses our challenges with transport monopolies and poor infrastructure especially in the northern wharf area and our reliance on marine transport but no infrastructure for cleaning or maintenance.

It recognizes our unique isolated and vulnerable nature.

Perhaps with DOC administering 60% of the whenua they should be required to send their kaiwhakahaere to all local board meetings for at least some of the time so their tautoko is real.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

Resilience and emergency response are good things to develop. In a social environment that is economically challenged there needs to be support and flexibility. Not a super city one size fits all approach.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

If you listen to Maori they will best know their needs and aspirations. Make sure they are true ahi kaa not just people who whakapapa here but have no intention of living here.

Two errors in the draft plan should really have proof read and need correction. It is disrespectful to miss spell wahi.

Te Moananui o Toi Te Huatahi is a place name and deserves capitals for the name in the mihi.

Rangiwhakaea is the name of the north eastern whanga misspelt on the map.

Our People

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Plan seems good but some checking should be required for community group committee members so no bankrupts or criminals are allowed to slip through we have too many incidences of dodgy financial behaviour because of a lack of checks.

Our Environment

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

As above DOC must be at the planning table and needs to be forced if needed to tautoko.

Our Places

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our lifelines need support from council and only council can put in operational conditions that make Sealink behave with integrity n.b. Fullers boom and bust withdrawal in the past and their Waiheke operations.

We are part of Auckland too.

7. **Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**

Well done but please note the spelling errors they are unacceptable.



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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

There are lots of good points in the plan.

Infrastructure on the island is going backward which has detrimental affects with all this rain. Also there have been issues with parking around Stonewall Store for at least 5 years, roads are slipping because of lack of maintenance. Please advocate with AT.

Please help to improve standard of living for all, and support all businesses not just those involved in conservation.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

Good initiatives. Please make sure public transport comes to fruition by talking to the most likely candidates to pull this off. Also, charging capacity for ebikes at all wharfs, and perhaps one in Awana, please. Doubles will probably do.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

It seems there is solid follow through on this.

Our People

- 4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

No

Tell us why

All of our businesses needs to be supported, not just the ones that are conservation focused. Other (small) business and especially start ups need support, too. I've seen a few that have folded almost as soon as they had started. Proper support in the (pre

Our Environment

- 5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

This area has been very well covered over the years. Please continue to ensure that where input is requested, this input is also used and is not just a token. Ensuring a long term and local marine protection plan should have a large focus this term.

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

The lack of availability of housing is so disheartening. Can Local Board advocate for subdivision as well as social housing asap? This seems to have been on the agenda for a long time, but nothing has been achieved.

Can our Local Board support a partnership with our airline(s) and Sealink to ensure ALL locals who live and work on island are entitled to concession rates. Currently this is reserved to people who can afford to buy concession tickets, increasing the wealth gap. A business hub could support this, too.

Please advocate for better parking facilities around Stonewall Store. The number of cars has increased in the last 10 years. Something has to happen to be done about this unsafe parking situation before someone gets run over. It's been a mess for at least 5 years.

Advocate for maintenance of roads and culverts with AT. This is something that can be done right now! Cleaning of drains and culverts, especially around fragile coastal areas that are prone to slips (Puriri Bay and Shoal Bay Roads) would prevent road to become sodden (and has done this in the past. Why did this stop?) and be eroded on spring storm tides.

Prepare for the Tryphena coastal roads to become impassable by preparing alternative routes (hopefully to be covered by Shoreline Adaptation Plan) that can at least be accessed by quad in emergencies.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

I would like to thank our Local Board members for their service to us islanders. I was not able to come to any meetings and the online link for input before the draft plan didn't work for me. Also, consultation was at a busy time of the year.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

No, strongly disagree

Tell us why

The preventative maintenance of our roads are a disgrace, the roadside mowing is clogging the drainage and small trees pushing the curbs away from the asphalt are further turning a small maintenance task into a full scale repair, weed control is non existent, are there standards contractors are obligated to meet? To see and read about gross mismanagement of ratepayers money country wide while having words like sustainable and independent is truly insulting

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

No

Tell us why

What are our climate change goals? Trading emissions and carbon taxes recalculated every 6 months to make the books look good?

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

I don't know

Tell us why

There's no long term commitment, a 5/10 year funding plan for AFSG or training to maintain the investments sounds more "resilient " support around trust legal obligations would go a long way too...

Our People

- 4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

No

Tell us why

Define "future", wondering every 3 years if your community group is to receive a token handout to purchase one off improvements isn't exactly securing our future is it? A 20-30 year plan is the "future"

Our Environment

- 5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

No

Tell us why

What are you doing to achieve these goals? No really, what are you doing to achieve these goals?

Our Places

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Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

No

Tell us why

Barrier air is the one reliable service, Tryphena is a good wharf, affordable and sustainable housing??? How about concentrating on the road issue eh?

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

I'm struggling to find something positive to say, 40 years on this island and for a bit of asphalt poorly maintained I would gladly swap to have back gala days and secure jobs and the freedom to be human again, how many young people were killing themselves back then? We're not unique anymore, we're not even that proud really, and to read condescending catch phrases hidden in language like resilient and sustainable and zero waste is down right insulting! Can we have someone from the Barrier interpret this hollow pile of untrustworthy words into something we can understand?



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

I feel we need to be more decisive about some of the critical actions needing to be taken - it's been hard to align definitive action with being collaborative as some areas comprise groups of people with widely differing views; but where we can and there is overwhelming need for action, majority agreement, and urgency we need to crack on. An example would be the caulerpa inertia from relevant bodies. For more see environment/climate change

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

But there is not enough acknowledgment of 1. the critical role of wetlands in climate change mitigation and as potent carbon sinks, biodiversity hotspots, and in water purity and flooding management. 2. The need for planting and bush regeneration

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why**Our People**

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

I would like to see acknowledgment of the older people on the island. It's a tough place to grow old, and while social networks are good for most, planning and advocacy needs to address issues of care, safety, communications, food resilience, and reduced

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

This is where I have the major disappointments with the 3 year plan, though there are many fine and important points which I endorse.

1. We keep dancing round the issue of feral pigs, or pigs in general, seemingly unable to grasp the nettle here. In no other local board of Auckland would it be tolerated to have animals trampling through our precious whenua, both private (with our vital food resilience gardens smashed up) and public, where we have areas like wetlands and dunes with iconic and rare species (plants and fauna) being destroyed on a daily basis. It seems like there is no help and no action, when our normal 8 wire 3 barb fences cannot keep out animals that are REQUIRED to be contained, if being used as stock/food/pets; or in places like the beach, dunes, and bush that cannot be fenced.

From the Auckland Council 2020-2030 pest management plan: 7.1.2.4

" A feral pig includes any pig that is not:

- * a) held behind effective fences or otherwise constrained; and
- * b) identified by ear tag

Principal measures of achievement:

Service delivery (control)

Manage the pest animal in and around biodiversity focus areas within the Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area to levels that enhance ecosystem function and resilience, and protect the values of the Hauraki Gulf Controlled Area.

All persons in possession of pigs to comply with directions from Auckland Council biosecurity regarding adequate containment of pigs to prevent release from captivity, and ear tagging for identification."

This is not being done.

These pigs are not just destroying our precious environment, they've become a focus of disharmony in the community. People feel helpless about protecting their land and saddened to see DOC and public land laid waste as well

A final point about pigs is that we all agree we want to improve our wai - but the pigs are at the head of rivers and have infected our stream (probably among many) with yersinia, causing significant health concerns.

2. As above (under climate change) I would like to see the critical role of wetlands affirmed and supported. An example is Council following through on the contractors who maintain the reserves and land round council - an example is several hundred m2 of tecomaria weed from the east side of Oruawharo wetland now pouring down the slope into the wetland and making the area unable to be planted in natives.

3. There are always big delays getting signs at beach entries and dunes about birds, dogs, and maybe innovative ways to restrict access in breeding seasons. In the

Netherlands, for instance, they have a tall pole at intervals along the beach which is where it is OK to go through the dunes.

4. It would be great to have regular blitzes on the Mexican Devil Weed and pampas bordering the wetlands. A few pampas grasses next to the wetlands can reseed many hectares from which we volunteers painstakingly pull out seedlings.

5. It might be useful for council to liaise with the Animal Control team about how enforcement of the new RMA rules about stock might come about. Clean water IS critically important for health and the environment - and stock in waterways is incompatible with this. That's going to be tricky but some leadership needs to be shown by council

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

1. Funding may be problematic but we must try for more footpaths like the ones at Tryphena - the Medlands walking group has to drive over the hill to walk from the Tryphena Hall to the wharf and back in muddy slippery weather when off road walks are impassable. Claris has its walkway from cafe to airport and Ocean View Rd. How about having a footpath on the main road over the causeway from the quarry through to the Lane at Medlands, where trucks thunder past and getting off the main road involves close encounters with raupo. And then ideally getting a path on some of the road up and down the Medlands to Tryphena hill would be great. That's a terrific walk to get up to the tracks like Signal Hill but it means taking your life in your hands on blind corners.

2. Connectivity is a real issue for so many of us, specially with the landlines becoming so unreliable that we have given up on them and use VOIP. I know you won't get cellphone coverage to everyone but it should be reliable in places with clusters of houses or big holiday influxes. It would be a sad thing to have to move off an island where friendships and medical relationships have been made over decades simply because you cannot have something like an emergency personal alarm, or call the medical centre/ambulance. (For instance, 600 metres from the main road up Mason Road we have no reception, and in the recent sand dune tragedy ,cellphone coverage was unhelpfully patchy on our busiest beach). Thanks for having this on your advocacy ideas.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

I recognise and salute your hard work coming up with this terrific plan for our precious motu. Great work team!



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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Aotea/Great Barrier Environmental Trust

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

No, mostly disagree

Tell us why

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

But please see comments under question 6

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why**Our People**

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why**Our Environment**

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

The overall approach in the plan to the importance of the environment is fully supported and much appreciated, noting the importance of nurturing and restoring our precious and unique ecosystems both on land and at sea. Aotea's reputation as a visitor destination is increasingly dependent on its credentials as an eco-destination. One of our Dark Sky presenters this week hosted a family who had flown from USA to Auckland and then directly to Aotea for a Dark Sky event - their first tourist stop in this country. Obviously the issue of monitoring and potentially controlling visitor numbers will

eventually become important to preserve the quality of the visitor experience, and the island's ecosystems themselves.

Pest management is a critical component of biodiversity preservation. While acknowledging the imperative to take a collaborative approach to pest management, it is also important for governing bodies such as Council and the local Board to provide leadership to help the community navigate through difficult and polarised issues such as rat eradication, cat and dog control, and feral pig control. These issues can't be avoided because they are "too difficult" - the consequences of neglect are severe and unacceptable.

Beach signage relating to off-leash dog exercise needs to be obvious, clear and unambiguous, and backed up with enforcement from animal control.

Aggressive management of new pest incursions is critical. The Caulerpa incursion is an example of an inadequate initial response to a new biodiversity threat. We need to do better with that particular issue, and any newly identified threats. Resources to manage invasive plant species must be allocated to avoid losing ground which has already been gained

Everything possible should be done to support and nurture the major environmental projects which are led by mana whenua, especially Tu Mai Taonga. These are significant initiatives which provide employment, harness community aspirations, and promote self-esteem and confidence (apart from their potentially significant environmental gains). Auckland Council needs to support and resource marine protection and restoration through Ahu Moana or other measures lead by mana whenua and supported by the community.

Similarly, the different conservation groups on the island are gathering momentum and achieving real gains, both in terms of conservation outputs, and by developing community spirit and harnessing the power of collective action. These achievements have come through local Board support and significant volunteer input, motivated by the enthusiasm of those leading the initiatives. The wetland restoration at Oruawharo/Medlands is a prime example. The local Board has been very supportive of these initiatives to date and It's vital to ensure that the gains resulting from this investment are embedded, together with the accompanying community knowledge and

involvement. Community awareness and understanding of local biodiversity issues, threats, and opportunities has been enhanced through activity of these groups. Examples include a better understanding and appreciation of pāteke (brown teal), chevron skink, and takoketai (black petrel). Knowledge of the role of wetlands in carbon sequestration (in addition to being a habitat for critically endangered species) has been gained.

Given the extent of Department of Conservation management of Aotea/Great Barrier land we believe that it is important for Council and the local Board to be working closely with DOC to leverage their resources for managing the issues of biosecurity on land and sea, pest management/eradication, and visitor numbers.

Climate change is correctly identified as an issue of critical importance, and the initiatives to address it are supported. However, it should also be noted that carbon sequestration in wetlands is significant and long lasting , and efforts to restore and preserve the significant areas of wetland on the island should be enhanced and supported. A brief document recently prepared by John Ogden summarising the science relating to carbon sequestration in the Oruawharo wetland is attached to this submission.

Tree planting, particularly long-lived native plant species, is also of major importance for carbon storage and landscape stabilisation. Council support for riparian planting is applauded but the planting needs to be everywhere.

Water quality is indeed an issue of great importance. It should be noted that the extensive numbers of wide-ranging feral pigs in our bush and waterways are a significant risk to water quality and human health. The new stock exclusion regulations of the RMA apply to significant areas of Aotea, with enforcement deadlines approaching. The stock exclusion factsheet from MPI/Ministry for the Environment is appended to refresh memories of the requirements here. Animal control staff need to be aware of these requirements and encouraged to enforce them.

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

7. **Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**

I am unable to upload 2 files so I have combined both files in the same document

CARBON SEQUESTRATION AND THE ORUAWHARO WETLAND

Trees are able to sequester carbon in their annual wood growth. This carbon is removed from the atmosphere (as CO²) and is not returned until the wood is decomposed by microorganisms. With long-lived trees, and especially species resistant to fungal attack in soil (e.g. Puriri) this can take centuries. Wood buried in swamps (e.g. swamp kauri) can remove carbon for millenia.

Swamps trap CO₂ in organic sediments at least as well as a tree cover and probably better. Hence maintaining a healthy swamp is a contribution to carbon sequestration. Planting trees on the drier areas, where less carbon is stored in soil, is also a contribution to this type of sequestration. Longer lived trees are preferable to shorter lived - so manuka is not high on the list but can be used as a nurse crop to suppress kikuyu and facilitate the establishment and growth of longer lived tree species - such as kahikatea, puriri, pohutukawa etc

Swamp systems are also very effective in long-term carbon sequestration because the swamp vegetation (composed predominantly of carbon) becomes buried by subsequent dead material, and the wet environment becomes anaerobic so that decomposition (release of CO²) reduces or stops. Consequently, as with tree growth, some proportion of the annual biomass produced becomes fixed underground as peat. This process can remove CO₂ from atmospheric circulation for centuries or millennia. *Baumea* (now *Machaerina*) in the swamp is important as the genus is a big carbon trapper because its underground parts (rhizomes) are very slow to decompose in anaerobic environments.

No comprehensive study of carbon sequestration in forest or swamps systems has been made on Great Barrier Island . However, some preliminary data summarised in Table 1 below clearly indicate the high potential for CO² sequestration by *Baumea* (*Machaerina*) reeds on the Island. In some circumstances over 70% of the annual productivity of *Baumea* (*Machaerina*) *juncea* can be trapped in the peat. This appears to be greater than sequestration by kanuka (*Kunzea ericoides*) trees. It is much more than the carbon sequestered by the more productive Raupo (*Typha orientalis*). Raupo is currently dominant in the wetland, but *Baumea articulata* is also present in abundance and as this is a more robust species than *Baumea juncea*, it may be even more effective in biomass sequestration than that species.

In a preliminary survey of the vegetation cover of the southern portion of the wetland in 2020, the vegetation fell clearly into areas dominated by Raupo and areas dominated by *Baumea* in roughly equal proportions (Preliminary Survey of the Biota and Stratigraphy of the Department of Conservation Wetland at Medlands, Great

Barrier Island. Oruawhoro Medlands Ecovision Group February 2020). Since then, perhaps due to the wetter years, the area of Raupo has increased, but *Baumea* remains frequent close to the main ponds. Another observation made in the 2020 report is that the soils below c. 10cm (down to the Kaharoa tephra deposit) are black, suggesting that much carbon is present, but the surface 10cm is grey, implying loss of carbon following drainage last century. These observations indicate that the wetland area has sequestered carbon for at least the last 700 years (since the Kaharoa eruption) but may no longer be doing so to the same extent due to drainage. Restoration for carbon sequestration should aim at restoring the original vegetation with a higher proportion of *Baumea* and other species capable of restoring soil carbon reserves.

Table 1. Relative C-sequestration by the key wetland species in the Oruawhoro Reporepo. The Kanuka data relate to 70 year old trees in the Port Fitzroy area.

| SPECIES | PRODUCTIVITY CO ₂ eq. mt / ha / yr | SEQUESTRATION CO ₂ eq. mt / ha / yr | LONGEVITY Years |
|---------------|--|---|--------------------|
| RAUPO | 55 | 3.5 | peat 10s |
| Baumea | 26 | 18 | peat 1000s |
| KANUKA 70 | not known | 15 max | wood 100s |

Raupo & *Baumea* data calculated from: Pegman & Ogden 2006. NZ Jl. Bot. 44: 261-271.
 Kanuka data derived from: Lyttle 1953. DOC Port Fitzroy.

Essential Freshwater

Stock exclusion factsheet

December 2022

Essential Freshwater is part of a national direction to protect and improve our rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands.

The Essential Freshwater package aims to:

- stop further degradation of our freshwater
- start making immediate improvements so water quality improves within five years
- reverse past damage to bring our waterways and ecosystems to a healthy state within a generation.

Te Mana o te Wai is fundamental to all freshwater management

Te Mana o te Wai recognises the vital importance of water. It expresses the special connection that New Zealanders have with freshwater. By protecting the health of freshwater, we protect the health and wellbeing of people and our ecosystems.

When managing freshwater, Te Mana o te Wai ensures the health and wellbeing of the water is protected and human needs are provided for before enabling other uses of water.

Through discussions with regional councils, tangata whenua and communities will have a say on how Te Mana o te Wai is applied in freshwater management locally. More information can be found in the [Te Mana o te Wai factsheet](#).

Who should read this factsheet

This factsheet is part of a [series](#) and provides information on the regulations for stock exclusion. It is primarily intended for council staff and land users, but may also be of interest to iwi, the wider agricultural industry, farm advisors and consultants, and anyone else with an interest in freshwater policy.

What are the regulations?

Regulations have been issued under section 360 of the RMA to exclude certain types of stock from waterways. For any pastoral system already in place as at 3 September 2020, the provisions take effect at varying dates depending on the stock type and situation (see below). For any new pastoral system established on or after 3 September 2020, the provisions take effect immediately.

Councils may adopt more stringent stock exclusion requirements in their regional plans and any existing rules that are more stringent continue to apply.

Who must comply?

The regulations apply to any person that owns or controls deer, pigs, dairy-support cattle, dairy cattle and beef cattle. Sheep are not subject to the requirements.

What must livestock be excluded from?

The regulations apply to any lake (as defined in the RMA), natural wetland (as defined in the regulations), and any river that is wider than 1 metre anywhere in the land parcel (measured as the bed width bank-to-bank).

Dairy, dairy-support and beef cattle and pigs must not cross lakes and rivers more than twice per month unless they cross by way of a dedicated culvert or bridge. If they are not crossing on a dedicated bridge or culvert, they must be driven across and supervised when crossing. Where the river has a highly mobile bed, and the stock need to cross the river more than twice per month, the stock do not have to cross with a dedicated bridge or culvert, but they still must be supervised and driven across.

How must livestock be excluded?

For all dairy, dairy-support and beef cattle, pigs, and deer there must be a minimum setback of 3 metres from the bed of a lake or river. Stock can enter the 3-metre setback area only when crossing the river or lake.

However, the regulations provide for an exception where an existing 'permanent fence'¹ or existing riparian planting already effectively excludes stock. These existing permanent fences established as at 3 September 2020 do not have to be moved.

Where do the regulations not apply?

- To smaller streams (where the bed of the stream does not reach 1 metre wide at any point in the land parcel measured as the bed width bank-to-bank), drains, water races, irrigation canals or other artificial watercourses, and ephemeral flows.²
- To stock that are not cattle, pigs or deer, eg, sheep.

¹ 'Permanent fence' means a post-and-batten fence with driven or dug fence posts, or an electric fence with at least two electrified wires and driven or dug fence posts, or a deer fence.

² Ephemeral flows are temporary flows that exist briefly and immediately only after a period of rainfall or snow melt.

- To beef and deer on land that is not low slope (as mapped and published on the [Ministry for the Environment website](#)) and are not break feeding, or feeding on annual forage crops or irrigated pasture.
- To wetlands less than 500m² unless the wetland is identified in a regional plan as having threatened species, or was listed in a regional plan, district plan, or regional policy statement that was operative as at 3 September 2020.
- To wetlands on land that is not low slope (as mapped) unless the wetland is identified in a regional plan as having threatened species, or was listed in a regional plan, district plan, or regional policy statement that was operative as at 3 September 2020.
- Nothing in the regulations requires the erection of fencing specifically, or any other particular method, as a mandatory method of excluding stock. Any method that effectively excludes stock from the lake, river, or natural wetland and relevant setback is sufficient.
- Nothing in the regulations requires a barrier to be erected around or along an entire lake, river, or natural wetland. The obligation is to exclude particular livestock in particular circumstances. If the livestock are not going to be present at, or the circumstances do not apply to, a part of the lake, river, or wetland then no barrier is required.

Non-compliance

Each occasion of non-compliance with the regulations is an offence and carries an infringement fee of \$100 per animal (up to a maximum of \$2,000), or \$2,000 per person, or \$4,000 per non-natural person (for example, a company).

When do the regulations apply to which activities?

All land slopes

The explanations below apply to all existing pastoral systems. Any new pastoral systems (where land is converted to pastoral land use after the commencement date, 3 September 2020) must comply with the regulations as soon as the pastoral system is initiated.

Where beef cattle and deer are break feeding or grazing on annual forage crops or irrigated pasture they must be excluded from lakes, and rivers more than a metre wide (bank to bank) by **1 July 2023**.

Dairy cattle and pigs must be excluded from lakes and rivers more than a metre wide (bank to bank) by **1 July 2023**, regardless of land slope.

Dairy support cattle must be excluded from lakes and rivers more than a metre wide (bank to bank) by **1 July 2025**, regardless of land slope.

Low slope

Beef cattle and deer must be excluded from lakes and rivers more than one metre wide (bank to bank) by **1 July 2025**, on [low slope land as mapped](#). The maps form part of the regulations and are published on the Ministry for the Environment website.

Wetlands

All cattle, deer and pigs must be excluded from:

- natural wetlands identified in an operative regional plan, district plan, or regional policy statement as at 3 September 2020 by **1 July 2023** (on any slope of land)
- natural wetlands that support a population of threatened species, by **1 July 2025**. Councils must identify water bodies that support threatened species to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020
- natural wetlands more than 500m² in area on low slope land (as mapped) by **1 July 2025**.

What are the key timelines?

Table 1: Stock exclusion regulations by type of stock, waterbody, and slope

| | 2020–21 | 2023 | 2025 and beyond |
|---|---|---|--|
| Excluding all cattle, deer and pigs from lakes and rivers with a bed wider than one metre, with a three-metre minimum setback. | From 3 September 2020, the requirements apply to any new pastoral system. | By 1 July 2023, the requirements apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dairy cattle (except dairy support cattle) and pigs. • all beef cattle and deer that are break feeding or grazing on annual forage crops or irrigated pasture (note: there are additional restrictions for intensive winter grazing). | By 1 July 2025, the requirements apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dairy support cattle (regardless of land slope) • beef cattle and deer when the land is low slope as shown on the map on the Ministry for the Environment website. |
| Requiring cattle and pigs crossing rivers more than twice per month to use a dedicated culvert or bridge. | | By 1 July 2023, the requirements apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dairy cattle (except dairy support cattle) and pigs. | By 1 July 2025, the requirements apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dairy support cattle (regardless of land slope) |
| Excluding all cattle, deer and pigs from natural wetlands. | From 3 September 2020, the requirements apply to any new pastoral system. | By 1 July 2023, the requirements apply to natural wetlands identified in an operative regional plan, district plan, or regional policy statement as at 3 September 2020. | By 1 July 2025, the requirements apply to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural wetlands that support a population of threatened species as described in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020. • Natural wetlands that are more than 500m² on low slope land as shown on the map on the Ministry for the Environment website. |

How does the low slope map apply?

The [low slope map](#) is part of the regulations. Low slope means land identified as low slope land on the map.

Beef cattle and deer that are not break feeding, or grazing on annual forage crops or irrigated pasture, must be excluded from lakes and rivers more than one metre wide from 1 July 2025 (except for new pastoral systems, where this applies from 3 September 2020). Anyone can check any location on the map by writing an address or river name in the map's search box.

In 2021, the Government consulted on proposed changes to the map and, as a result of this consultation, the map has now been updated.

The map now shows land with an average slope less than or equal to 5 degrees using a new mapping methodology, where the average slope is calculated using 'local terrain averaging'. Slope is no longer averaged across a land parcel. Areas over 500m in altitude are also excluded from the low slope map.

For more detailed information about how the map has changed, please refer to the [Regulatory impact statement – changes to the map of low slope land in stock exclusion regulations](#).

For more information about the methodology used to create the maps, see the [Method for deriving the stock exclusion low slope land map factsheet](#).

If you believe there is an anomaly or mistake on the map, you can email freshwater@mfe.govt.nz with information about the exact location of the land and any contact details so that the Government can investigate the extent of any issues.

Why these regulations?

Livestock entering water bodies contaminate the water directly, and damage the banks of the water body. This is particularly serious with cattle, deer and pigs. Stock also trample the banks and beds of water bodies, breaking down the streambank leading to sediment runoff and habitat damage.

Excluding stock from natural wetlands, lakes, and rivers more than one metre wide is intended to reduce freshwater pollution, prevent bank erosion and sediment loss, and allow riparian plants to grow. Fencing waterways is one of the simplest and most direct ways of keeping stock out of rivers, lakes, streams and their banks and margins.

More about the Essential Freshwater package

The package includes a number of provisions including:

- [National Environmental Standards for Freshwater](#)
- [stock exclusion regulations](#) under section 360 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)
- amendments to the [Resource Management \(Measurement and Reporting of Water Takes\) Regulations 2010](#)
- the [National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020](#) that replaces the NPS-FM 2017
- [amendments to the RMA](#) to provide for a faster freshwater planning process
- [amendments to the RMA](#) to enable mandatory and enforceable freshwater farm plans, and to allow the creation of regulations for the reporting of nitrogen fertiliser sales.

Factsheets in this series

The full set of Essential Freshwater factsheets is available [on our website](#).

Find out more and give us feedback

Contact us by emailing freshwater@mfe.govt.nz or visit the [Essential Freshwater page](#) on our website.





Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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.

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

There is much to like in the broad objectives but very little detail in what or how they will be achieved.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

It is vital to support and engage with mana whenua. We all benefit from a collaborative approach to the problems before us. Teaching and using te res needs to be actively fostered.

Our People

- 4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

There is still a lot to do in this space to make these aspirations realisable.

Our Environment

- 5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Broadly you are but there is so much to do in the predator/pest control area. For me there are a number of specific areas of concern where the council needs to do more. Working in the Oruawharo Bay area including the wetlands highlights issues with exotic

plant species such as pampas and *tecomaria capensis*; exotic pest animals especially feral pigs; and the recent erosive damage to the dunes from the February storm systems.

i think it is past time for the council to have a notified consistent plan for dealing with feral pigs on Aotea; it needs to make it onto the page of the Regional Pest Plan instead of sitting there blank. To inform your approach to this difficult problem I would like to suggest you perform a survey of the community/home owners re their experience with being in contact with or being impacted by feral pigs; how it was or could be handled; what they thought about pig control measures etc.

Pampas are a major exotic plant pest species and are over represented in the Medlands and Kaitoke area but are very sparse in some areas. In the wetlands in Oruawharo Bay we have been cutting down clumps and hand pulling seedlings which is laborious but can achieve change. Would you consider setting a goal for "pampas eradication on Aotea" - with community buy in much could accomplished over a period of time.

Cape honeysuckle [*tecomaria capensis*] is a localised but large problem arising on the eastern boundary of the Auckland City council reserve off northern Sandhills Rd. It has spread down the slope into the wetlands and continues to grow rapidly. It needs to be removed which would allow native planting to replace it.

Climate change is upon us and the extent of the dune erosion seen on Medlands Beach with Cyclone Gabrielle and the other February storm system is a potent reminder of how vulnerable low lying areas are to the encroachment of the sea. To stabilise the dunes needs more planting of grasses and I think larger tree species with strong and extensive root systems need planting on a priority basis.

Our Places

- 6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

The potholes in front of the Swallow and Baked on Barrier need repairing.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

You all do an excellent job in trying circumstances. You communicate well through media channels.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, strongly agree

Tell us why

It seems that the local board listened closely to the community's wants and needs when drafting the plan.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

Yes except why is there no "Our Plan" or specific objectives around climate?

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Yes except why is there no "Our Plan" or specific objectives around Maori aspirations? I suspect because these are rolled into "our people" "our environment" and "our places" but maybe you should add something in the Maori aspirations section which says "you'll find key activities and objectives around Maori aspirations in our People, Places and Environment sections".

Our People

- 4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

It is all about the people :)

Our Environment

- 5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

really great to see the capital grants fund retained

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

In the past when local groups have been applying for funding from the board, they have selected the relevant "priority" in the plan to correspond to their application. That terminology is not used in this plan, so it's going to be important to issue new guidance to groups about what they select to support their applications. eg - is it one of the "objectives" under "Our Plan" in each section?



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

No, mostly disagree

Tell us why

There seems to be a lot of talk but not enough action. Don't forget "our community" also includes visitors and tourists not only local residents.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

No

Tell us why

So the goals I could see was reducing the use of generators and petrol/diesel driven vehicles on Great Barrier, good idea if there was a Government incentive to do this via subsidised solar power as it is very expensive otherwise.

I do agree with an emergency bulk water supply, firstly for households then businesses, from a Council bore. The cost would need to be subsidised by the Council to make it affordable.

I haven't seen any projected data on sea level rise.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

I don't know

Tell us why

As I am not Maori there isn't any way I would be able to have any say. But they seem to have a lot of say on how I live my life on Great Barrier Island.

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

No

Tell us why

I feel as though the "soul" of the Barrier has changed dramatically over the past decade and beyond. I am not the only person to comment about this. The Barrier is unique but it is losing its uniqueness due to some groups having more control and say over

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

No

Tell us why

So the community was wholly against 1080 being dropped by DoC but it still happened. What is the overall result of this? Less birdsong seems to be the case.

We grow our own food with top-ups from the local stores BUT always have a back-up if weather affects supplies...isn't this what everyone should do? Emergency water supply needs to be investigated urgently.

Zero waste means no rubbish tips something which should be supplied by the council. If we go to Auckland do they expect us to bring our rubbish back to the Barrier? No, so why should visitors to the Barrier and the like be expected to do that.

Streams always run clear and free in my part of the Barrier, some examples of where they don't should be included.

Protected marine waters are a joke. It restricts the community from harvesting a resource which sustains them. If the Council wanted to protect marine life they shouldn't have given access for sludge from Auckland waterfront to be dumped off Cuvier which, I understand, is still happening. That could be where Calupera was introduced to the ecosystem.

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

No

Tell us why

Wharves seem to be improving which is a bonus although one wharf was compromised during the cyclone and accessibility was non-existent. What is the plan if ALL the wharves are out of action? Which could happen.

The airfield needs to have the runway extended which was proposed several years ago, what has happened to this? Also the large pine trees on DoC land on the westerly approach need to be felled and removed (don't leave them as it is a fire hazard which was obvious several years ago, when fire closed the airfield). The trees create severe wind turbulence.

A visitor levy on the airfield and whatves could be implemented but funds from this need to be fair. How would the levy be collected from visiting boaties?

Also the parking area around the airfield needs to be expanded urgently and the ridiculous ticketing for parking abolished. Why can't there be a Parking Pass available to purchase for year round parking? Travellers with limited mobility can't be expected to check-in, have to drive up the road to park and then try to walk back. Ridiculous!

Roads are good being sealed as they are safer for motorists, cyclists and walkers. More signs to educate visitors on the shared pathways would be good.

No reliable connectivity is worrying. This must be addressed. There should be a reliable pathway to contact emergency services when needed, not just when the tower is in the line of sight.

Why does the Barrier need to have affordable and sustainable housing for everyone? If you want to apply for a job or start a business on the Barrier wouldn't you investigate the housing situation? Not just wait until you get there and then try!

Some pensioner housing including respite care would be an asset. This was proposed several years ago but mis-management and dishonesty put paid to that idea.

As I have said before; subsidised solar power initiated by the Government would help to become sustainable.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

I think I have said enough!



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

No, mostly disagree

Tell us why

Many residents of aotea are not in favour

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

I don't know

Tell us why

I do not believe in climate change. The ise age was not due to climate chance.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

I don't know

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

I don't know

Tell us why

Yes and no. Some initiatives are working and some are not.

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

I don't know

Tell us why

Again, yes and no.

Zero waste....many people still mix recycling and rubbish in their orange bags. Bring back recycling bins around the island.

Quality of marine waters is often affected by international or NZ wide actions

Our Places

- 6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

I don't know

Tell us why

Yes, roads are improving but problems with parking at the airport is ongoing and nothing seems to be done about it despite continuous pleas from the locals.

There is no affordable housing on the island where yhe housing meets healthy homes standards. Many live in cold damp environments to the detriment of their health.

There is not enough housing for both permanent and especially seasonal workers and is putting a strain on employers.

- 7. **Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

It needs to be more ambitious

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

Yes but we need a food security strategy for the island so we are less reliant on importing food essentials. We need to speed up our restoration projects in our wetlands. They are carbon sequestration 'banks'. We need an island plan for restoration of key habitats. Could those that farm be incentivised to move to better, more sustainable practices.?

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

However we need to be more ambitious. We need to explicitly state that as a board we are te tiriti-centric. The board needs to embrace a dynamic understanding of the treaty principles with regards to partnership, equity and protection of the environment.

For iwi the marine well being is fundamental. The local board needs to be a strong ally for better outcomes.

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why**Our Environment**

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Yes and no. There are no metrics around these wish lists. We need evidence-based data on how we are tracking on these issues. This is a critical responsibility of the local

board. Otherwise there is no real transparency or accountability and more importantly, without data insights it is hard to implement iterative learning.

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

I don't know

Tell us why

I don't know what is being said here. What are our priorities in the connectivity space.? It seems like we want everything. Do we have two key priorities and if so why.?

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Places

- 6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

- 7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

I salute the efforts the Local Board has made to seek input from the local community. The Plan has been thoughtfully drawn up with admirable goals, clearly aiming at the best for this precious island and its unique communities.

Parts of the Plan, however, are so vague on defining desired outcomes, how they might be achieved and how achievements might be measured. ie how do you know when you have even reached your goal?

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

Aotea Local Board shows more awareness of Climate Change than the governing Auckland body. Support of the excellent existing groups Anamata and AoteaOra are essential. The Emergency Response Team is excellent, with clear communication channels to islanders.

With all the sustainable aspects of life on the island - solar power, encouragement to a more circular economy, much less opportunity for consumerism than on the mainland - some parts of life here have a higher carbon footprint than ideal - combustion engine cars, gas for cooking and water heating, gas and wood burning for heating. Hard to avoid some of this but many trips I do in the car could be done on a bike. Now I do have an electric bike over here I am still cautious about travel on some of the roads - they are not so bike friendly. The Locky Docky station is a good idea - maybe one at Okiwi or Fitzroy too?

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why**Our People**

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

The Local Board's current funding, and planned funding for all the community groups it supports is vital to keep a healthy, engaged and prosperous community spirit across the island. The Board has an excellent record here. Likewise support for business an

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

The vision is good, but this is one area that the plan lacks specificity. It isn't easy to understand how a community deals with pests collaboratively when the pests aren't identified, nor the idea of collaborative management.

Rats and feral cats are easily identified as pests. There is even a recent rumour of goats being brought on to the island, after an expensive eradication previously. We know feral pigs are a major and divisive issue on the island, in the central/southern part of the island they are more prolific in the last few years than they ever have been. Though described as a vital source of protein (though any vegetarian will beg to differ), they provide an expensive pork meal for a small number of people while the rest of the community pays with destroyed vegetable gardens (undermining food resilience), a school has to spend from limited funds for a pig proof fence, and of course the damage to the forest, wetlands and endangered native species.

Clean and secure freshwater also vital - also compromised by feral pigs in the bush.

Planting for biodiversity in the forests and wetlands is so important. Wetlands are becoming recognised as important carbon sinks, in a more permanent way than trees, but we definitely need many native trees still being planted - our local nurseries need support to keep up with demand from the restoration projects underway.

Kauri dieback advocacy important - it would be a tragedy to lose this toanga - again the feral pigs won't be helping - I doubt they use the boot cleaning stations at walkway entrances.

Local Board support for the local ecology groups and restoration efforts is invaluable and very much appreciated.

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

As you say, road upkeep on the island is difficult with the combination of narrow windy roads in the hills, prone to slippages, and the narrow vulnerable roads along the coast.

Some way of making the roads feel safer for cyclists and pedestrians would take some pressure off the roads, and improve sustainability goals - I can't see cycle lanes ever being realistic, perhaps more signage reminding motorists of other road users. "Our roads are our shared footpaths" was a good one.

Investigating some of the old paper roads to connect settlements might be an idea, even if a track just enabled access by foot or mountain bike (good for tourism too).

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

I do appreciate how the Local Board makes itself so accessible, so patient at open meetings, and works so hard for the benefit of the whole island.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Albert-Eden

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why**7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**

As I understand the financial statement you are proposing to run about a \$1m operating loss. This isn't acknowledged or discussed elsewhere in the plan that I saw. This undermines the rest of the plan if the financials are not sustainable.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

Council needs to provide leadership in the pest free area with such things as eradicating pigs which cannot be done on a volunteer basis. Dogs on leashes needs to be enforced by council it is not possible to ask volunteers to do this and it must be done to protect the natural environment.No dogs on beaches is an easy win for wildlife and would involved a very small financial input from council, but a massive difference to all the creatures call the beach home. The council needs to take action in this space.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

I don't know

Tell us why

Climate change action also needs to focus on biodiversity and replanting wetland areas and supporting those groups doing this work . Pigs can have a huge negative impact on both new plantings and the health of the bush and thereby our impact on climate change.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

I don't know

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?

I don't know

Tell us why

The focus on people should also have helping people reduce their individual impacts , that we live on an island with finite resources and so have an obligation to the island to reduce as much as possible human impact, things such as grandfathering out d

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?

No

Tell us why

needs to be more focus on eliminating pests such as feral cats and pigs. Pig elimination needs to be done by the council for both bush health and water health, many residents use stream water and this is a health hazard for human health with pigs in the bush. Not all things are able to be done collaboratively . Pig elimination and Dog control

are among these. Dogs need to be off the beaches and this needs to be enforced by council as a core function of dog control. The environment and creatures of the Island deserve more than just talk and volunteers doing their best. These issues need to be approached from an enforcement perspective. Legislation needs to be enacted that you cannot have a domestic cat on the Island.

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

No

Tell us why

Not really, I don't feel a council function on the island is to provide affordable housing. There are additional costs to living on an Island and the council should not be subsidising people to live here. Humans have a massive impact on the island and council focus should be on how to reduce this not increase the number of people.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

Eliminating pests is a big part of Council responsibility on this Island as a way to reduce Human impact here. Many of these actions need council enforcement to back up the years of both volunteer and council funded work or we risk losing ground. Council have consulted widely and now need to follow this up with enforcement.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

Since DOC own more than 60% of this island, but have basically no budget to carry out any of the work needed, perhaps we can find a way to work together for a more positive outcome in the areas of the island where pest control really matters. Lots of the biodiversity abundance is on the DOC blocks across the island, but it costs money to protect what we have left.

We are always so proud of living off grid here on the island, but are we truly self-sufficient and sustainable as a community yet? We had a taste of just how fragile our community is and how much we rely on freight and transport to and from the island after the road network took a hit and during the lockdowns.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Yes

Tell us why

Wetlands have proven their significance in balancing out and temporarily absorbing the extra water levels in recent times. We have to value their carbon storage and

sequestration abilities and with many regionally significant wetland areas here on Aotea in relatively good health, compared with elsewhere, it is important to maintain these areas and help them thrive. Riparian planting is a great example of things we can do to promote better water quality, less run off etc. Congratulations on recognising this and making it a focus in your plan. Thank you!

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Yes

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

The tourist levy is not my favourite idea. It is already quite expensive for people to visit the island and I would see it as a deterrent if I was a visitor.

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

We live on an island with high biodiversity, very worthy of predator control and protection. The quality of our freshwater streams is, as you mention, very important to many of the residents here, who rely on this for drinking water. Feral pigs have devastating effects on the water quality and in many places the water has very high eColi levels making it unsuitable for drinking. Feral pigs are an issue that must be addressed

and many fragile and important ecosystems, from dunes to mature bush and everything in-between, are showing the dire consequences of inaction. My opinion is that we need to address this issue as a community and make some serious decisions in order to add feral pigs to the list of predators, moving towards a predator free island sooner rather than later. There are also new regulations in place for stock exclusion, taking effect this year, that will need to be enforced to help with the freshwater management.

Perhaps we are overdue for a marine reserve between Hauturu-o-Toi and Aotea? And a key focus should be biosecurity, to avoid disasters like the caulerpa debacle.

I am all in favour of making the most of eco-sourced plants from the local nurseries, but it is hard for them to keep up with demand and plants could be more readily available, especially for bigger projects. It is a long process to find funding, then order at least a year in advance of planting and then finally get to put them in the ground.

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Probably a very costly addition to an already expensive roading network for such a small population of people, but imagine having safer bicycle lanes/walking paths, connecting more areas, making it safer for real eco-tourists to visit as well as locals getting around. One example would be the causeway in Medlands, which is currently very narrow for any extra traffic like bikes or pedestrians.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

Thank you so much for everything you do! We are indeed very lucky to have you guys representing us all.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

LOCAL BOARD: Not Supplied

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?**Tell us why****Our People**

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?**Tell us why****Our Environment**

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?**Tell us why**

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Tell us why

7. **Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**

Please see attached



Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

August 2023

To All Auckland Council Local Boards,

Please find attached DPA's submission on Draft Local Board Plans for all 21 boards

For any further inquiries, please contact:

Chris Ford

Kaituhotuho Kaupapa Here ā Rohe - Regional Policy Advisor (Local Government)

policy@dpa.org.nz

Introducing Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

We work on systemic change for the equity of disabled people

Disabled Persons Assembly NZ (DPA) is a not-for-profit pan-impairment Disabled People's Organisation run by and for disabled people.

We recognise:

- Māori as Tangata Whenua and [Te Tiriti o Waitangi](#) as the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand;
- disabled people as experts on their own lives;
- the [Social Model of Disability](#) as the guiding principle for interpreting disability and impairment;
- the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) as the basis for disabled people's relationship with the State;
- the [New Zealand Disability Strategy](#) as Government agencies' guide on disability issues; and
- the [Enabling Good Lives Principles](#), [Whāia Te Ao Mārama: Māori Disability Action Plan](#), and [Faiva Ora: National Pasifika Disability Disability Plan](#) as avenues to disabled people gaining greater choice and control over their lives and supports.

We drive systemic change through:

- **Leadership:** reflecting the collective voice of disabled people, locally, nationally and internationally.
- **Information and advice:** informing and advising on policies impacting on the lives of disabled people.
- **Advocacy:** supporting disabled people to have a voice, including a collective voice, in society.
- **Monitoring:** monitoring and giving feedback on existing laws, policies and practices about and relevant to disabled people.

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

DPA was influential in creating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD),¹ a foundational document for disabled people which New Zealand has signed and ratified, confirming that disabled people must have the same human rights as everyone else. All state bodies in New Zealand, including local and regional government, have a responsibility to uphold the principles and articles of this convention. There are a number of UNCRPD articles particularly relevant to this submission, including:

- **Article 3 – General principles**
- **Article 9 – Accessibility**
- **Article 19 – Living independently and being included in the community**
- **Article 27 – Work and employment**
- **Article 28 – Adequate standard of living and social protection**
- **Article 29 – Participation in political and public life**
- **Article 30 – Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport**

New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026

Since ratifying the UNCRPD, the New Zealand Government has established a Disability Strategy² to guide the work of government agencies on disability issues. The vision is that New Zealand be a non-disabling society, where disabled people have equal opportunity to achieve their goals and aspirations, and that all of New Zealand works together to make this happen. It identifies eight outcome areas contributing to achieving this vision. There are a number of Strategy outcomes particularly relevant to this submission, including:

- **Outcome 5 – Accessibility**

The Submission

1.) Introduction and Guiding Principles

DPA welcomes this opportunity to make a generic submission covering all local board areas to raise general principles/themes that every Auckland Council board should take into consideration when considering their local plans from a disability perspective.

This includes that there should be specific references to the needs, issues and aspirations of disabled people in each local area within all plans. The disabled communities of Auckland need to be more visible in these plans as there are few references to disabled people's concerns and issues within many of them.

DPA believes that this points out the need for more consultation specifically targeted to the disabled communities in each board area.

Ultimately, this means that disabled people should be recognised as a specific stakeholder group who should be actively consulted with and have our needs fully referenced within all plans.

Recommendation 1: that all local boards are required to specifically consult with disabled people as a distinct stakeholder group as part of all local board plan consultation processes.

Recommendation 2: that all local boards specifically reference the needs, views and priorities of disabled people (alongside those of other communities) within all local board plan documents.

Significantly, there appears to be either minimal or no data on the number of disabled people in each board area. While DPA notes that the last full Statistics New Zealand Disability Survey figures date from 2013 and that a new survey is about to be undertaken, Auckland Council should collaborate with Statistics New Zealand and other official data stakeholders to estimate the number of disabled people in the region for planning purposes.

Recommendation 3: that Auckland Council collaborate with Statistics New Zealand and other official data stakeholders to estimate the number of disabled people in each board area and across the region for planning purposes.

The fact that disabled people are not specifically targeted or fully included in all board plans has led to the absence of each local plan not being available in accessible formats including New Zealand Sign Language, Braille, Easy Read, Large Print and audio on the Council's website.

Recommendation 4: that Auckland Council ensures all local plans are published and available in accessible formats including New Zealand Sign Language, Braille, Easy Read, Large Print and audio.

Noting all the above factors, this submission focuses on key areas of concern for the disabled community that have been touched upon in our past submissions to the Auckland Council.

Our submission will focus on the need for local boards to plan and/or champion the following principles from a disability perspective. These include the need for:

- Accessible and inclusive communities
- Environmentally and climatically sustainable communities
- Communities that provide economic and social opportunities

2.) Brief background – important disability statistics

One in four New Zealanders have a disability or long-term health condition. Māori and Pacific peoples have an even higher-than-average rate of disability. There were approximately 271,000 disabled people residing in Auckland in 2013¹ (the latest data available), a number which rises to over 300,000 when accounting for current population increases.

¹ Statistics New Zealand. (2013). New Zealand Disability Survey. Retrieved from http://archive.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/health/disabilities/DisabilitySurvey_HOTP2013.aspx#gsc.tab=05

Disabled people in Auckland face an increased risk of living in poverty largely due to lower incomes and extra resource requirements compared to non-disabled people.² Statistics also show that disabled New Zealanders are grossly overrepresented in unemployment rates; two-thirds of disabled people earn less than \$30,000 per annum, increasing the likelihood of poor socio-economic outcomes.³

One of the top issues for disabled people across Tāmaki Makaurau is that of housing.

Disabled people as a group are disproportionately impacted by homelessness. This is due to disabled people being overrepresented amongst low-income earners while also facing higher living costs due to disability. For this reason, disabled people are more likely to be renters; 2018 data from Statistics New Zealand shows that 47% of disabled people rent compared to 35% of non-disabled people.⁴

Disabled people are also at greater risk of homelessness due to the lack of security around ongoing tenancy and this is exacerbated by the low number of accessible houses not only in Auckland but throughout the country.

Another area of ongoing concern for disabled people is access to transport.

Earlier this year we submitted on the Auckland Council's Future Transport Projects plan. In that submission, we outlined how disabled people are highly reliant on public transport given the significant proportion of disabled people who don't drive.

² Wilkinson-Meyers et al. (2015). To live an ordinary life: resource needs and additional costs for people with a physical impairment. *Disability & Society*, 30(7), 976-990.

³ King, P. T. (2019). Māori with Lived Experience of Disability Part II. Commissioned by the Waitangi Tribunal. Retrieved from https://forms.justice.govt.nz/search/Documents/WT/wt_DOC_150473583/Wai%202575%2C%20B023.pdf

⁴ Statistics New Zealand. (2018). The disability gap 2018. Retrieved from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/infographics/the-disability-gap-2018/#:~:text=Home%20life-.Of%20disabled%20New%20Zealanders%20aged%2015%E2%80%93364%20years%20in%202018,percent%20of%20non%20disabled%20people.>

Nevertheless, provision needs to be made to accommodate the transport needs of all disabled people and this includes for those who transport themselves via different modes including driving, bussing, walking, cycling, using taxis, ferries and trains.

In 2022, Waka Kotahi published independently commissioned research (in which DPA collaborated) entitled *Transport experiences of disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand*.⁵

This research illustrated the ongoing accessibility challenges faced by disabled people when using public transport. Disabled people's main challenges included, for example, issues around using Total Mobility (TM), the inaccessibility of bus services, lack of footpaths and safe crossing points, and feeling excluded from the planning of sustainable city centres, as well as the disablist attitudes of some transport planners.

Disabled people also have ongoing issues with accessing train and ferry services in Auckland and the need for improved transport accessibility and affordability.

3.) Accessible and inclusive communities

Disabled people want to live in fully accessible communities which are inclusive of everyone.

DPA believes that disabled people have the right to access all facets of the communities they live in including public buildings, transport networks, schools, housing, playgrounds, parks, community facilities/amenities, and footpaths on an equitable basis with non-disabled people.

This means that disabled people should have the right to go everywhere and anywhere within the local communities in which they live without barriers being placed in the way of their full participation.

That is why DPA stresses the need for Auckland local boards to both champion and build community facilities and infrastructure (or those over which boards have direct responsibility for) to Universal Design Standards (to at least level 5). We also made

⁵ Doran, B., Crossland, K., Brown, P., & Stafford, L. (2022). Transport experiences of disabled people in Aotearoa New Zealand (Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency research report 690). Retrieved from <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/research/reports/690>

this call in our recent submission to Auckland Council's Future Development Strategy.

Recommendation 5: that all local boards fully champion and build community facilities and infrastructure (which they have direct control over) to Universal Design Standards (at least to level 5) to ensure accessibility.

All communities in Auckland should be fully accessible for every disabled person to live in too, and this includes people with mobility impairments, blind and low vision people, neurodiverse people (i.e., Autistic people), people with psychosocial disabilities/mental distress and Deaf/deaf communities.

This can be achieved, for example, through having accessible wayfinding signage in public spaces/places, quiet spaces where people can retreat to in busy areas (which are suitable for neurodiverse people and people experiencing mental distress), accessible bus stops, mobility parking and vehicle drop off areas, appropriate seating where people can sit and rest as well as good lighting and security features.

Building infrastructure to UD standards – including, most importantly, housing - should support the building of accessible, inclusive communities.

On housing, local boards should act as an advocate and champion to both central and local government - as well as to private and non-government sector stakeholders - for more accessible housing, especially that built to UD standards which can accommodate the needs of all people who may live in any dwelling across its lifetime, including disabled people.

Accessible housing should be available in all board areas within Auckland and at affordable prices for both rentals and buying.

Recommendation 6: that all local boards champion and advocate for the building of more accessible Universal Design housing in their areas.

Associated with the need for more accessible housing and community infrastructure is the requirement for fully accessible and affordable public transport connections in all areas.

All of Auckland Council's local boards can act as advocates, champions and partners with disabled people in both calling for and working together with Auckland Council and Auckland Transport on transport solutions that will give greater accessibility and choice to disabled Aucklanders.

These solutions include support for the development of Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) systems which are supported by networks of accessible bus, ferry and rail routes which are, in turn, serviced by fully accessible trains, buses and ferries. They should centre around the availability of accessible supporting infrastructure in the form of bus interchanges and stops, ferry terminals and railway stations.

Recommendation 7: that all local boards advocate and champion the extension of accessible transport networks for all Aucklanders, including disabled people.

Local boards should also support calls to make public transport more affordable, including for disabled people, by ensuring that the Total Mobility (TM) Scheme (that provides a 75 percent discount on all taxi and mobility service transport fares for those eligible) remains a key component of the transport system as it gives disabled people the opportunity to fully participate in their communities.

DPA recommends that local boards should advocate to Auckland Council and Auckland Transport to annually adjust the maximum fare cap to keep pace with inflation, so that disabled people can continue accessing journeys throughout the Auckland region.

Recommendation 8: that all local boards advocate for the extension of affordable public transport to all Aucklanders, especially to transport disadvantaged communities which include disabled people.

All local boards should be mindful that the need for fully accessible, inclusive communities must be underpinned by the undertaking of extensive barrier free

accessibility audits in areas where infrastructural improvements are being mooted as part of any local board plans.

Recommendation 9: that local boards either undertake or support the undertaking of barrier free audits in areas where infrastructure improvements are planned.

4.) Environmentally and climatically sustainable communities

The disabled community are already being severely hit by the impacts of climate change and are expected to be one of the hardest hit population groups going forward, locally, nationally and internationally.⁶

DPA found that after reaching out to our members in Auckland following the recent weather events that while many disabled people were resilient and had withstood the floods well, others had not as we heard stories about the impact that weather-enforced homelessness had on disabled people, especially given the lack of accessible housing.

DPA calls upon local boards to ensure that disabled people in every ward area can have their voices heard on all matters pertaining to planning for climate change, especially when developing mitigation strategies.

When it comes to planning climate change mitigation strategies, including the need to develop more 20-minute communities and managed retreat plans, disabled people need to be heard as, for example, planning for the potential red zoning of certain areas from being built on will have considerable ramifications for disabled people going forward including the need to potentially re-locate to less flood prone areas.

Nevertheless, DPA supports the need for red-zoning and building bans in areas where flooding, inundation and sea level rise risks will make it impossible to live in an increasingly warmer world.

⁶ Schulte, C. (2020, March 28). People With Disabilities Needed in Fight Against Climate Change. Retrieved from <https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/05/28/people-disabilities-needed-fight-against-climate-change#:~:text=People%20with%20disabilities%20are%20at,said%20in%20a%20recent%20report.>

All area board plans should specifically note the implications of climate change on marginalised communities, and this includes disabled people and that the voices of everyone, including Māori, Pasifika, disabled people, older people and others need to be clearly elevated and heard when it comes to climate change and environmental sustainability projects.

Recommendation 10: that local boards include disabled people as a key stakeholder group in planning for climate change mitigation and environmental management projects in their areas.

DPA believes that everyone, including disabled people, should have the right to access the increasing number of green spaces which are being proposed all over the city, including within many local board areas.

It is important that the voices of the disabled community are heard when planning these projects as it can make all the difference for walkways, trails and other green spaces to be fully accessible and inclusive, including for disabled people.

DPA asks that all local boards be required to involve disabled people and disability organisations in planning for any new green spaces within local board areas.

Recommendation 11: that local boards be required to involve disabled people and disability organisations in the planning of new green spaces in their board areas.

5.) Communities that provide economic and social opportunities

All local boards should champion, support and facilitate economic and social opportunities for all communities, including disabled people.

Earlier in the submission we pointed out the lower socioeconomic status of most of the disabled community.

While disabled people live in all areas of Auckland and in all communities across the socioeconomic spectrum, there is a higher proportion of disabled people living in lower socioeconomic areas compared to higher socioeconomic areas.

Nevertheless, all local boards in the dispensing of community grants should prioritise the needs of disabled people and community flax roots disability organisations. We would like to see local boards fund more community organisations and initiatives which are run both by and for disabled people on a self-determining basis.

Recommendation 12: that all local boards prioritise criteria for community grants to include funding the needs of disabled people and disability organisations, including those organisations and initiatives run by and for disabled people.

We would also like to see ongoing support given by local boards to initiatives which create employment and training opportunities, especially in the lowest income board areas, and that support be given to programmes and initiatives which are aimed at economically marginalised communities including disabled people, Māori, Pasifika, ethnic communities and rangatahi/youth, amongst others.

Recommendation 13: that local boards, especially in the lowest income wards, support employment and training opportunities aimed at economically marginalised communities, including disabled people.

Lastly, we ask that all local boards play a role in monitoring the impacts of the recent budget cuts imposed by Auckland Council.

We made an extensive submission to Auckland Council on their budget proposals earlier this year and we opposed all cuts to council services and activities. Our submission noted the impact of proposals like cuts to library services and community funding on the ability of disabled people to fully participate in the community.

DPA acknowledges that Council took some of the proposed cuts off the table, but others remain and are currently being implemented.

For this reason, DPA asks that local boards not only monitor the impacts of cuts on residents but also acts to collectively speak out about any impacts on communities.

Recommendation 14: that local boards continue to monitor the impact of cuts decided upon by Auckland Council and speak out on their impacts to communities to Council.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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.

Civic Trust Auckland

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Tell us why

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

See attached



Submission of Civic Trust Auckland

Draft Local Board Plans - all

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Introduction

Civic Trust Auckland (CTA) is a non-profit public interest group, incorporated in 1968, with activities and interests throughout the greater Auckland region

The aims of the Trust include:

- Protection of natural landforms
- Preservation of heritage, in all its aspects
- Encouragement of good planning, for the city and region.

We are on Council's list of regional stakeholders and we have previously provided submissions on Local Board plans, as well as on many other Auckland Council plans. Some matters that we have advocated for are now in place, such as smoke-free parks and public open spaces, more resource recovery centres and public education about waste reduction, especially as regards plastic bag use, and Local Boards holding their monthly meetings at varying times.

Other matters are partly in place but we feel the need to submit on them again, including improved public transport: bus, rail and ferry services, better provision for walking and cycling, involving the community more in decision making as well as supporting them as volunteers and improved Local Board engagement with the community, perhaps through a regular clinic at varying times of the day.

CTA has a particular focus on the Environment and Climate Action parts of the Local Board plans.

CTA greatly appreciates the work of Local Boards, and recognises that they know their local communities and are focused on the needs of those particular communities, as well as responding to Auckland Council plans. We are aware of the reduced amount of funding Local Boards have been allocated. We support in general the initiatives in the draft plans. We have highlighted some areas of particular support and particular concern, first making some general points about all Local Board plans as well as particular points for a number of Local Boards, in alphabetical order according to the names of those Local Boards. When quoting from Local Board plans, we use *italics*.

All Local Boards

Climate Action

All the plans address climate action and emissions reduction. We support all Local Boards in the importance they have placed on climate action and commend those that have their own Climate Action Plan, especially those that put them in place even before Auckland Council formulated its Climate Action Plan, such as Puketāpapa. As stated in the Upper Harbour Draft Local Board Plan: *“We recognize that climate change is a complex issue that will require collaborative effort from all of us”* (page 10). The Kaipātiki Local Board articulates that “Climate impact is a key consideration for all decisions made.”

The plans address similar concerns:

- lack of knowledge about how to live low carbon lives
- community preparedness for impacts of climate change
- additional barriers for migrant and ethnic communities
- lack of access to reliable public transport
- road safety concerns, particularly in rural areas
- coastline erosion, sea level rise and flooding
- low tree canopy cover and lack of greenspace to match the rate of urban development and intensification • vegetation, soil and biodiversity loss (urban development, transport, pollution)

We support climate actions across the Local Boards such as

- establishing / supporting EcoNeighbourhoods
- implementing local Urban Ngahere (Forest) Action Plans
- implementing Shoreline Adaptation Plans, especially in collaboration with a neighbouring Local Board
- local waste minimisation, resource recovery initiatives and public education about waste reduction.
- the planting of more trees by Local Boards and support for the community to plant trees
- ensuring Local Board assets will be resilient to the impacts of climate change or severe weather, and reinstating any assets lost or damaged as a result of storm events
- implementing low carbon practices when upgrading or developing Local Board assets
- developing community-led emergency preparedness plans and
- working alongside the community in response to flood events

Furthermore, we support those Local Boards such as Aotea-Great-Barrier that have their own local Emergency Response Team to lead emergency preparedness, response and recovery, and those advocating, as the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board articulates: *“Advocate to and work with Auckland Emergency Management and wider council departments to support community networks and connections that help people to fare better and respond to emergencies and the impacts of climate change”* (page 16).

We are hopeful that communities know about their local Climate Action Plan or are able to find it online or elsewhere.

Māori Outcomes

As stated in all the Local Board plans, *“Māori identity and culture are Auckland’s unique point of difference in the world.”* CTA endorses all the plans listing strong Māori initiatives that build whānau wellbeing and strengthen resilience, such as practicing te ao Māori guardianship (kaitiakitanga) principles led by mana whenua and incorporating mana whenua identity and culture into the design of developments. We support dual naming of parks and other sites to reflect Māori heritage.

We note that the Manurewa Local Board has the highest proportion and highest number of Māori residents across all the Local Boards and that, appropriately, they include in their plan a particularly strong and high number of listed Māori outcomes, including for Māori youth.

Places

All Local Board Plans have included the following in their draft plans under Local Planning and Development:

“We support local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and development, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives.”

Local boards, sometimes with input from local heritage organisations, arguably have the best understanding of their local heritage and therefore have an important role in its identification, protection and enhancement. We strongly support local boards identifying and assessing the heritage items and places in their area, making use of local knowledge and skills to do so, and consulting with stakeholders in working to preserve and enhance their built and natural heritage.

We observe that the Waitemātā Local Board lists particular heritage buildings in its draft plan, and it seems that only two other Local Board do so (Orakei Local Board – Remuera Library, Waitākere Ranges – Waikumete Cemetery, the rail station house and Playhouse Theatre). We know that communities value their heritage buildings and we know that many of them remain unidentified and unprotected, so we encourage Local Boards to include the identification, protection, enhancement and restoration of built heritage as key initiatives in their plans.

CTA supports local boards to advocate and provide for local board input for improved outcomes for heritage in Council planning documents for the region’s collective heritage.

CTA supports the creation and maintaining of a regional cultural heritage database to provide information to landowners, resource consent applicants and other interest groups. We encourage Council and community groups sharing collective information for the purposes of heritage identification.

CTA encourages all Local Boards to investigate incentives for enhancing low quality designs and to encourage any design solutions that might assist in this. We support Local Boards advocating to the Governing Body for the creation of the position of City Architect.

We support Local Boards reviewing their community-leased buildings, approach and fees to make best strategic use of those spaces.

We support the intention of the Local Boards which are looking at partnership opportunities with local schools, churches, and other organisations to make their spaces available for community use and to ensure programmes and initiatives are coordinated to fill any gaps and to avoid duplication. Schools in particular are a valuable resource for all communities, both their facilities and their populations.

We support the Local Boards working with Kāinga Ora to help provide park and community facility assets, as well as integrate their housing developments with the character of the area, ensure that developments are well planned and that the transport and other infrastructure works well.

Environment

Many of the Local Boards in their plans recognise and celebrate their environmental volunteers who have restored, protected and cleaned up areas over many years and continue to do so. This includes community-led pest control and biodiversity projects. The support of Local Boards for such work is important.

Also important are the actions of those community groups which work to identify and protect built heritage, which is recognised by the Ōrākei Local Board in its intention to work with the Remuera Heritage Society (amongst others) to preserve heritage character in the area (page 25).

Local Board support, including funding initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements, and waste minimisation projects is important for healthy ecosystems and sustainability.

Some Local Boards contain Special Ecological Areas within them and we support their work in this regard.

CTA supports the daylighting of streams to divert them from pipes back to the surface, as the Manurewa Local Board and others are planning to do, including Waitematā Local Board with the Waipapa Stream.

We support the use of electric vehicles and the installation of charging stations.

All Local Boards recognise the importance of parks and open spaces in their area and we support those that plan to acquire open space where possible, such as through large-scale developments, and to improve existing parks space through land exchanges, reconfiguration and improving linkages and connections.

We support management plan for local parks, reserves and other open spaces. However, care may need to be taken so that an omnibus management plan does not mean that unique aspects of certain spaces are not protected. Some spaces may need their own separate management plan.

We support more tree planting throughout the city, and, in general, oppose the removal of already planted trees. This includes the removal of exotic trees from the maunga that are demonstrably valued by the people of Auckland. We submit that trees already planted be allowed to live out their natural lives and that any succession planting, where appropriate, should focus on natives.

We suggest that small local projects involving the community, particularly new migrants and/or those for whom language is a barrier, could be to beautify/make use of small areas, including on land which is awaiting development, for planting or for art installations.

Transport

As mentioned in the Devonport-Takapuna Draft Local Board Plan (page 25), *“Local Boards have an advocacy role when it comes to many transport projects.”* All the plans address transport issues, particularly public transport, and they advocate for efficient, affordable and convenient public transport, which CTA has previously advocated for and supported.

CTA supports the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu and Otara-Papatoetoe Local Boards in advocating for free public transport. CTA has suggested in previous submissions that a trial of free transport be held. As pointed out by several Local Boards, transport in Auckland accounts for nearly half of the city's greenhouse gas emissions. Some Local Boards also mention car-dependency and congestion.

We also support safer speeds, especially around schools, traffic calming, road safety and pedestrian and cyclist priority, including cycleways and greenways to encourage healthy activity and less care use, as is advocated for by most, if not all, Local Boards. We caution that when considering implementation of the relevant infrastructure, including bicycle parking, there should be full consultation with affected people, primarily being the residents and/or businesses in the area under consideration. Streetscape character should not be compromised. We suggest that there is already sufficient infrastructure in place for bicycle parking, partly because some Local Board areas have already provided specific bicycle parking and partly because most cyclists like the ability to park very close to where they are going and are happy to use a pole, fence or tree to chain their bike to, and in our experience, this is workable for everyone (in contrast to e-scooter parking). We consider that the negative effect of placing any transport infrastructure in the public realm needs to be recognised and minimised.

CTA encourages Local Boards to support our advocacy to Auckland Council for a Public Transport champion. This could be a youth role and it could involve the telling of good stories about public transport. In our view, many more people would use public transport if they could see other people like themselves using it on a regular basis and get to know more about HOP cards (and the imminent introduction of the use of credit cards to pay for public transport), that public transport can accommodate the frail and disabled, and that there is, in fact, often a bus stop not too far from their house and/or place of work.

We support the Local Boards that are advocating for more bus shelters in their area. In our view, a shelter in addition to a seat at a bus stop is an essential part of the public transport infrastructure, for protection from both sun and rain. Future designs should consider the potential for the seat and the people waiting at the bus stop getting wet from driving rain, as is the case with some of the current shelters.

Community Engagement with Local Boards

The Devonport-Takapuna Draft Local Board Plan under "Challenges" states: "*Low levels of participation and understanding of what local boards do, which weakens local democracy and decision making*" (page 14) and also under "Challenges" the Franklin Local Board includes: "*Limitations to understanding the board's role and mandate, and its influence in regional and national decision-making*" (page 21). The Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board will advocate for "*Auckland Council to communicate in a way that is accessible to all our community leading to a better-informed community and improved engagement with the council*" (page 15).

In our view, engagement with the community is an issue for all Local Boards, as well as the wider Council. We have observed that many members of the community still do not know much (if anything) about local boards, and a very small percentage of them actually engage with their local board. Furthermore, some people find it difficult, for various reasons, to approach their local board and/or to be listened to. We commend those Local Boards which have made their members available through regular open meetings to members of the public, especially those that are at varying times of the day to cater for the availability of different members of the community. We suggest that time could usefully be made available within Local Board workshops for members of the community dealing with certain issues to engage more thoroughly with board members and staff than is possible in public forum appearances at local board business meetings.

The Local Board plans outline what Local Boards do, who the members are and where they are based, so if people in their area read the plans, they would have a better awareness about Local Boards. If all libraries held copies of the relevant Local Board plans in their final version, this would assist in more people becoming more aware of Local Boards.

We suggest that Local Boards share with other Local Boards what has worked in terms of public engagement for them. An idea from a member of the Puketāpapa community is that Local Board members hold their clinics or engagement (where practical) “on the street,” which could mean in a park or square which is used well by the public. We note that when Local Board candidates are campaigning for election, they tend to go to where the people are, and we suggest that this could be part of the answer, rather than expecting the people to come to where they are. We know that many people do not know where their Local Board office is. If practicable, Local Board members could now and again set up tables, chairs and coffee on the footpath outside their office.

We also note that a key initiative of the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board is: *“Community conversations – enabling communities we hear from less to engage more comfortably and on their terms”* (page 15), so perhaps their ideas could be shared with other Local Boards. We also see that this Local Board will *“Advocate for accessible and easy to use engagement methods that suit our residents for both local and regional consultations”* (page 16).

We encourage local board members (and future candidates) to retreat from political affiliations. In our experience, alignment with a political group creates an impediment to good governance and working effectively for the community. Community groups tend to be apolitical and their members tend to work well together. The political affiliations of Local Board members can act as a barrier to community engagement – as well as a barrier for members to engage with and cooperate with each other.

Albert-Eden

We support the Carrington residential development and the way it has developed, including working with the iwi involved, and we also support the bid by the Pt Chev Social Enterprise Trust for there to be a community wellbeing hub incorporated into Building One on this site. We are disappointed that one wing of this building is to be demolished, due to the roading design.

We strongly support the Local Board’s key initiative to: *“Provide feedback on resource consents and planning processes to ensure good design outcomes are achieved and significant views of the maunga (volcanic cones) are protected through the volcanic viewshafts and height sensitive areas in the Auckland Unitary Plan”* (page 12).

CTA strongly supports the establishment of the Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre (opened on 11 August), which seems to be a shared facility between the Albert-Eden and Waitemata Local Board areas, and supports the promotion by these two Local Boards of the facility. We suggest that libraries in all Local Board areas could be a place for dropping off small items such as used batteries (battery collection being something that has taken place in Wellington libraries for some years).

CTA supports this Local Board including as one of the objectives of its plan: *“The history, identity and character of our neighborhoods are celebrated”* and that a key initiative is: *“Protect and celebrate our historic heritage by being good stewards of the assets we own and supporting others to care for theirs”* (page 29). Supporting others could be seen as both support for the people in their Local Board area as regards historic heritage that is privately owned, and supporting other Local Boards to care for historic heritage that are their assets, as well as other Local Boards supporting the protection of other historic heritage sites.

We support the Albert-Eden Local Board for the following (page 31):

- *“Renewal funding for seismic upgrades for heritage assets*

- *Support the Tūpuna Maunga Authority in their aspiration to have the maunga recognised as UNESCO World Heritage site*
- *The Auckland Unitary Plan reflects the importance of built and natural heritage and the contribution that heritage makes to the identity, history and story of Tāmaki Makaurau and its people”.*

We endorse this Local Board’s plan to carry out an audit of the parks in their area to identify where they can get better use, to activate them more and to see if there is the right mix of uses for the future.

A photo of Rocket Park in Mount Albert is featured in the Albert-Eden Draft Local Board Plan. This park no longer functions as it was intended. It was originally a park where children with disabilities could use special equipment such as a Liberty Swing for wheelchairs. We understand that the swing is no longer there, and we submit that it be reinstated, along with the other original equipment for this special park.

We support the Local Board’s intention to *“Encourage green business practices and share information on existing resources such as Sustainable Business Network and Climate Connect Aotearoa”* (page 35).

Aotea-Great-Barrier

This Local Board’s plan states that *“Our community is also incredibly conscious of remote living and the carbon impacts of freighting supplies to the island”* (page 11). The island is very different from the mostly urban areas of Auckland and has some different issues to deal with, which perhaps the rest of the city does not recognise.

CTA supports this Local Board’s intention to *“advocate to the Governing Body for continued staff support to investigate a visitor levy to respond to the impacts of tourism”* (page 14), like the levy that has been introduced to Rakiura / Stewart Island.

The Aotea-Great-Barrier Local Board has been progressing solar power upgrades of council and community buildings and electric chargers, as have several other Local Boards, and we encourage more area to do this, and for Local Boards to learn from each other in this regard.

Another aspect that perhaps other areas could learn from is the island’s *“bespoke approach to education through our Lifelong Learning Strategy, especially for our tamariki and rangatahi with a new early childhood education centre and established Aotea Learning Hub”* (page 13).

We congratulate the island on being designated as an International Dark Sky Sanctuary.

An aspect of the island that needs recognition by Auckland Council is that *“Climate change has led to warmer waters and the arrival of exotic marine pests such as Caulerpa, Asian Paddle Crab, Sea Squirt and Mediterranean Fan worm”* (page 16). We support the Local Board’s call for tighter protections for their coastal waters.

We congratulate this Local Board on its innovative low carbon initiatives, such as Anamata’s Resource Recovery Centre and AoteaOra Trust’s Off the Grid events (page 16) and agree that these should be showcased globally and there should be trials of new sustainable systems. The landfill on the island has closed, which presents a different situation than all other Auckland communities.

We support this Local Board in advocating to central government and the Governing Body to encourage manufacturers to commit to product sustainability (page 17) and encourage other Local Boards to do the same.

We also support this Local Board to:

- *“Advocate to central government and the Governing Body to abolish bottom trawling and dredging in the Hauraki Gulf and to encourage sustainable fishing as directed through Sea Change - Tai Timu Tai Pari*
- *Advocate to central government and the Governing Body for the prohibition of marine dumping” (page 17).*

Aotea-Great-Barrier does not have any public transport and we support the Local Board’s key initiative to *“Investigate a community-led public transport system” (page 19).*

We also support them to advocate to technology providers for stronger connectivity options (page 20).

Devonport-Takapuna

We support collaboration between Local Boards on many matters and so are pleased to see that this Local Board is collaborating with the Kaipātiki Local Board *“on the reduction of litter, sediment, and industry pollutants to improve the water quality of streams and ponds in the catchment of the Wairau Estuary” (page 11).*

This Local Board (and many others) is supportive of the work of environmental groups and environmental education. Amongst other environmental initiatives, we support their aim to *“Prioritise funding and support zero waste initiatives that promote a circular economy”* and the *“focus on native and ecologically appropriate planting and the principle of having the right tree in the right place” (page 12).* Regarding the trees, we would caution that the wrong tree in the wrong place (in any Local Board area) does not necessarily get removed but that it is allowed to live out its natural life, or there is consideration given to transplanting the tree. We understand that there is modern machinery that enables the transplanting of large trees. Perhaps Local Boards, including this one, could advocate to the Governing Body and/or central government for investment in one of these machines.

We see that this Local Board’s intention of *“Working with our neighbouring local boards on joint environmental initiatives to increase the impacts” (page 18)* is something that all Local Boards could do – and we know that many of them are.

We are pleased to see amongst the objectives in this Local Board’s draft plan: *“Natural and built heritage are conserved and both colonial and Māori history and significant places are valued, promoted, and celebrated” (page 19).*

We support this Local Board to *“Advocate to the Governing Body for additional funding to renew our heritage asset portfolio and enable greater protection for our heritage assets” (page 20).*

We also support this initiative (and other similar ones of other Local Boards): *“Utilisation of regional funding to retrofit assets and upgrade them with solar energy saving measures” (page 22).*

On page 25 it is stated that there is: *“Limited capacity for bikes on ferries, zero capacity for bikes on buses, and the absence of infrastructure for active travel modes on the harbour bridge is a constraint on reductions to transport emissions.”* We note that there is not quite zero capacity for bikes on buses, as fold-up bikes can be taken on buses: *“For safety of the passengers on board of buses only compact folding bikes and scooters are permitted on board, and must be folded down before boarding (at.govt.nz).”*

We would encourage the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board to advocate for bike racks on buses that go across the Auckland Harbour Bridge.

Franklin

We support this Local Board's initiative to *"Identify opportunities to reduce Franklin's mowing footprint by replacing lawn with trees"* (page 15) and the other Local Boards that have this same initiative.

We support their advocacy for *"Provision of fit for purpose public transport services that enable underserved communities to access Auckland's public and active transport networks and community service hubs, e.g. through 'AT Local' services or new bus routes"* (page 19).

Franklin, being a rural community, includes in its draft plan, which does need to be recognised by other areas: *"Auckland climate action is focussed on reducing carbon largely by reducing the use of private vehicles but does not constructively support rural residents and farmers in taking action, such as emission reduction"* (page 25).

We support this key initiative: *"Advocate for investment from Auckland Transport and central government in local initiatives that encourage and incentivise modal shift (from private vehicles to active or public transport) or shorten the commute for those reliant on private vehicles (by improving access to public transport)"* (page 26).

We support the following (pages 26 & 33):

- *"Require all public space projects in urban/future urban areas to actively contribute to increases in tree canopy cover and more green infrastructure."*
- *"Advocate for a change of policy and process so that new developments deliver 'urban lungs' i.e. areas to be planted with semimature trees to improve air quality, to lower surface temperatures and to absorb and filter rainfall."*
- *"Increased ferry capacity at Pine Harbour, Beachlands, to address local population growth, acknowledge east Auckland congestion issues and offer off-road commuter options."*

Henderson-Massey

We support this Local Board in the following:

- *"Working with Waitākere Ranges and Whau local boards to take a 'west Auckland' approach to strengthen our capacity"* (page 14)
- *"Continue to prioritise parks and play spaces that are inclusive, accessible to all, and support whānau-focused gatherings and activities"* (page 20)
- *"Progress opportunities for neighbourhood path connections, guided by the Connections Plan"*
- *Prioritise transport projects that improve safety and health and contribute to climate action and social outcomes"*
- *Support initiatives that help remove barriers to cycling e.g. access to a safe affordable bike and learn to ride programmes"* (page 22).

Hibiscus and Bays

On page 12 of this Local Board's plan, their Climate Plan actions are well detailed.

CTA supports this key initiative: *"Take a more proactive approach to ensuring that the different voices in our community are heard to inform our local board decision-making"* (page 16).

We particularly like the way this Local Board has articulated its appreciation for local volunteers: *"Our committed and skilled environmental groups we support have long established histories and have been award winners for their professionalism and work"* (page 19).

This challenge is one that other Local Boards may also face: *"There is increasing demand for council services to be available online, and 24/7 whilst recognising that at other times residents are more comfortable with a face-to-face service provision, all within budget constraints, which will require better integration of locally delivered services with regionally provided online services"* (page 22.)

We are pleased to see this opportunity expressed: *"The rapid increase in residents working from home reduces congestion and adds value to the local economy by keeping commuter spending local"* (page 25).

CTA supports the following: *"Advocate to Auckland Transport to better accommodate the integration of public transport vehicles, major bus stop and park and rides, with micro mobility and bicycles, to enable people to use these modes to connect with their public transport journey"* (page 26).

We would encourage this Local Board to also advocate to Auckland Transport for bike racks on buses.

Howick

This Local Board has a strong focus on youth, as do many of the others.

We note the following key initiative: *"Support the Tūpuna Maunga Authority to protect and enhance Ōhūiarangi / Pigeon Mountain"* (page 20). We do support protecting the maunga but we do not support the removal of trees from any of the maunga in Auckland. It is our position that particular trees that are not wanted on the maunga should live out their natural lives and that replacement planting of other species can be planned for.

We support this Local Board in its intention to advocate to local schools to *"make sustainability, environmental responsibility and waste management part of school values"* (page 20). These values, across Auckland schools should, through school students, extend into the community and become embedded in future generations.

We support this key Initiative (which is shared by other Local Boards): *"Promote healthy living and sustainable lifestyles by supporting community-led initiatives, such as vegetable gardens, and by encouraging and educating the wider community of the benefits of growing your own food"* (page 22).

We support this special initiative and are of the view that it would have region-wide use: *"Establish a sensory playspace that contains areas and equipment that provides stimulation of the senses for children with visual impairment or developmental disorder"* (page 22).

CTA supports this advocacy to Auckland Transport, which could be replicated in other Local Board areas, where appropriate, for:

- “feeder bus services or other innovative on demand services that will enable the community to access the existing bus / ferry networks
- more bus services to serve all areas of the local board
- provision of more ferry and train services” (page 26).

The following is important for all Local Boards: *“Advocate to the Governing Body to: ensure adequate infrastructure is in place before approving housing intensification”* (page 26).

We support the following key initiative: *“Continue to provide operational funding support for the Howick Historic Village”* (page 28).

We support the protection of historic landscapes and in this regard, support efforts to protect in the Unitary Plan the views from Stockade Hill.

Kaipātiki

As with other Local Boards, this one is looking at solar energy, and we support their particular initiatives to: *“Investigate installing solar on facilities with significant solar potential, including: Birkenhead Pool and Leisure Centre, Kaipātiki Local Board Office, Glenfield Pool and Leisure Centre”* (page 14).

We feel that the following key initiative could be adopted by all Local Boards: *“Seek feedback from our student and children’s panels to inform our decisions with a child-lens”* (page 17).

CTA supports the Kaipātiki Local Board’s advocacy to the Governing Body:

- *“to protect and celebrate our built and cultural heritage”* (page 18), and
- *“for the ability for local boards to have direct decision-making authority to make temporary changes to dog access rules to mitigate environmental or social problems, and request the opportunity to be included in the next round of dog access revision hearings Governing Body”* (page 23).

We also support this Local Board advocating to central government:

- *“to reinstate legislation that provides general tree protection”* (page 23), and
- *“for urban planning legislation to adequately protect special ecological areas Central Government”* (page 23).

We see that the challenge expressed by this Local Board that *“An increased number of schools are restricting public access to their grounds outside of school hours which is impacting informal community recreation opportunities”* (page 25) could provide the opportunity to talk to other Local Board about this problem and possible solutions.

We support the following key initiatives, which could be the same for all Local Boards:

- *“Consider climate impact when developing places and spaces, to reduce or avoid emissions and adapt to climate change, including avoiding areas or activities that are vulnerable to climate risks such as drought, extreme rainfall, coastal flooding, and heat*
- *Prioritise investment in assets that are well positioned, multi-purpose, and with good transport links, to reduce its carbon footprint”* (page 27).

We also consider that all Local Boards would similarly advocate for and support the following:

- *“the development of a quality compact, urban form that supports low carbon, resilient development, while ensuring adequate infrastructure to support it*
- *the uptake of sustainable design and construction that will be resilient to the impacts of climate change, including council projects, and encourage residents and businesses to use eco-design and water sensitive design practices”* (page 28).

We think that all Local Boards would want this for their area: *“Advocate for increased resource for compliance enforcement teams so they can respond to all requests and complaints received in the Kaipātiki area”* (page 28).

We support cheaper fares, more frequent ferries, and more buses going to more destinations, more directly (page 29). We view the harbour as an underutilised resource which does not need the sort of maintenance that roads and rail do. We also support electric buses and ferries for Kaipātiki (page 32).

This matter seems to need to become more widely known within Auckland Council: *“Advocate for policy and funding changes to reduce the use of the ‘chip seal’ road resealing method on suburban roads”* (page 32).

We find it useful to have this pointed out: *“Increase in working from home means more of our people are based locally during working hours which can help ease congestions at peak times, enable access to skilled work without the need to travel as frequently, and help increase spending in our town centres”* (page 35).

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu

This Local Board sees as an opportunity, which we think other Local Boards could embrace as well: *“Identify areas where community groups are better placed to deliver services and projects that are currently delivered by council”* (page 14).

CTA supports the **Māngere-Ōtāhuhu** Local Board to:

- *“Revive the Māngere Gateway Heritage plan to enhance Stonefields and promote and regain heritage values* (page 17).
- *Partner with mana whenua to protect significant historical sites and waterways that host an abundance of native plants and animals*
- *Work with Kāinga Ora to encourage tree planting in their housing developments”* (page 18).

CTA supports the entire advocacy list of this Local Board, on page 18 of their draft plan, which focuses on protecting and enhancing their natural environment, including active management of high-value biodiversity features in their area, and achieving zero waste and zero dumping.

Manurewa

The Manurewa Local Board highlights the lack of equitable funding for their area over the last 13 years, and we support them in their advocacy to the Governing Body to confirm its commitment to achieving funding equity for local boards, and to *“Look at ways to achieve funding equity for the most underfunded boards in the shortest timeframe possible with a priority focus on Manurewa, then other southern local boards”* (page 23).

As with some other Local Boards, the lack of decent public transport options is noted. We support their advocacy to increase the frequency, connectivity, and capacity of public transport

services in their area (page 15), and, as with all Local Boards, suggest that car pooling is another option that could be promoted and supported by them.

This Local Board (as with all others) intends to enhance the urban ngahere. They point out that *“there is only so much that can be done on council-owned land.”* We support their call for legislative measures that *“could include adding protection and enhancement of urban ngahere to environmental targets and making it easier for local authorities to protect trees on private land”* (page 16).

We support this Local Board (and the others which have this initiative) in the installation of more solar panels across their community facilities in partnership with power companies. The Manurewa Local Board will encourage households to do this too (page 18), and other Local Boards could encourage the households in their areas to do likewise.

CTA supports this Local Board to *“Advocate to Auckland Transport to increase the frequency and capacity of trains and buses to and from Manurewa and Clendon town centres, linking more of our communities to public transport hubs”* (page 18).

We note the establishment of the Manurewa Community Recycling Centre at the Beautification Trust and their support of the pop-up Repair Cafes operating at the Trust and at Nathan Homestead. We support them to *“continue to advocate for a southern resource recovery park as part of the Auckland Resource Recovery Network”* (page 25).

We are pleased to note under Opportunities: *“increase awareness of the notable tree schedule to protect more of our trees”* and *“using nature-based solutions for flood management”* (page 26), and we support the key initiative to *“Replace every tree removed from the streetscape due to damage, storms and accidents within one year”* (page 27). This practical and clear action could be adopted by other Local Boards.

We also support the following: *“Promote the integration of natural ecosystems into the existing built form, which may include the construction of raingardens, living roofs and swales, mass tree planting, remediation of existing or contaminated soils, rehabilitation of watercourses and wetlands, and opening up buried watercourses and restoring them to more natural conditions (stream daylighting)”* (page 27).

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki

We liked to see the use of different languages in this Local Board’s draft plan in addition to English and te reo.

CTA supports the following advocacy to the Governing Body of the Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board:

- *“to ensure appropriate mechanisms are implemented to limit development where infrastructure cannot support increased pressure from planned growth”* (page 21)
- *“for appropriate staffing resources to enable quality advice for good decision-making, particularly planning, to utilise increased local board decision-making and ensure local services are cost effective and fit-for-purpose”* (page 29)
- *“to increase the regional demolition fund. To maximise the use of our open spaces and oversubscribed maintenance budgets, local boards can look to reduce underutilised and aged buildings on reserves. Regional support will help local boards to realise these strategic long-term opportunities”* (page 29).

Regarding the last one, we caution that these buildings first need to be accessed, especially for heritage and community values.

Ōrākei

This Local Board's intention to use methods such as digital signage, e-newsletters and social media as a way to improve communication with the community could be considered by other Local Boards.

We support the idea to *“Advocate to businesses and philanthropic organisations to seek funding partnerships for community services”* (page 14), which perhaps other Local Boards could also adopt.

We are pleased to see the inclusion in the draft plan of *“Delivering the Pourewa Valley Integrated Management Plan will support the restoration of this significant urban forest”* (page 16).

We strongly support the following (the second of which is also advocated for by other Local Boards):

- *“Continue funding for the Eastern Bays Songbird Project in their valuable work creating and maintaining a sanctuary for wildlife in the Eastern Bays area”* (page 17)
- *“Advocate for a sponge-city approach which promotes water-sensitive design and enables bluegreen networks to manage flooding”* (page 18).

The Ōrākei Local Board states that *“Seismic restoration of Remuera library is undertaken”* (page 23) and we strongly support the restoration of what is not only a heritage building but a community asset.

The Ōrākei Local Board states in its draft plan that theirs is *“an area rich in history. We can use our wonderful built heritage and local history to engender pride in our area and to help protect this valuable heritage”* (page 25). We appreciate the Local Board's acknowledgement of their built heritage and also of the Remuera Heritage Society (page 25).

We support the Local Board advocating to the Tūpuna Maunga Authority to *“protect the War Memorial Seat and daffodil commemorative garden, and for effective pest control on Ōhinerau / Mt Hobson”* (page 27).

CTA also supports the Local Board advocating to the Governing Body, central government and developers *“to ensure the unique character and heritage of our area is retained as development occurs”* and we support the Local Board *“monitoring and assessing proposed legislation that may increase intensification that may have an effect on our infrastructure and character”* (page 27).

Otara-Papatoetoe

This Local Board articulates (as many other Local Boards do, and with which CTA agrees) that it should be the local people who decide what the priorities in their area are: *“Your input on what we need to prioritise for the next three years will help us greatly with this challenge”* (page 3).

Regarding the Local Boards intention to *“Develop a multi-park management plan that manage the use, development and protection of all parks, reserves and open spaces in the area”* (page 21) we would say that the different types and characters of parks need to be considered when developing such a plan or plans.

On page 3 it is stated that *“Public transport hubs and facilities including Manukau Bus and Train Stations, Puhinui Station Interchange, and the Southern Line train provide opportunities for connectivity and public transport use for both residents and visitors”* and the Puhinui Station to attract visitors to the area is a key initiative. As CTA detailed in our submission on [Auckland Council's Future Development Strategy](#):

“This station is an important part of the city’s infrastructure. As Puhinui Station connects to the wider public transport network, you can travel to and from Auckland Airport from anywhere in the city. The bus operates every 10 minutes from 4.30am to 12.40am, 7 days a week and there is a train from Puhinui Station to Britomart every 15 minutes. However, this AirportLink service is not clearly signposted at the airport and we understand that it is used very little. The facility to use public transport without needing a HOP card, as planned within the next 12 months, should help in this regard, but the AirportLink service needs more publicity. For example, the staff at the airport who monitor cars that arrive at the domestic terminal to pick up incoming passengers could hand drivers brochures that describe this service, so people can use it next time.”

We would encourage this Local Board to advocate to AT to publicise this important part of the public transport network.

Papakura

We support this Local Board to: *“Continue work on a heritage trail featuring sites of significance in Māori and European local history, acknowledging Ngāti Tamaoho’s cultural indicators along the southern path overlooking the Manukau Harbour”* (page 8) and we support their aim to highlight and celebrate the area’s history and heritage.

We are pleased that the Manurewa Community Recycling centre is in place and that the Papakura Local Board describes the circular economy that will *“reduce costs and reduce carbon footprint”* (page 11).

We support this Local Board’s advocacy in the following areas of public transport (pages 29 & 30):

- *“Developing AT Local (on demand shared public transport service) in parts of Papakura Local Board area to increase public transport use.*
- *Great South Road –moving the cycle lane to an off-road shared pathway and converting the existing cycle and parking lanes into a combined T2 bus lane.*
- *Increased operating hours of southern train and public transport connections to airport and other employment nodes.*
- *Extending public transport routes to Ardmore and Bruce Pulman Park.”*

We also support the advocacy for *“an increase in the standard street width requirement in new developments”* and *“developers/body corporates to cover ongoing maintenance of green space and enhanced tree canopy in new developments”* (page 30).

Puketāpapa

We congratulate the Puketāpapa Local Board for developing their [‘Becoming a Low Carbon Community’ Action Plan](#) action prior to Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland Climate Plan. We would like to see the “local climate champions” mentioned in this plan become more visible and for other Local Boards to adopt this idea.

We support the Local Board’s aim to *“Use existing community hubs, such as the library, to increase community understanding of climate change and promote local climate action initiatives”* (page 16). Schools and libraries are an excellent resource for educating the wider public on climate change.

Rodney

This Local Board states that its residents *“often feel marginalised from Auckland Central and generally do not feel heard by decision makers”* (page 14). We are not sure how the Local Board will address this, but making other Local Boards aware of it should help.

CTA supports the following advocacy by this Local Board to the Governing Body:

- *“for Kawau Island to become pest free, with the support of the community, iwi, the Department of Conservation and stakeholders”* (page 20)
- *“for more investment in regional parks in our local board area and resourcing for service provision, such as with service centres, to meet the pressures of population growth and tourism”* (page 24).

The draft plan states that *“Our large geographical area and low population makes providing public transport difficult”* (page 30). We suggest that with the good community connections described in the draft plan, where *“people look out for each other and feel supported”* (page 3) that carpooling would be a good option that could be promoted and supported.

CTA supports the following advocacy to Auckland Transport:

- *“for the use of the existing rail network to be used for commuter transport to service the North West.”*
- *“for further improvements and the expansion of Rodney bus services particularly in new development areas including park-and-rides, dedicated bus ways, additional routes and stops, weekend services on busier routes, higher frequency on busy routes and greater safety for bus drivers”* (page 31).

Upper Harbour

We support the Upper Harbour Local Board to *“Advocate for accessible, multi-lingual, and easy-to-use engagement methods that enable our diverse residents to participate in both local and regional consultations and engagement processes”* (page 14).

We appreciate that this Local Board has articulated (under Challenges): *“Cost implications of restoration and conservation of our natural environment balanced against the cost of doing nothing”* (page 16) and the huge risks that climate change poses to the environment and people, also the negative impacts of intensification and population growth. In our recent submission on Auckland Council’s Future Development Strategy, we cautioned against too much growth too fast, and that it is preferable to stage intensification, and certainly not to do so in areas that were exposed to potential hazards.

We agree that *“Reducing carbon emissions as individuals can be difficult”* and that *“Communities need support and opportunities to make changes and live more sustainably”* (page 16). We are of the view that Local Boards are making positive differences as regards education about climate change and they can learn from each other’s problems and initiatives, and support each other.

Waiheke

Waiheke is an island sanctuary in the Gulf, as articulated in this Local Board’s draft plan on pg 3.

We commend this Local Board for *adopting “even bolder climate goals through its Waiheke Local Climate Action Plan which includes the aim of achieving a net positive carbon footprint by 2040”* (page 11). This could be a model for other Local Boards.

We recognise this key initiative as important: *“Complete a feasibility study into the equity of year-round access to adequate potable water supply for Waiheke Island residents”* (page 13).

We support this opportunity: *“Waiheke becoming a predator free island”* (page 16) and see the importance of public messaging and the work of predator-free groups.

We support the creation of wildlife corridors (including new and restored wetlands), kauri sanctuaries and seabird and shorebird breeding colonies across the islands, as well as stream restoration projects and academic and citizen science programmes to help understand and support the health of the aquatic environment (pp 16 – 17).

CTA strongly supports advocacy for *“an end to bottom contact fishing such as dredging, bottom trawling and Danish seining”* (page 18).

We also support advocacy to Auckland Transport for a designated Harbourmaster on Waiheke to be sufficiently empowered to address the increasing numbers of abandoned or derelict boats degrading the island’s marine environment.

CTA also supports this Local Board’s key initiative to *“Implement the Waiheke Be Accessible Plan as resources become available to ensure facilities are accessible to all”* (page 21).

Waitākere Ranges

The people of this Local Board area (as with others in the outer areas) often travel long distances to access work and education opportunities. We see that park and ride is an important way of connecting to public transport services (page 12) and that there is anticipation of the benefits that the City Rail Link will bring, as it will mean a 30-minute trip to get into the city.

We support this Local Board’s advocacy in *“Trialling a rural bus service to give our residents and visitors access to public transport”* (page 29).

We support the Local Board also advocating for improved access to broadband and mobile phone services (page 12).

The Waitākere Ranges Heritage Area is a place of national significance which is appreciated by many throughout Auckland, for whom it is a favourite place to visit. There are at least 27 volunteer environmental groups active in the area, recognised in the draft plan. We support the Waitākere Ranges Local Board in its focus on protecting, restoring and enhancing this special area, including making the area a dark sky viewing location (page 15).

CTA supports this key initiative and would like to see it adopted by other Local Boards: *“Ensure universal design for accessibility is embedded into all park development projects to enable everyone to access their local parks”* (page 25).

We also strongly support the following: *“Provide input into council plans, policies and project design, as well as the resource consent decisions relating to heritage”* (page 29).

Waitematā

We support the Waitematā Local Board to *“Promote Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre, local waste minimisation and resource recovery initiatives”* (page 14), and we encourage this Local Board to do this in collaboration with the Albert-Eden Local Board.

We support this key initiative *“Local composting and community gardens network”* (page 14) and would like this Local Board to revisit the application of OMG (Organic Market Garden) to establish a community garden in the Bowen Ave part of Albert Park which has not yet gone ahead, having not received the support it needed.

Under “Our People,” the statement *“We celebrate our diversity and heritage and encourage equitable access to social, economic, environmental and cultural opportunities”* is inspiring (page 16).

We appreciate the following being articulated in the plan: *“We recognise the importance of treasuring and protecting our green spaces, heritage parks and trees”* (page 27).

Under Opportunities: *“Greater value for money through a partnership model which could leverage funding from other sources outside of Auckland Council”* (page 18) is something that other Local Boards could also consider.

We are pleased to see that the problem of air pollution and pollution from shipping is noted (page 21). Pollution as such is not articulated in other Local Board plans. We are also concerned at the proliferation of visual clutter, particularly in terms of lighting, signage and some unnecessary street furniture.

We support the following and consider that other Local Boards could adopt the same: *“Encourage, exemplify and promote the installation of ‘living’ green walls, rooftops, and assets in public buildings and private developments such as the Central City Library living roof, to improve air quality, green space, and biodiversity outcomes in urban environments”* (page 24).

We support the following, and again, encourage other Local Boards to do the same: *“Continue to reduce the use of agrichemicals in our parks and open spaces and advocate for agrichemical spraying to be phased out regionally”* (page 24).

We strongly support this advocacy: *“Auckland Council to advocate for changes to legislation and regulations to enable councils to introduce planning controls on how urban trees are assessed and protected. Auckland Council to simplify and better resource processes for identifying and protecting mature trees”* (page 25).

We encourage the Local Board to consider, when developing concept plans (e.g., Basque Park, Heard Park, 254 Ponsonby Road and Wynyard Point) (page 27) not only the views of the local community and others who will access these spaces but also whether any “revitalisation” works planned are necessary. CTA has previously submitted that Heard Park does not need a makeover, and that the money be better spent elsewhere. Indeed, a couple of paragraphs down (on page 27) in the draft plan it is stated, *“The cost of maintaining our assets and facilities is no longer affordable.”*

CTA strongly supports the key initiative to: *“Deliver seismic strengthening, restoration and modernisation of Leys Institute Library and Gymnasium to preserve as a heritage taonga for future generations”* (page 28).

Regarding the development of a Local Parks Management Plan (page 28), we caution that not all local parks are the same, and their diversity and special circumstances should be catered for.

We support this key initiative: *“Acknowledge the importance of Te Hā (pōhutukawa) and the whenua that sustains it and investigate opportunities to increase the status and protection of Dove Myer Robinson Park including the possible inclusion in the heritage schedules of the Auckland Unitary Plan”* (page 29).

Under “Our Places,” the Local Board states: *“The government’s proposed legislative changes in resource management and urban development enable more intensive development in the city centre and around our neighbourhoods. This creates a challenge to ensure our neighbourhood character and heritage is conserved within our urban landscapes. We will support quality design in new developments that embraces existing heritage to create the heritage of the future”* (page 32). CTA strongly endorses this statement, and also the following one: *“We want to increase understanding, protection and conservation of city centre heritage places, landscapes and*

stories. Our city centre should actively recognise and celebrate Auckland’s historic heritage as a driver of positive change and placemaking” (page 33) and “Valued elements of heritage and special character in the local board area should be recognised formally and informally to assist with its protection and incorporation in the development of our urban landscapes” (page 34).

We support the following key initiatives (page 36):

“Provide feedback on resource consents and planning processes to ensure heritage sites and Special Character Areas are protected

- *Ensure our heritage assets are restored such as Ewelme Cottage and Symonds Street Cemetery monuments*
- *Seek opportunities to promote and celebrate heritage places in Waitemātā including making digital content and place-based stories more accessible*
- *Reflect Māori heritage and whakapapa in our public spaces and facilities incorporating Māori design principles and artwork.”*

We also support this Local Board’s advocacy to the Governing Body as follows (page 37):

- *Advocate to the Governing Body to allocate adequate funds to restore and preserve its heritage buildings, including incorporating seismic strengthening where necessary, to ensure their ongoing usage.*
- *Advocate to the Governing Body to allocate adequate funds to continue identification and formal protection of heritage and character elements of the Waitemātā environment.*
- *Advocate to the Governing Body to retain the council’s Heritage Acquisition Fund to assist with the protection and adaptive re-use of significant heritage buildings in the local board area.*

CTA strongly supports the following initiatives (page 44):

- *Support the preservation of significant heritage buildings such as Carlile House, the former Fitzroy Hotel and St James Theatre.*

We also strongly support advocacy to central government for incentives to encourage the retention of heritage and character elements of the built environment (page 44).

CTA submits that an important addition to the draft plan is the recognition that significant parts of the landscape need protecting, particularly the Waitemātā Harbour and volcanic cones, and other heritage landscapes.

Whau

CTA supports this Local Board advocating to central government for *“Legislation to protect a greater number of significant trees”* (page 23), which other Local Boards have also included in their draft plans.

We also support their concern for sustainable building initiatives and practices (page 23).

We strongly support the key initiative to: *“Ensure events and services are developed with accessibility considerations to support participation from residents with either physical or intellectual disabilities”* (page 25) and to *“Continue to prioritise and implement actions identified in the previous term to improve accessibility within key parks in the Whau, and do accessibility audits within additional parks”* (page 26).

We support the advocacy to *“Progress on the development of the Avondale-Southdown rail line to support freight movement Kiwi Rail Feedback on relevant policies and plans Central government Auckland Light Rail Group”* (page 31).

We strongly support the following initiative: *“Infrastructure and development that meets future growth, incorporates sustainable urban design principles, and is resilient to climate change, e.g. waste reduction, installation of stormwater retention tanks and permeable surfaces in housing developments”* (page 31).

Date of submission: 14 August, 2023

Signature:



Secretary, Civic Trust Auckland





Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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.

Bike Auckland

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Tell us why

7. **Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**

See Attached.

14.08.2023

Draft Local Board Plans 2023 Feedback

Who is Bike Auckland?

Bike Auckland is a non-profit organisation advocating for safer streets on behalf of everyone who rides a bike in our region - and everyone who would love to give it a go. But more than that: we believe that more people on bikes makes for a better city. Call it a virtuous cycle. Cleaner air, streets with birdsong, neighbours who know each other, elderly people staying active and healthy, children playing on quiet roads. Resilient, eco-friendly multi-modal communities which have long term sustainability. We can create this liveable city by investing in walking, cycling, and public transport. Investing now will save us more money in the future and that's the future we want to live in.

Our audience and members live and work in every local board area, all across the Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland region. This feedback is on their behalf.

Our feedback

We know our members would like to see the following in their local board plans:

- Public transport and active transport modes given priority
- Accessibility for all kinds of disabilities
- Safe streets for kids to walk and cycle to school
- Vibrant town centres with well-designed, people-oriented public spaces
- Low traffic neighbourhoods

Note: People, Environment, Economy, Place, Community are all interlinked focuses and all can be benefited through more transport choice; allowing them to choose to walk, cycle, other micromobility, or use public transport.

People: Diversity includes people who are disabled or who experience mobility difficulties. 28% of Aucklanders do not have a license, and many more do not (or cannot) drive due to illness (seizures, fatigue, anxiety), vision impairments, medication, ADD, or age. These people need the choice to safely walk, cycle and take public transport to get around. Some people find that cycling is easier, and less painful for them than walking (especially if it's an E-bike), and cycling is often recommended by physios as a way to rehabilitate after illness or injury. Providing safe ways to get around by bike creates greater accessibility for this significant portion of our population, and for everyone when they are temporarily injured and are recuperating.

Environment: Cars create run off into our waterways. Giving people the safe option to walk and cycle more will lead to healthier waterways.

Community: When people walk and cycle for their transport they make more eye contact, say hello more, and generally become more connected with their surroundings. This leads to more connected communities, greater community cohesion, greater trust in neighbours, and less loneliness and isolation. This connectedness becomes powerful during times of emergency and can make stronger communities that support each other more and have greater resilience to bounce back from disasters. Bikes can also play crucial role as resilient and versatile transport modes during disasters, especially as they are small, and do not form traffic jams the way that cars do. [More on this here](#).

Key initiatives

Safe speeds

[Safe speeds](#) on residential streets, town centres, and [around schools](#). Permanent speed reductions to 30km/hr not only provide amazing safety outcomes, they are also our fastest and cheapest way of making a safe network for cycling. If our residential areas, schools, and town centres are 30km / hr it feels (and is!) much safer to walk and ride a bike, and many more people will begin to use these transport modes for their everyday local trips.

Modal filters

Another cheap and fast improvement is use of modal filters in residential streets (such as planter boxes or bollards). Modal filters stop cars from cutting through but allow people using bikes, wheelchairs, and pushchairs to get through. Particularly for streets with a large amount of people driving through as a short-cut (rat running) modal filters can help to make the street safer, and quieter, and can also encourage locals to use their bikes and feet for short local trips.

Protected Cycleways on main arterials

Arterial roads usually have higher traffic volumes, higher speeds, and more trucks and buses. Altogether this makes a formidable environment for riding a bike! They are also usually the most direct route to a destination! To give people greater transport choice, there needs to be protected spaces along our main arterials for people to cycle in. This can be done cheap and fast through the use of road reallocation and “pop up” materials like concrete tim tams or tall rubber. We know our members would like to see a network of safer streets sooner, and this means investing in infrastructure which is cheap and fast to roll out.

Greenways

Include safe cycleways through parks, green spaces, and “[blue-green networks](#)”. These provide safe spaces for children and adults to learn to ride a bike and become more confident - they can also form amazing connections to schools, local shops, and public transport.

Safer speeds, modal filters, protected cycleways on arterials, and off road paths through parks all together will form an accessible, safe, efficient, and connected network safe places to ride a bike across our neighbourhoods. These would link people to schools, town centres, and public transport, making local trips by carbon friendly and active modes easier and more appealing.

We also want to see secure bike parking at train stations, transport hubs, town centres, and community facilities (eg. work with your local businesses to get a network of [Lockydocks!](#)), wayfinding to help people find their way around the existing cycleways, and support for community bike hubs and community events which include cycles

We’ve listed some specific transport projects we know our local members would love to see their local boards support. You can find them below in the list of specific local board area ideas.

We would like local boards to advocate for Auckland Transport to:

- Align all projects and renewals with the [Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway \(TERP\)](#) and emission reduction goals
- Support the campaign to [Liberate the Lane](#) on the Auckland Harbour Bridge for walking, cycling, and wheeling
- Advocate for an [E-bike subsidy](#) to help more people replace their car trips with bikes! E-bikes are more accessible for a wider range of people
- Invest more from the financial budget towards walking and cycling. Our emissions reduction and vision zero targets demand a larger monetary allocation towards these modes
- Make streets safer by [reducing speed limits](#) to 30km/h [around schools](#), residential streets, and town centres
- Use modal filters to stop rat running and make residential streets safer and quieter
- Provide an accessible, safe, and efficient local network of pathways and cycleways throughout the region
- Advocate for a local version of Portland's Bike [Disaster Relief Trials](#) to prepare our communities and equip them to respond during emergencies
- Improve cycle and pathway safety, including lighting, physical traffic barriers, non-slip surfaces
- Improve the local public transport network and bus lane priority (bus lanes are often used by more confident cyclists)
- Support local initiatives to reduce emissions by encouraging more use of public transport (eg. secure bike parking at transport hubs, safe cycleways connecting to public transport hubs)

Ideas for specific local board areas:

In alphabetical order...

Albert-Eden Local Board

- Advocate for delivery of the [New North road and Symonds street upgrade](#)
- Advocate for a safe cycle connection along St Luke's road
- Support having a [community bike hub](#) in or near the Mt Eden area

- Ensure the [Pt Chevalier to Westmere Improvements](#) is delivered

Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

- Advocate for safe cycle connections from trails to airports and ferry terminals

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

- Support the campaign to [Liberate the Lane](#) on the Auckland Harbour Bridge for walking, cycling, and wheeling
- Support safer speeds, cycle improvements, and raised pedestrian crossings in [Devonport Village](#)
- Support a protected cycleway along Bayswater Avenue (especially so the kids can safely cycle to school)
- Support a protected cycleway along Lake road to connect Devonport safely to Takapuna!

Franklin Local Board

- Support local trail connections throughout the area
- Advocate for, and support, a safer Pukekohe town centre

Henderson-Massey Local Board

- Support protected cycleways through the Henderson town centre
- Advocate for a safe cycle connection from the Henderson town centre to the North Western pathway
- Advocate for a safe cycle connection from Te Atatū town centre to the North Western pathway
- Advocate for improvements for Twin Streams paths ([Opanuku](#) and [Oratia](#)) – especially where they have been damaged by recent weather

Hibiscus and Bays Local Board

- Advocate for a safe cycle connection from Whangaparāoa town centre to Shakespeare Regional Park
- Advocate for a safe cycle connection from Torbay and Browns Bay to the [Northern Corridor](#)

Howick Local Board

- Support the safe cycleway which is part of the extension of the Eastern Busway project
- Advocate for safe cycleway connections to the Eastern Busway and the cycleway beside it

Kaipātiki Local Board

- Support a safe cycle connection from Upper Harbour Drive to Albany Highway
- Support extension of the [Albany Highway](#) cycleway to connect South to the Glenfield road cycleway as was planned a long time ago!
- Advocate and support the continuation of the [Northern Pathway](#) to Westhaven
- Advocate for safe cycle connections to the Northern Pathway
- Support the campaign to [Liberate the Lane](#) on the Auckland Harbour Bridge for walking, cycling, and wheeling

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board

- Advocate for the [Waikaraka Cycleway](#) to connect all the way around Manukau Harbour to [Norana Esplanade](#) for greater transport choice (especially for people who live or work in Ōtāhuhu) and for a beautiful scenic ride
- Advocate to make the slippery paths in Norana Esplanade safer for people using bikes!
- Support a safe cycleway connection from Māngere Town Centre and the Airport all the way to Nga Hau Māngere Bridge (connecting schools along the way!)
- Advocate for a safe cycle connection from Ōtāhuhu to Sylvia Park

Manurewa Local Board

- Pop up cycleways, such as using concrete tim tams to make a protected on road cycleway, are a fast and cheap way of creating a safe cycle network. Let this board know whether or not you support pop up cycleways for this area
- Support a safe, protected cycleway along Mahia and Roscommon roads
- Support and deliver a [walking and cycling bridge](#) over Papakura stream to connect Wattle Downs and Waiata Shores
- Advocate for an extension of the Southern Corridor further North to connect to the CBD (eg. along Great South road)

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board

- Advocate for the [Waikaraka Cycleway](#) to connect all the way around Manukau Harbour to [Norana Esplanade](#) for greater transport choice (especially for people who live or work in Ōtāhuhu) and for a beautiful scenic ride
- Advocate for safe cycle connections from the existing surrounding cycleways through Mt Wellington (eg. Waikaraka Cycleway, Eastern Busway cycleway in Panmure)
- Advocate for a safe cycle connection from Panmure through to the Glen Innes shared path (from which you can ride safely all the way to the CBD!)
- Advocate for a safe cycle network [through Onehunga](#) and connecting to Royal Oak roundabout
- Advocate to make [Royal Oak roundabout safer](#) for everyone (there are some glaring gaps in safety for people riding bikes!)

Ōrākei Local Board

- Advocate for and deliver the Gowing Drive connection to Te Ara ki Uta ki Tai, the Glen Innes to Tāmaki shared path
- Support the completion of [Stage 4 of Te Ara ki Uta ki Tai](#)
- Advocate for a space for local mountain bike tracks and skills equipment
- Advocate to make the slippery boardwalks safer for people using bikes!

Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board

- Support delivery of a local bike park
- Advocate for an extension of the Southern Corridor further North to connect to the CBD (eg. along Great South road)

Papakura Local Board

- Pop up cycleways, such as using concrete tim tams to make a protected on road cycleway, are a fast and cheap way of creating a safe cycle network. Let this board know whether or not you support pop up cycleways for this area
- Advocate for safe cycle connections to the Southern Corridor

Puketāpapa Local Board

- Continue to support safe cycle connections throughout the area

Rodney Local Board

- Support a safe cycle connection from the NorthWestern shared path through to the Kumeū town centre

Upper Harbour Local Board

- Advocate for a safe cycleway along [Oteha Valley Road](#)
- Advocate and support the continuation of the [Northern Pathway](#) to Westhaven
- Advocate for safe cycle connections to the Northern Pathway
- Support extension of the [Albany Highway](#) cycleway southwards to connect to the Glenfield road cycleway as was planned a long time ago!
- Support the campaign to [Liberate the Lane](#) on the Auckland Harbour Bridge for walking, cycling, and wheeling

Waiheke Local Board

- Advocate for safe, protected cycleways throughout the island!

Waitākere Ranges Local Board

- Support safe cycle connections to public transport hubs
- Support safe cycle connections through Glen Eden and to the Waikumete stream
- Advocate for a safe cycle connection through to Kelston and New Lynn
- Investigate potential for cycle trails through the Waitākere area

Waitematā Local Board

- Continue to support and implement the [City Centre Masterplan](#)
- Connect [Te Hā Noa](#) up to the rest of the Victoria Street cycleway; under current plans there will be a sad gap of a couple of blocks between them!
- Make sure [the Strand](#) has a safe connection for bikes to cross the bridge over the railway (to Tāmaki Drive / Quay st)
- Support safe walking and cycling connections around the [Karanga-a-hape station](#) and to the rest of the cycleway network
- Ensure the delivery of the [Great North road street improvement project](#)
- Support the [Waitematā Safer Routes](#) to get funded and delivered
- Support the campaign to [Liberate the Lane](#) on the Auckland Harbour Bridge for walking, cycling, and wheeling

Whau Local Board

- Support the completion of the next section of [Te Whau Pathway](#)
- Continuing open streets events through the Avondale town centre (eg. regularly on Sundays when the market is on)
- Support safe cycle connections through New Lynn and Kelston
- Support the [New North road and Symonds street upgrade](#) (it connects along the top of Rosebank road)



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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Community Groups Feeding the Homeless

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Tell us why

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

See Attached.



Submission of Community Groups Feeding the Homeless

Draft Local Board Plans - all

Name: Audrey van Ryn (Secretary)

Organisation: Community Groups Feeding the Homeless Inc.

Phone (daytime): 021 0354431

Phone (evening): 021 0354431

Email: audrey@writeaway.co.nz

Postal address: 5C, 28 Wellesley Street East, Auckland 1010

The focus of Community Groups Feeding the Homeless (CGFH), which has been in existence for 5 years, is on feeding homeless people and supporting them in other ways. We act as an umbrella group that supports a number of groups, including Sunday Blessings (Waitematā) and Waka of Caring (Manurewa).

Homelessness is an issue that affects all of Auckland. Homeless people are amongst the most vulnerable people in our communities. In our view, local boards could help with community initiatives that support homeless people, and we know that some of them do and we appreciate that. Community Groups Feeding the Homeless (CGFH) has received funding from two local boards to support groups that we provide admin and practical support to, for which we are very grateful. We also appreciate the Local Boards that mention homelessness and/or deprivation and inequity in their plans and those that have key initiatives or advocacy that address homelessness.

We would like to see local boards support members of the community wishing to set up Pātaka Kai (<https://www.patakai.co.nz/>) and that local boards publicise, perhaps in their e-newsletters, the locations of these free community pantries in their area. These pantries have been set up around New Zealand and many of them are in Auckland, though there are none in the city centre or on Aotea-Great Barrier.

We are also aware that some local board areas have community fridges in them, and we would like to see local boards supporting the establishment of more of them.

CGFH supports the roll-out of food scraps bins, and once they are established and people know how to use them, we would like the community to be encouraged to place any edible food that they don't need in a Pātaka Kai or fridge rather than in their food scraps bin.

We would also like to inform Local Board that one of the groups we are associated with, Guru Nanak Free Kitchen, has informed us that all the Sikh gurdwaras throughout Auckland are open 24/7 with food available for homeless people and others in need. In this time of cost of living difficulties and food insecurity, we feel it is important that the community know of such facilities and local boards are one way to inform the community.

We know that many of the libraries and community centres throughout Auckland welcome homeless people and some of them have programmes to support them and/or facilities such as showers that homeless people can use. We thank these places for their valuable support.

We note in the following local board draft plans what could and/or definitely are references to support for homeless people and those who are suffering from food insecurity in key initiatives and advocacy, and we endorse your support:

Henderson-Massey

What we will work on:

“Prioritise investment into communities of greatest need to support initiatives led by the community, for the community” (page 14).

“Work with West Auckland Together to support community-led resilience through the kai sovereignty project, including developing māra kai” (page 18).

“F2. Protect our productive soils and move toward regenerative practices to increase food security and carbon sequestration F3. Prevent and reduce waste and maximise the value of surplus food F4. Increase supply and demand for local, seasonal and low carbon food” (page 12).

Hibiscus and Bays

“Advocate for better connections between the local board, our communities and central government agencies working with our communities to build trust, and better outcomes for all, in key areas of concern such as homelessness, housing, transport and marine fisheries (page 16)”

Franklin

“Fund community resilience programmes that: • facilitate locally-led emergency response and resilience planning • support resident associations to embrace new communities • support organisations helping our most vulnerable” (page 18).

Kaipātiki

Flagship project

“Support community-led low carbon food initiatives such as community gardens, markets, cooking lessons, plant-based meal choices, community fridges and urban farm projects, such as those set out in the Kaipātiki Naturalisation of Parks Service Assessment (page 14)”

“We recognise that our physical, mental, social, and spiritual wellbeing is critical in enabling community connection and engagement. We support Te Whare Tapa Whā, a holistic model developed by Māori health expert Sir Mason Durie, which highlights the need to look after all the different aspects of our lives to be well. We are particularly aware of the importance of looking after our mental health. We use the Mental Health Foundation’s Five Ways to Wellbeing as a framework for the decisions we make – Be Active, Give, Connect, Keep Learning, and Take Notice” (page 16).

“Support community-led low carbon food initiatives that also promote kai sovereignty” (page 22).

Mangere- Otahuhu

“Support food scraps, community gardens and māra kai initiatives to improve food security and sustainable living.”

Manurewa

“the Governing Body to address historical and structural inequities in its budget by investing in our most vulnerable communities to keep pace with current economic trends” (page 22).

“In addition, Manurewa residents are more likely than all Aucklanders to mention food security as a key climate change challenge facing our area” (page 15).

“We recognise our community’s concern about food security. We know that as the effects of climate change increase, such as droughts and extreme weather events, crop yields decrease and food prices rise. Already, the cost-of-living crisis is having significant effects on our community. We’ve started work on locally-led food sovereignty and are initiating ways to strengthen community-led food systems in Manurewa” (pages 15-16).

“Continue to support Auckland Teaching Gardens and support other community food initiatives such as local food markets and community gardens” (page 17).

“Continue to fund locally-led food sovereignty and initiating ways to strengthen community-led food systems in Manurewa” (page 18).

“Work with community partners who are targeting harm reduction associated with smoking, gambling, alcohol, drug use and unhealthy diets (page 22).

Ōtara-Papatoetoe

“Promoting and facilitating access to healthy food options for all, including through community and teaching gardens, are simple ways to improve the well-being of all communities” (page 20).

“Explore partnerships with iwi, marae, community organisations including Ngāti Tamaoho and Ngāti Ōtara Marae to reduce the levels of homelessness” (page 27).

Papakura

“The main issues raised by Māori include food security and having healthy options, the importance of youth pathways (e.g. employment/further education), growing Māori economic prosperity, and the need to enhance the green space at Te Koiwi Reserve” (page 8).

“Support māra kai and food security initiatives” (page 16).

“the support and development of resilient local food systems with access to affordable, appetising food/drink. This would be sustainable, locally produced and culturally appropriate. The goal is food security and food sovereignty for all residents in the Papakura local board area” (page 17).

Waiheke

“Support actions and policies aimed at reducing harm caused by alcohol, smoking, drugs, and gambling, including development of a local alcohol policy” (page 13).

“Support the Waiheke Kai Charter, Piritahi Marae Māra Kai model gardens and other community-led programmes that achieve sustainable and lowcarbon behaviour change and self-sufficiency such as composting, vegetable gardens, renewable energy generation and food waste reduction” (page 17).

Waitākere Ranges

“Investigate opportunities to promote and support kai sovereignty” (page 18).

Waitematā

“The board currently supports Māori outcomes through: • taking action in response to people experiencing homelessness.”

“Engage with our vulnerable and diverse communities, such as people experiencing homelessness, elderly, and ethnic communities to better involve them in the planning and programming decisions that affect them” (page 10).

“Support a network of community gardens and food resilience activities” (page 11).

“Continue to support local communities to implement local composting and grow a local low-carbon, resilient food production system, such as through community gardens” (page 23).

“We will support communities to lead their own solutions. We will maintain our commitment to community driven activities and grants that enable positive outcomes for our people. Community groups, organisations, and delivery partners are working every day to provide services that improve community resilience, connection, and wellbeing. Whether this is for vulnerable communities such as those challenged with homelessness, or our rainbow youth, or our elderly living in high-rise residential towers, we want to ensure our funding reaches across the spectrum and continues to provide benefits. Where we cannot directly support with funding, we

will advocate for involvement and programming from other providers, such as central government, and work with delivery partners across Waitemata, such as Auckland Transport, Eke Panuku and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, to ensure the community is provided for in programming and initiatives” (page 17).

“Engage with our vulnerable and diverse communities, such as people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities, youth, elderly, and ethnic communities to better involve them in the planning and programming decisions that affect them” (page 18).

“Advocating to Affordable housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness Advocate to the Governing Body and Central Government for increased support to ensure homelessness becomes ‘rare, brief and non-recurring’ including providing short-, medium- and long-term affordable housing solutions” (page 19).

“Support affordable housing provision by iwi, community housing providers and co-housing Advocate to the Governing Body to actively, and appropriately respond to Auckland’s affordable housing crisis; to prioritise and support affordable housing provision by iwi, community housing providers and cohousing projects through advice, raising bonds, guaranteeing loans, empathetic planning rules and consenting. Governing Body, Eke Panuku Council provision of appropriate affordable housing Council to investigate planning for the provision of appropriate affordable housing, particularly Pensioner Housing, in the Auckland Isthmus, where there is no Council housing. Street outreach for mental health and addiction support. Advocate to Governing Body and Central Government to increase funding for assertive street outreach and mental health and addiction support for our communities sleeping rough” (page 19).

“Advocate to Governing Body and CCO’s to enhance provision of city centre public amenities such as drinking fountains, toilets, showers, and lockers which will support travel mode shift and climate change outcomes providing a rich urban experience for our tourists, visitors, families and elderly, and people experiencing homelessness.” (page 19).

“Support a network of community gardens and food resilience activities” (page 29).

Whau

“Grow capacity and network with partners to provide opportunities for kai sovereignty projects” (page 18).

“Find new ways to engage with our communities and involve individuals and groups, especially those generally underrepresented, in civic initiatives and democratic processes”

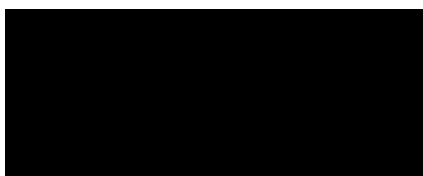
“Positive outcomes for our diverse communities and less prosperous populations (page 13).”

“Improve open spaces, considering public need for shade, shelter, drinking fountains, and toilets” (page 29).

Date of submission:

14 August 2023

Signature:

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Audrey van Ryn,

Secretary,

Community Groups Feeding the Homeless Inc.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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Community Cat Coalition Inc.

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Tell us why

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Tell us why

Our People

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Environment

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?

Tell us why

7. **Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?**

Please see attached



secretary@catcoalition.org.nz

PO Box 15903, New Lynn, Auckland 0640

www.catcoalition.org.nz

[Facebook.com/cccauckland](https://www.facebook.com/cccauckland)

The Community Cat Coalition Inc. is committed to the humane management of community (stray, unowned, 'street') cats across Auckland. Established by Bob Kerridge of the SPCA in 2009 to support the work of the many different individuals and groups caring for community cats and working to manage their numbers, CCC is now a registered charity and incorporated society which facilitates and finances around 2500 de-sexings (spay and neuter) of community cats each year, finds responsible homes for as many of these cats as possible, and works to educate the public about de-sexing as the most humane, effective, sustainable and socially-licensed long-term solution to both welfare concerns about too many unwanted cats and biodiversity concerns around cats as predators in urban/suburban areas.

We also work to improve public understanding of the different categories of cat, as defined in the Companion Cat Code under the Animal Welfare Act 1999. The community cats we desex and manage **are not feral** – by definition, feral cats live well away from areas of human habitation, have none of their needs met by people, and their population sizes fluctuate largely independently of companion or community cat populations. Most people never see a feral cat, certainly never in or near Auckland. Community cats are companion cats who have been abandoned, dumped, got lost, are very loosely owned and/or simply the product of people failing to desex their companion animals. They are variably socialised, but by definition they are not 'feral', which in this context does not mean 'hissy' - they have been bred for domesticity and depend on the community to meet their needs. CCC's work is entirely with community cats, not with feral cats. Unlike community and companion cats, feral cats may, in some sparsely populated regions, be defined as pests and be subject to pest management control. Humane community cat management around areas of human habitation (what we do) is an under-funded area of conservation focus and expenditure.

Amongst the introduced animals targeted by biodiversity initiatives, cats are unique in that they are also NZ's most popular companion animal - many people have a great deal of affection for them, and recognise the documented health and life-

enhancing benefits of their companionship, especially for the socially marginalised. The potential for managing community cats as CCC does and seeks to do more of, derives from this historic relationship and regard. In conjunction with initiatives promoting de-sexing of both companion and community cats, TNR, Adoption, and Colony Management programs humanely and effectively address the potential for predation of native fauna by community cats within urban areas, as well as any potential for their recruitment into cat populations within areas identified by Council as ecologically significant.

CCC is seeking recognition by Boards that progress towards the attainment of the biodiversity objectives of their Plans may be advanced by supporting the work of the Community cat Coalition Inc., and/or other groups engaged in this mahi.

Thank you for this opportunity to contribute to the Local Board Plans of 2023.

Community Cat Coalition Inc.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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Royal Forest and Bird protection Society of New Zealand Inc. (Forest & Bird) Hauraki Islands Branch

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

- 1. Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Yes, mostly agree

Tell us why

Approach-We are structuring our submission to include Objectives, Key Initiatives, and Advocacy items; just as they may appear in a Local Board Plan; along with commentary on some items and localised specifics.

- 2. Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Tell us why

Our community: Our communities live well alongside nature as climate changes We would like to see the objectives and key initiatives under Our community expanded to include the below:

Objective- We adopt best practices for all council maintenance and projects to maximise the net benefit to community and nature. Key Initiatives- Improve climate

impact statements in reports to consider net emissions, biodiversity loss, effect on impermeable surfaces and stormwater, and scarce resource use and recovery.

Objective-Our communities are resilient to climate change and care for their surrounding environment.

Key Initiatives- • Support initiatives that build community networks and connections which help communities respond to emergencies and the impact of climate change and biodiversity loss • Support community led initiatives and projects that improve wellbeing by promoting a sustainable lifestyle, including waste minimisation, emissions reductions and the implementation, maintenance and understanding of ecosystem services.

Objective- our growing and changing population and are resilient to climate change.

Key Initiatives-increasing social and recreational needs, are accessible, well maintained, available to the public, sustainable, resilient to climate change, and fit for purpose.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?

Tell us why

Our People

- 4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our People’ priorities?

Tell us why

Our community: Our communities live well alongside nature as climate changes We would like to see the objectives and key initiatives under Our community expanded to include the below:

Objective- We adopt best practices for all council maintenance and pro

Our Environment

- 5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Environment’ priorities?

Yes

Tell us why

Our Environment, while we agree with all draft objectives and key initiatives, we would like to offer the below objectives and key initiatives to integrate into the Local Board Plan:

Objective- Access to indigenous and culturally valued biodiversity is managed to promote enjoyment while protecting vulnerable ecosystems:

Key Initiatives- • Review and promote the provision of paths and tracks to give people access to forests in local reserves that promote ecological hygiene and conservation of vulnerable habitats. • Work with neighboring Local Boards to review the Auckland Policy on Dogs, keeping dogs out of high value conservation areas while providing space for responsible pet ownership. • Work with neighboring Local boards to adopt meaningful cat management policies and regulations to support responsible domestic cat ownership. And remove feral and stray cats from all areas of high biodiversity value.

Objective- The lifeforce (mauri) of our waterbodies is respected and restored:

Key Initiatives- • Support schools, businesses, environmental groups and community volunteers to carry out stream restoration projects including pollution reduction, stream clean-ups, habitat improvement and native riparian planting on public and private land. • Priorities ecological maintenance projects that protect and enhance identified potential inanga spawning sites through bank stabilization, pest plant control, sediment control and pest animal control.

Objective- We will adopt landscape approaches to managing our environment that recognise the connections between different local habitats, such as the North West Wildlink:

Key Initiatives-

- Support initiatives that deliver on current ecological strategies.
- Identify and prioritise restoration planting opportunities, for community and council projects, that create ecological connections by retiring hard to maintain areas within existing parks and reserves.

Advocacy:

We support all the current advocacy points. We believe the inclusion of the below advocacy points would help the Local Board achieve its objectives;

- Advocate to the Governing Body that the Local Board and local volunteer groups are more directly involved in the setting and delivery of council-controlled ecological services
- Advocate for funding and regulation to enhance water retention and reduce stormwater surges in local streams through the use of retention tanks, rain gardens, wetland restoration, tree planting, reduced impermeable surfaces, and the daylighting of streams.
- Advocate for the development of Blue Green Spatial Network plans, especially in future urban zones that support the preservation and enhancement of natural assets

(such as streams and wetlands) that will create greater resilience to flooding, improve water quality and maintain/enhance ecological connectivity

- Advocate for priority development of shoreline adaptation plans including funding to implement actions to ensure a sustainable approach to the management of our shorelines.
- Advocate for strong tree protection (in particular of mature native trees) to support the goals of Urban Ngahere action plans and strategies and maintained canopy coverage
- Advocate for reserve acquisition, the retention of open space and planning rules that promote the development of new local habitats that improve ecological connectivity
- Raise awareness and advocate for dark sky areas/decreased light pollution and the importance of this for indigenous birds.
- Advocate for increased monitoring of water quality
- Advocate Council and CCOs to make room for rivers and streams to flood safely, so that flooding does not destroy communities, by stopping development in flood-prone areas and enabling managed retreat

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the ‘Our Places’ priorities?**Tell us why**

Our Places and Our Economy: Our economy meets the needs of our communities with minimal impact on nature.

We would like to see the objectives and key initiatives under Our Places and Our Economy expanded to include the below:

*Objective- Getting around without a car is attractive because of the seamless and safe network of paths and public transport. Key Initiatives: • Continue to renew and enhance path networks to create more direct routes as well as connected networks for walking and cycling • Deliver and maintain more healthy street trees and rain gardens to beautify walking areas, while achieving Urban Ngahere plans and strategies, climate emissions mitigation, providing shade, and better stormwater management.

*Objective- Our economy grows through sustainable practices by embracing the circular economy. Key Initiatives: • Support projects that engage, advise, educate, and assist our community on how to minimize and build the circular economy.

- Support the work and expansion of the network of community recycling centers for the benefit of our community.

Advocacy

- Advocate to the Governing Body and central government to assist our local economy to become more sustainable by adapting circular economy practices and increase resilience to climate impacts.

- Advocate to Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi (NZTA) for increased funding for walkways and cycleways, and their complementary infrastructure, to ensure a safe and fully connected active transport network that is integrated with public transport.

- Advocate for Auckland Transport to take a more proactive approach by taking the lead in working with new commercial developments that are trip generators, such as supermarkets, to include provision for safe public transport infrastructure, such as bus stops, even on streets with a higher volume of users.

- Advocate to AT to deliver projects that align with the Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway (TERP), the key strategy to de-carbonize Auckland's transport system.
- Advocate to AT for improved cycle and pathway safety, including lighting, physical traffic barriers, accessibility and proactive maintenance to prevent problems
- Advocate to AT for more local initiatives to contribute to decarbonization by encouraging more use of public transport. Examples could be electric on-demand public transport options or better bike storage at transport hubs.

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

Our environment: Nature thrives across our entire Rohe. Connecting highly valued ecological habitats is an important part of enhancing the biodiversity within them. Most native and indigenous biodiversity is not adapted to crossing sparse urban areas; with many forest birds only willing to fly a couple of hundred meters between forest fragments. As the city continues to intensify, with a corresponding loss of private open space, council needs to invest in developing and maintaining ecological corridors to connect biodiversity hotspots. This involves both the development of existing reserves to host biodiversity (daylighting streams, planting, etc) and acquiring new protected ecological spaces through acquisition and vesting of reserves and planning rules. Maintaining these biodiversity hotspots and ecological corridors requires a landscape approach to council controlled ecological maintenance and community collaborations. This means prioritizing investment in ecological and park maintenance to manage pest plant and animal populations in specific areas rather than regional elimination of selective pests. Often there is a correlation between ecological corridors and waterways. As such, investment in terrestrial ecology along streams and wetlands has a positive impact on managing stormwater while enhancing freshwater ecology and the health of receiving waterbodies such as the Hauraki Gulf. Blue-Green Spatial network plans are an important planning tool for identifying where open space needs to be retained or reclaimed from development to manage stormwater, to minimize sediment and pollution entering the Gulf and to mitigate the risk of flooding. Within currently urbanized areas opportunities to reclaim open space in flood prone areas should be a priority, alongside reducing the impact of stormwater surge by supporting the use of water retention devices and planting in new development and retrofitting older developments. Highly valued ecological habitats are not the only places where biodiversity is valued. Tree cover provides benefits for people and for native fauna; regardless of whether it is native or not.

Our Communities and Places: Our communities live well alongside nature as climate changes. Within many Local Board Plans, goals for sustainable lifestyles and climate change adaptation are included within the environment outcome. We believe that these objectives are better placed across outcomes where they will be acted on more directly.

This is of particular importance when considering that the end users of Local Board Plans are Council Departments and CCOs. We do not want climate change and sustainability to just be an issue considered by those parts of the council concerned with environment and infrastructure. Within this outcome we want it to be at the forefront of mind for those parts of council concerned with community development and resilience, and the provision of sports and recreation facilities. While these actions can have a positive impact on nature and areas of biodiversity, their primary benefit will be in the lives of people and communities.

Our Places and Our Economy: Our economy meets the needs of our communities with minimal impact on nature.

Our communities spend more time involved in economic activity than any other single activity. Economics is not simply the domain of business owners and managers; it is also the interest of workers, customers, and nature. Nature cannot be seen as a limitless resource of materials for economic systems and the mythical “away” to which we throw the waste of economic activity. The resources that fuel our economic activity are scarce and if we waste them for short term profits then we will continue to destroy our natural heritage and rob future generations of economic opportunity. Adopting a circular economy; where the waste of one economic activity is recovered to fuel another economic activity, is the most responsible form of economic development. Investing in waste recovery, through incentives like community recycling centers, creates employment and new sources of raw materials for local businesses. Community initiatives like repair cafes improve the wellbeing of residents by extending the useful lifespan of the goods they already own. Transport is another economic activity that requires reform to become more efficient. Not only can Auckland not financially afford to continue to address congestion by investing more in roads for private vehicles; but doing so deprives the city of many other benefits from public and active transport. Public and active transport are both more efficient uses of scarce resources, reducing economic impact on nature. They are also more social means of travel that can build community and make places safer by putting more active eyes onto the streets. Local Boards play a key role in the development of active transport through street to park connections in Greenways plans, Local Board transport capital funds and advocacy to Auckland Transport. Delivering an effective active transport network should not just be about paths though, street trees and facilities play an important part in making these spaces attractive options to meet transport needs.



Forest & Bird

TE REO O TE TAIAO | *Giving Nature a Voice*
Royal Forest and Bird Protection
Society of New Zealand Inc.

34A Charlotte Street, Eden Terrace
Auckland 1021
www.forestandbird.org.nz

Submission on Aotea Great Barrier Local Board Plan.

14 August 2023

To: Auckland Council
Resource Consents
Private Bag 92300
Auckland 1142

- Submitted online and emailed to:
aoteagreatbarrierlocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

1. Submitter details

Royal Forest and Bird protection Society of New Zealand Inc. (Forest & Bird)
Hauraki Islands Branch

Contact Name: Carl Morgan (Regional Conservation Manager)
Contact Email: c.morgan@forestandbird.org.nz
Contact Phone: 027 250 9777

2. Trade competition declaration

Forest & Bird would not gain an advantage in trade competition through this submission.

3. Hearing options

We may wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Introduction

Forest & Bird is New Zealand's largest and longest-serving independent conservation organisation, with over 100,000 members and supporters. Its mission is to be a voice for nature, on land, in fresh water, and at sea, on behalf of its members and supporters. Volunteers in 50 branches throughout New Zealand carry out community conservation projects and advocate for nature. Forest & Bird has nine branches and three major projects in the Auckland region alone.

In support of the society's objectives, it has been involved in resource management processes at the national, regional, and district level. It routinely submits on regional and district plan provisions, some resource consents and advocates in the Environment Court in relation to biodiversity, landscape and natural character. It is particularly committed to ensuring that the environmental bottom lines established in national policy statements in order to give substance to the "protective" element of Part 2 of the RMA are given effect to in regional and district plans and achieved through decisions on resource consents.

The Hauraki Islands Branch carries out a range of activities, including environmental advocacy, community education and events, and management of three Reserves on Waiheke Island by staff, contractors and volunteers. The branch covers the Hauraki Gulf Islands and is committed to the protection and enhancement of the Hauraki Gulf.

Approach

We are structuring our submission to include Objectives, Key Initiatives, and Advocacy items; just as they may appear in a Local Board Plan; along with commentary on some items and localised specifics.

Our Environment

While we agree with all draft objectives and key initiatives, we would like to offer the below objectives and key initiatives to integrate into the Local Board Plan:

| Objectives | Key Initiatives |
|---|--|
| Access to indigenous and culturally valued biodiversity is managed to promote enjoyment while protecting vulnerable ecosystems. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and promote the provision of paths and tracks to give people access to forests in local reserves that promote ecological hygiene and conservation of vulnerable habitats. • Work with neighbouring Local Boards to review the Auckland Policy on Dogs, keeping dogs out of high value conservation areas while providing space for responsible pet ownership. • Work with neighbouring Local boards to adopt meaningful cat management policies and regulations to support responsible domestic cat ownership. And remove feral and stray cats from all areas of high biodiversity value. |
| The lifeforce (mauri) of our waterbodies is respected and restored | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support schools, businesses, environmental groups and community volunteers to carry out stream restoration projects including pollution reduction, stream clean-ups, habitat improvement and native riparian planting on public and private land. • Prioritise ecological maintenance projects that protect and enhance identified potential inanga spawning sites through bank stabilisation, pest plant control, sediment control and pest animal control |
| We will adopt landscape approaches to managing our environment that recognise the connections between different local habitats, such as the North West Wildlink | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support initiatives that deliver on current ecological strategies. • Identify and prioritise restoration planting opportunities, for community and council projects, that create ecological connections by retiring hard to maintain areas within existing parks and reserves. |

Advocacy:

We support all the current advocacy points. We believe the inclusion of the below advocacy points would help the Local Board achieve its objectives;

- Advocate to the Governing Body that the Local Board and local volunteer groups are more directly involved in the setting and delivery of council-controlled ecological services
- Advocate for funding and regulation to enhance water retention and reduce stormwater surges in local streams through the use of retention tanks, rain gardens, wetland restoration, tree planting, reduced impermeable surfaces, and the daylighting of streams.
- Advocate for the development of Blue Green Spatial Network plans, especially in future urban zones that support the preservation and enhancement of natural assets (such as streams and wetlands) that will create greater resilience to flooding, improve water quality and maintain/enhance ecological connectivity
- Advocate for priority development of shoreline adaptation plans including funding to implement actions to ensure a sustainable approach to the management of our shorelines.
- Advocate for strong tree protection (in particular of mature native trees) to support the goals of Urban Ngahere action plans and strategies and maintained canopy coverage
- Advocate for reserve acquisition, the retention of open space and planning rules that promote the development of new local habitats that improve ecological connectivity
- Raise awareness and advocate for dark sky areas/decreased light pollution and the importance of this for indigenous birds.
- Advocate for increased monitoring of water quality
- Advocate Council and CCOs to make room for rivers and streams to flood safely, so that flooding does not destroy communities, by stopping development in flood-prone areas and enabling managed retreat

Our community: Our communities live well alongside nature as climate changes

We would like to see the objectives and key initiatives under *Our community* expanded to include the below:

| Objectives | Key Initiatives |
|---|--|
| We adopt best practices for all council maintenance and projects to maximise the net benefit to community and nature. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve climate impact statements in reports to consider net emissions, biodiversity loss, effect on impermeable surfaces and stormwater, and scarce resource use and recovery. |
| Our communities are resilient to climate change and care for their surrounding environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support initiatives that build community networks and connections which help communities respond to emergencies and the impact of climate change and biodiversity loss • Support community led initiatives and projects that improve wellbeing by promoting a sustainable lifestyle, including waste minimisation, emissions reductions and the implementation, maintenance and understanding of ecosystem services |
| Our aquatic, recreational, art, and community facilities are fit-for-service, meet the needs of | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure our playing surfaces, sports fields, aquatic, recreational facilities, and community facilities meet |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>our growing and changing population, and are resilient to climate change</p> | <p>increasing social and recreational needs, are accessible, well maintained, available to the public, sustainable, resilient to climate change, and fit for purpose.</p> |
|---|---|

Advocacy

We would like to see the advocacy section under *Our community* expanded to include:

- Advocate to the governing body for appropriate long-term planning and associated funding for infrastructure in growth areas that support Auckland climate goals.
- Advocate to the governing body for immediate long term risk scenario planning for the next 50 to 100 years to prepare for and respond to climate changes.
- Advocate for adequate level of renewals funding to ensure existing assets are well maintained and are adapted to be resilient to climate change.
- Advocate to Watercare for the use of non-potable water for irrigation of sports and recreation facilities.
- Advocate to the governing body, Auckland transport and Watercare to ensure Aucklanders have a greater understanding about the policies for maintaining and monitoring infrastructure and the importance of reporting faults.

Our Places and Our Economy: Our economy meets the needs of our communities with minimal impact on nature.

We would like to see the objectives and key initiatives under *Our Places and Our Economy* expanded to include the below:

| Objectives | Key Initiatives |
|--|---|
| <p>Getting around without a car is attractive because of the seamless and safe network of paths and public transport</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to renew and enhance path networks to create more direct routes as well as connected networks for walking and cycling • Deliver and maintain more healthy street trees and rain gardens to beautify walking areas, while achieving Urban Ngahere plans and strategies, climate emissions mitigation, providing shade, and better stormwater management. |
| <p>Our economy grows through sustainable practices by embracing the circular economy</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support projects that engage, advise, educate, and assist our community on how to minimise and build the circular economy • Support the work and expansion of the network of community recycling centres for the benefit of our community |

Advocacy

- Advocate to the Governing Body and central government to assist our local economy to become more sustainable by adapting circular economy practices and increase resilience to climate impacts.
- Advocate to Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi (NZTA) for increased funding for walkways and cycleways, and their complementary infrastructure, to ensure a safe and fully connected active transport network that is integrated with public transport.
- Advocate for Auckland Transport to take a more proactive approach by taking the lead in working with new commercial developments that are trip generators, such as supermarkets, to include provision for safe public transport infrastructure, such as bus stops, even on streets with a higher volume of users.
- Advocate to AT to deliver projects that align with the Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway (TERP), the key strategy to de-carbonise Auckland's transport system.
- Advocate to AT for improved cycle and pathway safety, including lighting, physical traffic barriers, accessibility and proactive maintenance to prevent problems
- Advocate to AT for more local initiatives to contribute to decarbonisation by encouraging more use of public transport. Examples could be electric on-demand public transport options or better bike storage at transport hubs

Selective Commentary

Our environment: Nature thrives across our entire rohe.

Connecting highly valued ecological habitats is an important part of enhancing the biodiversity within them. Most native and indigenous biodiversity is not adapted to crossing sparse urban areas; with many forest birds only willing to fly a couple of hundred metres between forest fragments. As the city continues to intensify, with a corresponding loss of private open space, council needs to invest in developing and maintaining ecological corridors to connect biodiversity hotspots. This involves both the development of existing reserves to host biodiversity (daylighting streams, planting, etc) and acquiring new protected ecological spaces through acquisition and vesting of reserves and planning rules. Maintaining these biodiversity hotspots and ecological corridors requires a landscape approach to council controlled ecological maintenance and community collaborations. This means prioritising investment in ecological and park maintenance to manage pest plant and animal populations in specific areas rather than regional elimination of selective pests.

Often there is a correlation between ecological corridors and waterways. As such, investment in terrestrial ecology along streams and wetlands has a positive impact on managing stormwater while enhancing freshwater ecology and the health of receiving waterbodies such as the Hauraki Gulf. Blue-Green Spatial network plans are an important planning tool for identifying where open space needs to be retained or reclaimed from development to manage stormwater, to minimise sediment and pollution entering the Gulf and to mitigate the risk of flooding. Within currently urbanised areas opportunities to reclaim open space in flood prone areas should be a priority, alongside reducing the impact of stormwater surge by supporting the use of water retention devices and planting in new development and retrofitting older developments.

Highly valued ecological habitats are not the only places where biodiversity is valued. Tree cover provides benefits for people and for native fauna; regardless of whether it is native or not.

Our Communities and Places: Our communities live well alongside nature as climate changes
Within many Local Board Plans, goals for sustainable lifestyles and climate change adaptation are included within the environment outcome. We believe that these objectives are better placed across outcomes where they will be acted on more directly. This is of particular importance when considering that the end users of Local Board Plans are Council Departments and CCOs. We do not want climate change and sustainability to just be an issue considered by those parts of the council concerned with environment and infrastructure. Within this outcome we want it to be at the forefront of mind for those parts of council concerned with community development and resilience, and the provision of sports and recreation facilities. While these actions can have a positive impact on nature and areas of biodiversity, their primary benefit will be in the lives of people and communities.

Our Places and Our Economy: Our economy meets the needs of our communities with minimal impact on nature.

Our communities spend more time involved in economic activity than any other single activity. Economics is not simply the domain of business owners and managers; it is also the interest of workers, customers, and nature. Nature cannot be seen as a limitless resource of materials for economic systems and the mythical “away” to which we throw the waste of economic activity. The resources that fuel our economic activity are scarce and if we waste them for short term profits then we will continue to destroy our natural heritage and rob future generations of economic opportunity.

Adopting a circular economy; where the waste of one economic activity is recovered to fuel another economic activity, is the most responsible form of economic development. Investing in waste recovery, through incentives like community recycling centres, creates employment and new sources of raw materials for local businesses. Community initiatives like repair cafes improve the wellbeing of residents by extending the useful lifespan of the goods they already own.

Transport is another economic activity that requires reform to become more efficient. Not only can Auckland not financially afford to continue to address congestion by investing more in roads for private vehicles; but doing so deprives the city of many other benefits from public and active transport. Public and active transport are both more efficient uses of scarce resources, reducing economic impact on nature. They are also more social means of travel that can build community and make places safer by putting more active eyes onto the streets. Local Boards play a key role in the development of active transport through street to park connections in Greenways plans, Local Board transport capital funds and advocacy to Auckland Transport. Delivering an effective active transport network should not just be about paths though, street trees and facilities play an important part in making these spaces attractive options to meet transport needs.

Thank you for considering Forest & Bird’s submission.



Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan

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.

The Tree Council

LOCAL BOARD: Aotea/Great Barrier

Your feedback

1. **Do you think our proposed plan reflects the needs and aspirations for our community over the next three years?**

Tell us why

2. **Are we on the right track with our climate change goals?**

Tell us why

The Tree Council comment:

- We support these objectives and initiatives but in addition would like to see you implement the Urban Ngāhere Strategy via development of an Action Plan for your local

board area to enable opportunities to enhance tree cover to be identified and activated.

- We are delighted to see recognition of and your support for the important role mana whenua and community groups play in working to enhance biodiversity and undertake

tree planting.

3. Are we on the right track with our Māori outcome aspirations?**Tell us why****Our People**

4. We see a future where mana whenua aspirations are realised and relationships are respected; where our community is resilient and cared for; a place where our community groups are empowered, sustainable and independent; where our local businesses and social enterprises retain employment; an island that is a great place to live and visit.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our People' priorities?**Tell us why****Our Environment**

5. We see a future where our community deals with pests collaboratively; where our food and water supply are safe and secure; a place that protects and celebrates its night sky; where we showcase zero waste and low carbon practices; an island where our streams run clean and free, and marine waters are protected and full of life.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Environment' priorities?**Tell us why**

The Tree Council comment:

- We urge you to oppose all consents proposing to remove trees in Significant Ecological Areas and Scheduled Notable Trees on both private and public land as these are so important to retain for future generations.

- If you have kauri in any of your local reserves you should consider getting them urgently tested for kauri dieback and if found to be positive then you should consider getting them treated to keep them alive. Kauri dieback has an almost 100% mortality rate so all infected trees will die without treatment. We recommend you work with the Kauri Rescue Trust for the best way to approach this problem. There is an urgency as trees in

which the disease has progressed too far will not survive even after treatment, so the earlier this happens the better. Kauri are carbon sinks, we need to keep these trees alive as

long as possible.

In addition we would like to see specific support, including financial support, for the following initiatives to protect and enhance existing tree cover:

- Practical support and (for e.g. legal) advice for private landowners wishing to provide permanent protection for their trees eg via covenants &/or scheduling to enable protection of existing tree cover on private land to be optimized as most of the mature trees in Auckland are on private land with no legal protection.

- Grants for private landowners to maintain Scheduled Notable Trees on their property

- Provide permanent and visible physical labels for all Scheduled Notable Trees in the local board area to enable the public to see that this tree is legally protected and tell the stories of our natural heritage.

- Look for opportunities to schedule additional mature trees and encourage Council to undertake Plan Changes to the Unitary Plan to regularly add new trees to Schedule 10 (Notable Trees).

- Look for opportunities to raise awareness of the value of Scheduled Notable Trees by organizing events to celebrate them such as guided walks, community picnics, heritage talks.

- We would like to see specific support, including financial support, for mana whenua, local communities and groups undertaking the following types of initiatives within the local board area:

- water quality testing
- monitoring of beaches
- treatment of diseased kauri trees on local parks and private land
- monitoring for myrtle rust
- weed control
- pest control
- protection of rare birds eg dotterel
- restoration planting

- Public education on issues affecting biodiversity such as:

- kauri dieback, myrtle rust
- weeds
- animal and insect pests
- other biosecurity threats
- control of dogs in sensitive areas
- conflicting uses eg vehicles on beaches
- rules for marine reserves

Our Places

6. We see a future where our wharves and airfields meet our needs; where our connectivity is fast and reliable; a place where our roads are sealed, well maintained, and shared safely; where our accessways and tracks link up to our village spaces; an island that has affordable and sustainable housing for everyone.

Are we on the right track with the 'Our Places' priorities?

Tell us why

7. Do you have any other feedback on the draft Aotea / Great Barrier Local Board Plan?

**Submission - Aotea Local Board Plan 2023
by The Tree Council**

14 August 2023

From: The Tree Council

Contact: Dr Mels Barton, Secretary
PO Box 60-203, Titirangi, Auckland 0642
021 213 7779
info@thetreecouncil.org.nz

Thank you for the opportunity to present The Tree Council's submission on the proposed **Aotea Local Board Plan 2023**.

This submission is made by The Tree Council, an independent, voluntary organisation, a non-profit incorporated charitable society which has been serving the Auckland community since 1986 in the protection of trees and as advocates for the significant benefits and services that our trees and green spaces provide.

Climate Action

The Tree Council comment:

- *We support these objectives and initiatives but in addition would like to see you implement the Urban Ngāhere Strategy via development of an Action Plan for your local board area to enable opportunities to enhance tree cover to be identified and activated.*
- *We are delighted to see recognition of and your support for the important role mana whenua and community groups play in working to enhance biodiversity and undertake tree planting.*

Our Environment

The Tree Council comment:

- *We urge you to oppose all consents proposing to remove trees in Significant Ecological Areas and Scheduled Notable Trees on both private and public land as these are so important to retain for future generations.*
- *If you have kauri in any of your local reserves you should consider getting them urgently tested for kauri dieback and if found to be positive then you should consider getting them treated to keep them alive. Kauri dieback has an almost 100% mortality rate so all infected trees will die without treatment. We recommend you work with the Kauri Rescue*

Trust for the best way to approach this problem. There is an urgency as trees in which the disease has progressed too far will not survive even after treatment, so the earlier this happens the better. Kauri are carbon sinks, we need to keep these trees alive as long as possible.

In addition we would like to see specific support, including financial support, for the following initiatives to protect and enhance existing tree cover:

- *Practical support and (for eg legal) advice for private landowners wishing to provide permanent protection for their trees eg via covenants &/or scheduling to enable protection of existing tree cover on private land to be optimised as most of the mature trees in Auckland are on private land with no legal protection.*
- *Grants for private landowners to maintain Scheduled Notable Trees on their property*
- *Provide permanent and visible physical labels for all Scheduled Notable Trees in the local board area to enable the public to see that this tree is legally protected and tell the stories of our natural heritage.*
- *Look for opportunities to schedule additional mature trees and encourage Council to undertake Plan Changes to the Unitary Plan to regularly add new trees to Schedule 10 (Notable Trees).*
- *Look for opportunities to raise awareness of the value of Scheduled Notable Trees by organising events to celebrate them such as guided walks, community picnics, heritage talks.*
- *We would like to see specific support, including financial support, for mana whenua, local communities and groups undertaking the following types of initiatives within the local board area:*
 - *water quality testing*
 - *monitoring of beaches*
 - *treatment of diseased kauri trees on local parks and private land*
 - *monitoring for myrtle rust*
 - *weed control*
 - *pest control*
 - *protection of rare birds eg dotterel*
 - *restoration planting*
- *Public education on issues affecting biodiversity such as:*
 - *kauri dieback, myrtle rust*
 - *weeds*
 - *animal and insect pests*
 - *other biosecurity threats*
 - *control of dogs in sensitive areas*
 - *conflicting uses eg vehicles on beaches*
 - *rules for marine reserves*