

Ta mahere ā rohe o Waitematā 2023

Waitematā Local Board Plan 2023





Mihi

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

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

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

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

Ko Te Wai-o-Taiehu kei te rāwhiti ōu,

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

e eke ai koe ki Te Uru Karaka.

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

Titiro whakaiho koe, ko Waiatarau, ko te Waikōkota.

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

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

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

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

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

Ki reira koe whakatau ai i te iwi;

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

From Waitematā at sea to Waitematā on shore, welcome.

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

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

relic of the age of stone,

now covered over by a world of stone.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ngā upoko kōrero

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He kōrero mai i te Heamana

From the Chair

People are the heart of Waitematā. They thrive in an environment where their various skills and needs are supported, where they can connect with others and have equitable access to social, economic, environmental and cultural opportunities. People deserve to live in an environment that celebrates their diverse culture and heritage.



Every three years the Waitematā Local Board, in consultation with the people in our community, aim to deliver a new strategic 3-year Local Board Plan that places people at its heart. We are really excited to present the Waitematā Local Board plan 2023 to you. This plan sets out the direction for the local area, reflecting community aspirations and priorities. Our Local Board Plan 2023 key portfolio priorities are Our People, Our Environment, Our Community, Our Places and Our Economy.

Taking these key themes into consideration enables us to prioritise budgets to focus on the initiatives within the plan. This allows us to make best use of local assets, such as community centres, libraries and parks. It also gives council staff a clear road map to help them deliver projects and services in line with what our community wants.

When there are key projects in our local board area that are beyond our funding or authority to make decisions on, another key role we have is to advocate to other decision makers to ensure they are aware of the community's views and of our support.

Local board plans are also an essential way to deliver Māori outcomes at a local level in response to Auckland Council's legislative obligations to Auckland's Māori communities. The local board has actively sought Mana Whenua input into projects such as naming and design for parks and public spaces. Whakawhanaungatanga is at the heart of our planning. Having open communication channels and good relationships are key to the success of our beautiful Te Waitematā and delivering better outcomes for our people and our environment.

We are progressing a deliberative democracy model with our rangatahi (youth) and will work with them to deliver on their aspirations.

Meeting climate goals in this plan also mean taking ambitious action to reduce emissions and to adapt to any changes in climate patterns that may impact our area. Integrating climate awareness into all decisions will help us better mitigate future risk. Within the local board area, the waterfront is identified as a hotspot, both vulnerable to changes in climate conditions and with limited capacity to adapt.

That said, we are delighted to share our plan with you. The path ahead presents significant challenges but there are also lots of opportunities. Your thoughts, ideas, and feedback have provided invaluable insights to help shape our plan so that it best fits our community. Thank you to each and every one of you for sharing your voice and contributing to our shared vision of Waitematā being the best place to live, work, learn and play.

Genevieve Sage

He aronga pot i tā mātou mahere

Our plan at a glance



Our People

All our people are thriving and have what they need to live a good life.



Our Environment

Our built and natural environment is resilient to natural hazards and the effects of climate change. Our natural environment is rich in biodiversity and provides clean waterways.



Our Community

Our community is resilient and have places and activities to connect and foster a sense of belonging.



Our Places

Waitematā is a great place to live, work, learn and play. Our neighbourhoods are well designed to be sustainable, well-connected, and celebrate our heritage and unique identities.



Our Economy

Our city centre and fringe town centres are thriving and support a resilient diverse economy that embraces new opportunities and drives prosperity.



He kōrero mō ngā poari ā-rohe

About local boards

Auckland Council has a unique model of local government in New Zealand, made up of the Governing Body (the mayor and 20 Governing Body members) and 21 local boards. The Governing Body focuses on Auckland-wide issues while local boards are responsible for decision-making on local matters, activities and services and provide input into regional strategies, policies and plans.

Local boards make decisions on local matters such as:

- supporting local arts, culture, events and sport and recreation
- supporting local organisations to deliver community services
- maintaining and upgrading town centres and facilities including parks, libraries and halls
- caring for the environment and preserving heritage.

Local boards also have a role in representing the view of their communities on issues of local importance.

Recently the cost of providing these services has gone up, due to higher inflation and the costs of borrowing money. We will need to address these challenges in the local board plan, which means doing things differently and prioritising where we spend.

About local board plans

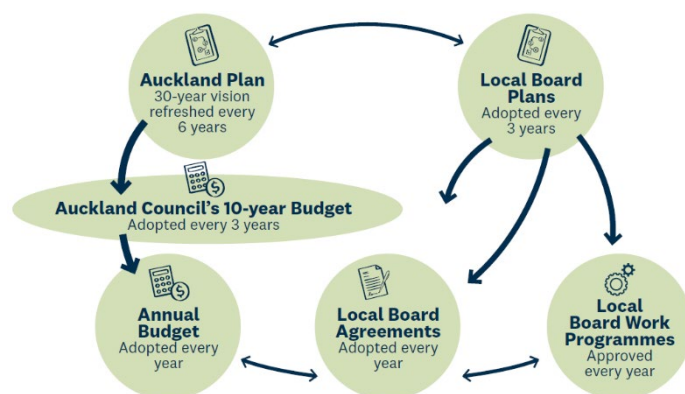
Local board plans are strategic three-year plans developed in consultation with the community. They set out the direction for the local area reflecting community aspirations and priorities, and guide:

- decisions on local activities, projects, and facilities
- local board input into the council's regional strategies and plans, including the Auckland Plan
- how local boards will work with other agencies, including community groups, central government agencies and council-controlled organisations that play key roles in the area
- funding and investment decisions.

Local board plans are inclusive and connected; they don't operate in isolation. They support:

- the Auckland Plan 2050 – the 30-year vision for Auckland
- the council's 10-year budget – planned spending and future investment priorities over the longer term
- the council's annual budget – funding for the coming financial year of the 10-year budget.

Local board agreements form the basis for each local board to develop its annual work programme and set local budgets, levels of service, performance measures and targets for each financial year. Details of projects, budgets and timelines are outlined in annual work programmes. Progress is reported quarterly and communicated to our communities.



Te whakawhanake i tā mātou mahere

Developing our plan

Our draft plan was developed with careful consideration of previous community feedback on the 2020 local board plan, feedback through annual budget consultations and other pieces of feedback such as results from the Peoples Panel Surveys.

During July and August 2023, we consulted on the draft plan to hear your thoughts on how the plan reflected your needs and aspirations over the next three years, seek your feedback on which objectives were most important to you and to find out how we could better meet our Māori Outcome and climate action aspirations.

We engaged with our communities across the local board area. The issues and priorities you raised with us through these interactions have helped us finalise this plan.



Te whakatutuki i tā mātou mahere

Carrying out our plan

Turning plans into reality takes many people working together – the community, the local board and the wider council family such as Auckland Transport. To deliver on the local board plan, we will:

- **prioritise** budgets to focus on the initiatives in the plan
- make the best use of local assets such as community centres, libraries and parks
- set direction for the council staff who deliver the projects and services
- work with various community groups and partners, to deliver projects and services.
- make decisions **that are in line with Auckland’s commitment to climate action and emissions reduction.**

Sometimes, important projects in local areas are beyond the funding available to local boards or their authority to make decisions. In those cases, the role of the local board is to advocate to other decision-makers to ensure they are aware of community views and the local board’s support for them.



Te Rohe ā-Poari o Waitematā

Waitematā Local Board area



LEGEND

	Waitematā Local Board Office
	Public open space (Unitary Plan)
	Railway station
	Railway
	Motorway
	Major road
	Arterial road
	Medium road



Parnell School kapa haka, Waitematā Local Board inauguration ceremony

Ngā huanga Māori

Māori Outcomes

Māori identity and culture are Auckland’s unique point of difference in the world. Whānau, hapū, iwi and Māori communities aspire to have healthy and prosperous lives and have defined the outcomes that are most important to Māori. Māori outcomes are the way Auckland Council supports Māori aspirations.

Māori outcomes respond to Auckland Council’s legislative obligations and to extensive engagement with Auckland’s Māori communities.

The Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau framework outlines ten priority areas that support and progress these aspirations and has been adopted by Auckland Council as the way to deliver outcomes for Māori. These priority areas are:

- Kia ora te kāinga – Papakāinga and Māori housing
- Kia ora te marae – Marae development
- Kia ora te ahurea – Māori identity and culture
- Kia ora te rangatahi – Realising rangatahi potential
- Kia ora te hononga – Effective Māori participation

- Kia ora te whanau – Whānau and tamariki wellbeing
- Kia ora te reo – Te reo Māori
- Kia ora te umanga – Māori business, tourism and employment
- Kia ora te taiao – Kaitiakitanga
- Kia hāngai te Kaunihera – An empowered organisation

Local board plans are an important way to deliver for Māori at a local level. This section of the plan outlines the Māori outcomes addressed in this plan.



About the Waitematā landscape

History and place names

Wai-te-matā means 'obsidian waters'. It refers to the glassy surface of the Waitematā Harbour, which resembles volcanic obsidian rock.

Pā were established on the headlands of the Waitematā, but were redeveloped for national defence in the 1880s, and again during World War II.

Iwi and hapū

The following iwi and hapū are whakapapa to the area.

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

Māori residents: 2018 census

This data covers those who identified as Māori on their census form.

- 5,034 Māori residents - about 6 per cent of the total Waitematā population (82,866)
- Waitematā grew by 660 Māori residents from 4,374 in 2013
- Māori have a median age of 30.4 years, compared to the median of 31.4 years for the whole of the Waitematā

Marae

A number of marae are the focal point for many Māori within and beyond the area. Many are associated with educational institutions that mainly serve their own community of interest. They are:

- **Ngā Wai** o Horotiu (AUT Marae)
- Waipapa Marae (University of Auckland)
- Ngā Oho Marae (Western Springs College)
- Kahurangi Ki Maungawhau Marae (Auckland Girls Grammar)
- Tātai Hono Marae (**Auckland Māori Mission – Anglican**).

These marae provide services ranging from social and health to education and training. They cater to cultural needs and aspirations as a place for hui and tangihanga.

Upgrading parks and public spaces

The Waitematā Local Board actively sought mana whenua input into projects for parks and public spaces including Tiramarama Way naming in Wynyard Quarter, naming of the new Ferry Basin downtown open space – Te Wānanga, and dual naming of Waitatarau Freemans Bay Park and Ko Takere Haea St Mary's Bay Park.



Mana whenua have been actively involved in developing the plans for Karangahape Road, Newton and Eden Terrace, Ponsonby Road, Teed Street redevelopment and Parnell. They have also provided input into the plans for Western Springs Te Wai Ōrea Park, Meola Reef Reserve Te Tokaroa, Myers Park and Te Hā Noa Victoria Street linear park.

We are upgrading the northern (city) end of Myers Park which will feature artwork designed by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei artist Graham Tipene, to provide a beautiful new entranceway for the park.

Te Hā O Hine Place

New interpretation signage has been installed at Te Hā O Hine Place. The local board had previously resolved to change the name of the lower section of Khartoum Place to acknowledge the location of the Women's Suffrage Centenary Memorial 1893-1993.

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei gifted the name Te Hā o Hine, which is derived from the whakatauki (proverb) 'Me aro koe ki te Hā o Hine-ahu-one' ('pay heed to the dignity of women').

The local board currently supports Māori outcomes through:

- Activating, improving and renewing local parks
- Developing pathways in Basque Park
- Supporting community, arts groups and local events
- Taking action in response to people experiencing homelessness
- Engage with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei in the development of Heard Park
- Engage with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and Ngāti Te Ata Waiohua in creating the new civic space at 254 Ponsonby Road
- Waterway restoration projects at Waititiko Meola Creek, Waiparuru Stream, Waipapa Stream and Newmarket Stream
- Planting trees for the Urban Ngahere Forest Restoration
- Partnering with mana whenua during programme and project planning through to implementation in the city centre.

Whakawhanaungatanga

In 2022/2023, the Waitematā Local Board commissioned a Waitematā action plan to develop and foster relationships between the Waitematā Local Board and mana whenua iwi at the governance level. We are seeking deeper relationships to identify synergies and opportunities to partner on the local level to deliver better outcomes for our environment and our people.

Opportunities to work with mana whenua and mataawaka in Waitematā:



Local Board Outcomes	Alignment to Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau Outcome	Initiatives
Our People	Kia ora te Ahurea – Māori Identity and Culture	Partner with Mana Whenua and iwi, and mataawaka to celebrate Māori culture and identity, such as through events, placemaking, or narrative wayfinding
	Kia ora te Whānau – Whānau and Tamariki Wellbeing	Engage with our vulnerable and diverse communities, such as people experiencing homelessness, seniors, and ethnic communities to better involve them in the planning and programming decisions that affect them
	Kia ora te Rangatahi – Realising Rangatahi Potential	Progress the Waitematā Youth Deliberative Democracy Pilot and support youth voice and leadership
Our Environment	Kia ora te Taiao – Kaitiakitanga	Advocate for daylighting projects for appropriate streams, waterways and wetlands in our parks and reserves to improve overland flow and stormwater management outcomes
	Kia ora te Whānau – Whānau and Tamariki Wellbeing	Support the programming and activation for Te Wharekura in the Auckland Downtown Ferry Basin that would provide interactive environmental and cultural storytelling
	Kia ora te Hononga – Effective Māori Participation	Support local water quality improvements at Newmarket, Waitītiko, Waipāruru, Waipapa streams and Te Wai Ōrea lake and wetland
		Continue to advocate for the expedited delivery of the Western and Eastern Isthmus water quality improvements that impact our waterways, catchments, beaches, and harbours
		Support local composting and grow a local low-carbon, resilient food production system through community gardens and food sovereignty initiatives
Our Community	Kia ora te Hononga – Effective Māori Participation	Utilise the feedback from the Youth Deliberative Democracy Pilot to investigate initiatives such as spaces, activations and pop-ups designed and delivered by youth
	Kia ora te Rangatahi – Realising Rangatahi Potential.	Develop a Local Parks Management Plan that will set high-level management intentions across the parks and reserves network in the Waitematā Local Board area
	Kia ora te Taiao – Kaitiakitanga	Work with the business and residential communities to progress to the detailed design and redevelopment of Heard Park
	Kia ora te Ahurea – Māori Identity and Culture	Support a network of community gardens, food sovereignty, and other food resilience initiatives
	Kia ora te Whānau – Whānau and Tamariki Wellbeing	Celebrate Māori identity and taonga including Reo at our libraries and arts spaces



Our Places	Kia ora te Ahurea – Māori Identity and Culture	Work with Eke Panuku, City Rail Link Limited and Auckland Transport to lead quality urban regeneration around the Karanga-a-Hape and Maungawhau and with Kāinga Ora to agree strategic outcomes including diverse affordable housing
	Kia ora te Hononga – Effective Māori Participation	
	Kia ora te Taiao – Kaitiakitanga	Work with Eke Panuku, mana whenua and key stakeholders to deliver the next phase of the Waterfront Programme including the design of a new city centre park guided by the Te Ara Tukutuku Plan
	Kia ora te Whānau – Whānau and Tamariki Wellbeing.	Investigate opportunities to partner with Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei as it develops new public spaces on Māori owned land at Te Tōangaroa / Quay Park
		Reflect Māori heritage and whakapapa in our public spaces and facilities incorporating Māori design principles and artwork
Our Economy	Kia ora te Umanga – Māori Business, Tourism and Employment	Promote the Sustainable Procurement Framework to support supplier diversity, quality employment and reductions in waste and carbon
	Kia ora te Ahurea – Māori Identity and Culture	Encourage programmes that accelerate the growth and development of Māori and Pacific entrepreneurship
		Support arts and events that bring more people to our town centres and through working with Tātaki Auckland Unlimited to partner with mana whenua and Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to leverage Tātaki Auckland Unlimited regional major events delivered in our area
		Foster education, collaboration and professional development for the creative sector including the Urban Regeneration plans for Uptown



Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, Outhwaite Park blessing



Cyclists, Cocks Bay Reserve

Te Tāruke ā-Tāwhiri

Climate Action

In 2019 Auckland Council declared a climate emergency and in 2020 adopted [Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan](#). Meeting the goals set out in this plan means taking ambitious action to reduce emissions and to adapt to a changing climate.

Local Boards have an important role to play in leading and supporting Auckland's response to the climate emergency, including supporting regional climate plan initiatives, integrating climate awareness into all decisions, including community investment.

Impacts from climate change were assessed recently as part of Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan with the waterfront from Point Erin to Judges Bay, Fort Street, Beach Road, Stanley Street and The Strand found to be vulnerable to coastal inundation. Victoria Park and Cocks Creek catchments including Grey Lynn Park and Hakanoa Reserve are assessed to be vulnerable to flooding. Shoreline Adaptation Plan (Coastal Cell D: Waitematā Harbour) will be developed in the near future. Auckland Council's assessment of vulnerability to climate change rates the ability of communities to adapt to climate change. Within the local board area, the waterfront area is identified as a hotspot, exposed to coastal hazards, catchment flooding and the impacts of climate change with limited capacity to adapt due to hard infrastructure along the coastal margin. We will partner with mana whenua and engage with local communities to develop long term adaptive strategies for council-owned land and assets.

Climate action



We want a resilient community and environment that is proactive and adaptable in the face of climate change, and natural hazards. We will support businesses to become more resilient and sustainable. We will support and advocate for our communities to improve their food security, transition to low-carbon technologies, and support the development of strategies and tools that can help them recover when things go wrong, particularly for those that reside in apartments and residential towers.

[Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland’s Climate Plan](#) directs us to halve our emissions across the region by 2030. Locally, we will prioritise actions that move Waitemātā in this direction, such as promoting our [Low-Carbon Communities Action Plan](#), minimizing tree loss and prioritising tree plantings across our work programme when we undertake capital works. Where possible, we will support Auckland Transport to undertake action from the [Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway](#) (TERP) that deliver towards this.

Some of the key risks and opportunities for the area are:

- **Pressures on the environment:** Transport emissions, high carbon goods and services, increasing population, ageing waste and stormwater infrastructure, low tree canopy cover particularly in intensified areas.
- **Risks to the environment:** Air quality, biodiversity and increased pests, coastal inundation and erosion, transport network resilience, extreme weather events.
- **Opportunities for climate change mitigation and adaptation outcomes:** Intensified development, transport connectivity through active modes and public transport, increase canopy cover, food security, community resilience plans, making space for water.

Climate goals and actions that will be addressed in this plan:

Local Board Plan objective	Local Board Plan key initiatives
<p>Our People: All our people are thriving and have what they need to live a good life.</p>	<p>Develop local emergency response plans to improve community resilience to extreme weather events, ongoing climate change hazards, and other emergencies</p>
<p>Our Environment: Our built and natural environment is resilient to natural hazards and the effects of climate change. Our natural environment is rich in biodiversity and provides clean waterways.</p>	<p>Promote Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre, local waste minimisation and resource recovery initiatives</p> <p>Support the programming and activation for Te Wharekura in the Auckland Downtown Ferry Basin that would provide interactive environmental and cultural storytelling</p> <p>Continue to deliver the Urban Ngahere Strategy and increase Waitemātā’s canopy cover</p> <p>Support community education and behaviour change projects that aim to mitigate climate change and increase community resilience such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower our communities, schools, and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions and be energy efficient • Local composting and community gardens network • Bike hub Sustainable food projects



Our Community: Our community is resilient and have places and activities to connect and foster a sense of belonging.

Prioritise our renewals programme to ensure our most used assets are sustainable and resilient to the impacts of climate change

Identify areas within parks, reserves and open spaces that may benefit from 'no mow' or 'low mow' regimes to enable increased biodiversity and native plant regeneration

Support a network of community gardens, food sovereignty and other food resilience initiatives

Our Places: Waitematā is a great place to live, work, learn and play. Our neighbourhoods are well designed to be sustainable, well-connected and celebrate our heritage and unique identities.

Work with the council group, mana whenua and key stakeholders to deliver the next phase of the Waterfront Programme including upgrading the Westhaven Seawall to provide wave dissipation and protection from coastal flooding, and ensuring the design of a new city centre park guided by the Te Ara Tukutuku Plan is sustainable and resilient

Work with the wider council family such as Watercare to upgrade and deliver key infrastructure to adapt to climate impacts including Herne Bay wastewater connections and Pt Erin extension to the Central Interceptor

Work with Resilient Land and Coast department to develop the Waitematā Harbour Shoreline Adaptation Plan to consider the impacts of sea level rise

Implement the 2013 Waitematā Greenways Plan and work with Parks and Community Facilities and Auckland Transport to deliver key walking and cycling connections

Continue to work with Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi to improve travel choices and prioritise active transport modes that keep pedestrians and cyclists safe such as The Strand Optimisation project and Waitematā Safe Routes

Our Economy: Our city centre and fringe town centres are thriving and support a resilient diverse economy that embraces new opportunities and drives prosperity.

Work with Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to promote the prosperity of the rohe, achieve climate outcomes and address safety and anti-social behaviour

Promote the Sustainable Procurement Framework to support supplier diversity, quality employment and reductions in waste and carbon emissions

Support sectors to transition to a resilient, low carbon, sustainable and regenerative economy through innovation

Work with CCOs and City Rail Link Limited to transform the connectedness of our City Centre and City Fringe business districts



Parnell Festival of Roses, Dove-Myer Robinson Park

Ō Tātou Tāngata

Our people

All our people are thriving and have what they need to live a good life.

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

The [Ngā Hapori Momoho/Thriving Communities strategy](#) provides a platform for us to work together with Auckland's diverse communities in new and more sustainable ways. In these challenging times and limited resources, our community has told us to support those who face the greatest disparities in our area. We want to ensure all our people are resilient and thriving and have what they need to live a good life, can participate, feel accepted and included, have a voice; and have agency to act.

Partnering for positive community outcomes and recognising expertise

Our changing fiscal environment means we must ensure our money goes further. Taking a partnership approach to some activities and services, such as events, arts, culture and creativity, or placemaking and activations, means we recognise, encourage, and enable the expertise of the people that live in and visit our area to deliver for their communities. We can fulfill an identified need and empower our residents to have more involvement and engagement with the delivery to ensure programming is fit for purpose.



We aim to provide quality opportunities for tamariki and rangatahi to engage in play, active recreation and sports particularly for those inactive or at risk of missing out.

We will continue to honour our commitments to Te Tiriti by improving outcomes for Māori and enhance our partnership with mana whenua and iwi within Waitematā to deliver on aspirations, programming, and activities that showcase Māori culture and identity, support wellbeing.

Supporting and facilitating community-driven action

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 seniors 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 Waitematā, such as Auckland Transport, Eke Panuku and Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, to ensure the community is provided for in programming and initiatives.

Champion for safety, inclusion, engagement, and accessibility

Improving public safety and perceptions of safety is a key challenge for this term. Our approach supports a larger regional response to this issue that collectively seeks to improve safety and wellbeing. We will work with central government and our community partners to support initiatives and programmes to respond to this.

We will put safety, inclusion, and accessibility at the forefront of our community initiatives and projects. We will consider our vulnerable communities; rainbow youth, women and girls, seniors, people with disabilities and our migrant communities to establish stronger participation. We will lead the way by ensuring there are always safe and enriching spaces where the whole community is welcome, from our libraries and parks to one-off events.

We will explore opportunities to hear from our people experiencing homelessness, our youth and ethnic communities we don't often hear from.

Challenges

- The population of Waitematā are extremely diverse in income, cultural background, and age. We need to enable our more vulnerable communities to be more engaged, involved, and heard.
- Ensuring a community-partnership approach addresses possible gaps, emerging needs and minimises duplication.
- Developing a robust and equitable partnership approach to community delivery may take time, and mean less activities are delivered in the short to medium term.
- The community and its delivery partners may have capacity constraints when delivering activities, services, or programmes.



Opportunities

- Community-led approach offers direct and targeted involvement in programmes that contribute to community wellbeing.
- Improved relationships across a wide variety of stakeholders, partners, and delivery providers, making it easier to collaborate and improves community resilience.
- Greater value for money through a partnership model which could leverage funding from other sources outside of Auckland Council.
- Events and programmes are more aligned with what the community wants and needs.

Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Partnering for positive community outcomes and recognising expertise	Support community organisations and groups to lead and deliver events, activations, and programmes in their local areas, such as with seed funding, or support from our Community Broker and access to resources and expertise, to build community-capability
	Partner with Mana Whenua and iwi, and mataawaka to celebrate Māori culture and identity, such as through events, placemaking, or narrative wayfinding
	Continue to fund, produce, and deliver targeted events, programmes and activations that support or enhance community delivered initiatives
	Develop a partnership model for community-led delivery that follows best practice and is easy to implement
	Strengthen a relationship with Sport Auckland for support, and in particular working with the ActivAsian team at Sport Auckland
Support and facilitate community-driven action	Provide community grants to providers, organisations, and individuals that are delivering improved social wellbeing, connection, and inclusion activities
	Investigate additional opportunities for our connected communities and engagement teams to support and facilitate community groups to deliver activities and services
	Develop local emergency response plans to improve community resilience to extreme weather events, ongoing climate change hazards, and other emergencies
	Advocate for community involvement and engagement on activation and infrastructure planning to ensure a robust consultation and feedback process, particularly for CCO work programmes



Champion for safety, inclusion, engagement, and accessibility

Engage with our vulnerable and diverse communities, such as people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities, youth, seniors, and ethnic communities to better involve them in the planning and programming decisions that affect them

Continue to advocate for strong accessibility requirements for events, in our open spaces and facilities, and ensure this is a priority consideration during the planning and asset renewals process

Progress the Waitemata Youth Deliberative Democracy Pilot and support youth voice and leadership

Support local and regional initiatives intended to improve public safety and perceptions of safety in the city centre and fringe town centres

Advocacy

Initiative	Description	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.	Governing Body, Central Government
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 co-housing 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.	Governing Body
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.	Governing Body, Central Government
Creative Industries	Advocate to the Governing Body for the support and enhancement of Auckland's creative industries by securing funding to sustain these initiatives.	Governing Body
Age and child friendly policies	Advocate to the Governing Body for age-and-child-friendly policies; we advocate for a city where the voices, needs, priorities and rights of all ages are an integral part of public policies, programmes, and decisions. An age-and-child friendly city can help build social and economic conditions for strong families and connected communities and help achieve a city that is fit for all. This includes an integrated approach to ensure our younger and older residents are accounted for in policy and planning.	Governing Body

Provision of public amenities	Advocate to Governing Body and CCOs 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 seniors, and people experiencing homelessness.	Governing Body, CCOs
Greater police presence and visibility in the city centre	Advocate to central government and New Zealand Police for greater police presence and visibility in the city centre including a station that is accessible to the public.	Central government, New Zealand Police
Safety in the city centre and fringe town centres	Advocate to Governing Body to ensure regional funding of projects and initiatives focussed on improving safety and perceptions of safety in the city centre and fringe town centres.	Governing Body



Outhwaite Park



Planting day, Te Wai Ōrea Western Springs

Tō Tātou Taiao

Our environment

Our built and natural environment is resilient to natural hazards and the effects of climate change. Our natural environment is rich in biodiversity and provides clean waterways.

Our natural environment is essential to the people of Waitematā. It includes the Waitematā Harbour, streams, areas of native bush, parks, beaches, and wetlands such as Meola Reef Reserve. We want to preserve and enhance these precious resources for future generations by building resiliency, cleaning and protecting our water, and providing healthy and diverse environments for our people, and our wildlife.

Clean water, clean air, healthy streams, safe oceans

The Central Interceptor wastewater tunnel, funded by the Water Quality Targeted Rate, will improve water quality at our beaches and harbours but there is still much to do to restore our waterways. We will continue to partner with our neighbouring local boards, local iwi and volunteers to restore the mauri of our local waterways, such as Waititiko/Meola Creek, Waipapa and Newmarket streams and those flowing into Cox's Bay, Te Wai Ōrea/Western Springs, Meola Reef and Hobson Bay.

The city centre is an area with the highest population density in the country and we support initiatives to reduce air pollution by encouraging active transport modes and uptake in public transport, changing to electric cars and buses, and advocating for a reduction in pollution from shipping.



We continue to advocate for water quality improvements to our significant bodies of water, such as the Hauraki Gulf, and will partner with our CCOs such as Watercare to ensure community views are heard on major infrastructure projects and opportunities. Advancing the Western/Eastern Isthmus water quality separation projects, including Hobson Bay, are of critical importance.

Biodiversity and Urban Ngahere

We want to reduce pests and ensure an ecologically viable urban environment under the guardianship of engaged communities and mana whenua, which provides healthy habitats where native flora and fauna can thrive. Our tree canopy cover is 19.1 per cent. Our [Waitematā Urban Ngahere \(Forest\) Strategy](#) commits to 30 per cent canopy cover by 2050. The challenge of intensification for housing and private development means we must take a more active approach to minimise tree loss and ensure plantings are included as a design principle. Increasing tree canopy cover will sequester carbon, reduce urban heat island effects, and provide habitats for our biodiversity. We will prioritise the delivery of plantings in areas that have low percentages of canopy cover such as Newmarket, Wynyard Quarter, Karangahape, and Eden Terrace, and areas where opportunities are present. We are currently in the second and third stages of the plan which includes a long-term growing programme, and maintenance of existing urban forests.

We will continue to support initiatives that enable our local communities to deliver planting, weed and pest control. We will continue to work with community partners such as residents and schools to coordinate projects that protect native biodiversity and enhance habitats through planting. We will work with the council group to ensure all place and transport upgrades maximise planting opportunities.

Resilient against natural hazards and climate change

We want a resilient community and environment that is proactive and adaptable in the face of climate change, and natural hazards. We will support businesses to become more resilient and sustainable. We will support and advocate for our communities to improve their preparedness for natural hazards, food security, transition to low-carbon technologies, and support the development of strategies and tools that can help them recover when things go wrong, particularly for those that reside in apartments and residential towers.

[Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan](#) directs us to halve our emissions across the region by 2030. Locally, we will prioritise actions that move Waitematā in this direction, such as promoting our [Low-Carbon Communities Action Plan](#), and prioritising tree plantings across our work programme when we undertake capital works. We will support Auckland Transport to undertake action from the [Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway](#) (TERP) that deliver towards this.

Challenges

- Flooding and coastal inundation will change the way we look after our environments, including considering adaptation options, e.g., managed retreat from areas that are high-risk.
- Improvements to wastewater separation across the Eastern/Western Isthmus requires a coordinated approach from many agencies, and primarily involves the local board as an advocate for this work.
- Financial constraints could reduce, pause, or scale back our environmental programming. We will continue our most effective ecological restoration, water quality improvement and stream

restoration projects however reduced funding in some areas could result in biodiversity decline and coordinated community environmental action.



Opportunities

- Delivery of the City Rail Link and projects such as the Inner West cycling and streets programme will provide our people easier and safer ways to move around. Increasing the attractiveness of public and active transport as alternatives to driving will help us meet our goal of lowering carbon emissions.
- The Water Quality Targeted Rate allows for continuing improvements and progress towards healthier waterways, catchments, and beaches alongside the Natural Environment Targeted Rate which focuses on improvements to biodiversity, pest control, and restoration of native habitats.
- Increasing canopy cover delivered under the Waitemata Urban Ngahere Action Plan, aiming for 30 per cent by 2050, means more trees, more shade, and more biodiversity.
- Empowering our volunteers and community partners to take more ownership over their local green spaces, forests, and waterways, ensuring we can sustainably preserve and enhance our environments.

Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Improve resilience against the impacts of climate change and natural hazards	Advocate for daylighting projects for appropriate streams, waterways and wetlands in our area to improve overland flow and stormwater management outcomes
	Support the programming and activation for Te Wharekura kiosk in the Auckland Downtown Ferry Basin that would provide interactive environmental and cultural storytelling
	Empower our communities, schools, and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions and be energy efficient
	Encourage events, communities, and businesses to reduce, reuse and recycle and make sustainable living choices
	Continue to support local communities to implement local composting and grow a local low-carbon, resilient food production system, such as through community gardens, food sovereignty and other food resilience initiatives
	Support Zero-waste initiatives to achieve the <u>Auckland Waste Management and Minimisation Plan</u> objective of zero-waste to landfill by 2040, such as encouraging behaviour change including community composting and food scraps collection, and promote commercial sector changes to manage organic, plastic, e-waste, paper, textiles and construction and demolition waste
	Promote Waiōrea Community Recycling Centre, local waste minimisation and resource recovery initiatives



Preserve, protect, and enhance biodiversity across Waitematā	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
	Continue to reduce the use of agrichemicals in our parks and open spaces and advocate for agrichemical spraying to be phased out regionally
	Continue to deliver on the Waitematā Urban Ngahere Action Plan by planting in areas of low-canopy cover, maintaining existing urban forest environments, and advocating for plantings as a principle in projects where we are not the landowner
	Prioritise ecological outcomes from the Western Springs Te Wai Ōrea Development Plan such as water quality, riparian planting, and protection of our native species such as tuna (eel)
	Engage and build capability in the community to undertake pest management in their local areas with the support of environmental services staff and local volunteer groups
Improve our water quality and air quality, and clean our waterways	Support local stream restoration such as in the Waititiko Meola Creek, Waipapa, Waipāruru and Newmarket streams
	Continue to advocate for the expedited delivery of the Western and Eastern Isthmus water quality improvements that impact our waterways, catchments, beaches, and harbours
	Support programmes and initiatives that improve air quality such as advocating for the transitioning to electric vehicles, micro mobility, and reductions in pollution related to private vehicle usage, and port and shipping activity

Advocacy

Initiative	Description	Advocating to
Climate Change – Reduce Emissions	We need to meet the goals of Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan and advocate to the Governing Body and Auckland Transport to prioritise their commitment to the plan and its target of halving greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and reaching net zero emissions by 2050.	Governing Body, Auckland Transport
Improve the environmental quality and biodiversity of the Hauraki Gulf	To increase funding for water quality improvements to stormwater, the delivery of cleaner harbours, beaches, and streams. Reduce wastewater flows into the Hauraki Gulf and support developing mechanisms for sustaining and enhancing marine life in the gulf.	Governing Body, Watercare



Increase enforcement for environmental compliance, monitoring and response

Advocate to the Governing Body for funding to increase compliance enforcement and education for activities affecting our environment, such as sediment runoff from private land, and maintenance to keep our waterways and drains clear to help prevent flooding.

Governing Body

General Tree Protection

Ask the Governing Body to advocate for changes to legislation and regulations to enable councils to introduce planning controls on how urban trees are assessed and protected.
Advocate to the Governing Body to simplify and better resource processes for identifying and protecting mature trees.

Governing Body, and Central Government



Sentinel Beach



Pump track, Grey Lynn Park

Tō Tātou Hapori

Our community

Our community is resilient and have places and activities to connect and foster a sense of belonging.

Community participation is critical for Waitemātā which experiences a range of socio-economic challenges. It is through interactions with others that we build cohesion and resilience, essential to thrive in a changing world.

Community infrastructure supports community participation through the provision of services and spaces for people to interact. Auckland Council is one of many organisations that provides these social and cultural infrastructure and services.

Delivering for our current and future communities

Waitemātā Local Board is home to buildings that provide local services, and regional services as well as many buildings that have national significance. Waitemātā also has five aquatic centres (The Tepid Baths, The Olympic, Parnell Baths, Point Erin Pool, and Grey Lynn Paddling Pool) and a portfolio of community leases and venues for hire.

Our communities are growing and changing. We are also challenged with ageing assets and limited budgets for renewal. We will engage with our communities and review our portfolio of community assets to ensure our facilities and services are financially sustainable and meet current and future needs of our community.



Grey Lynn Library and hall require earthquake strengthening and the community centre has structural issues. This creates an opportunity to investigate options with the community to ensure we can continue to meet current and future needs for library and community services. This may require us to explore funding options.

Leys Institute Library and Gymnasium, closed due to earthquake risk, is undergoing major seismic remediation and restoration. A comprehensive renewal of the Auckland Central Library is planned, while at the same time a major project is looking at options to actively manage and plan for central library services to Aucklanders over the next 50 years due to the current facility issues such as size, age, condition, and configuration.

Our parks and open spaces

Waitematā Local Board's open space infrastructure network is comprised of reserves, large parks with sporting facilities, coastal and ecological areas, neighbourhood parks and civic spaces. The network helps manage stormwater, improve air quality, mitigate climate change, and provide facilities for recreation.

We recognise the importance of treasuring and protecting our green spaces, heritage parks and trees. The way we design and enable activities in our parks, open spaces and playgrounds plays a role in fostering connections and wellbeing. There are opportunities to provide for diverse play options in a range of locations across the local board area, including parks without playgrounds. Initiatives such as 'no mow' or 'low mow' regimes can encourage nature play.

Concept plans for Basque Park in Eden Terrace, Heard Park in Parnell, and a new civic space at 254 Ponsonby Road are progressing to detailed design and delivery. A destination park is planned for Wynyard Point which will form a key part of Auckland City Centre's waterfront regeneration.

We need to continue to utilise our renewals programme to improve our parks to be safe and inclusive.

Community connections

Council's community lease portfolio contributes to the network of community service infrastructure in Waitematā providing space for organisations such as sports clubs and community groups. We need to continue to support our local sport clubs to be resilient and enable community-led arts activities.

Challenges

- The cost of maintaining our assets and facilities is increasingly expensive. A more sustainable investment approach is needed to deliver services that are more fit for purpose and less reliant on council assets. This will mean difficult trade-offs and investigating creative ways to raise our revenue and/or alternative methods to fund our projects.
- We need a more flexible approach to deliver our services for current and future generations.
- Climate change continues to be a key challenge and we need to prioritise our renewals programme to upgrade the resilience of our facilities.
- Community concerns about safety and antisocial behaviour in public areas need to be addressed.



Opportunities

- In June 2022, the Governing Body confirmed its decision to increase local board decision-making to include most local community services. This means a transfer of decision-making responsibilities and an opportunity to look at better ways to tailor services to different communities focusing on growing participation in areas of greatest needs.
- Where assets are underused, there may be opportunities to sell or lease to invest in other services or facilities that could better provide for our communities.
- Scheduled renewals for parks, roads and assets are opportunities to plant trees for shade, increase resilience, add value and amenities.

Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Our network of facilities and services deliver for our current and future communities	Review our network of services and facilities, including the regional review of Auckland’s aquatic network, to consider a new approach to how services are delivered more efficiently and effectively for our community
	Utilise the feedback from the Youth Deliberative Democracy Pilot to investigate initiatives such as spaces, activations and pop-ups designed and delivered by youth
	Review our portfolio of buildings and consider reducing our asset footprint to have fewer but better assets that are fit for purpose and well used
	Assess our community leases and assets to ensure they are financially sustainable and prioritise local needs and the changing demographics
	Work with the community to investigate future options for Grey Lynn Library, Community Centre, and their services
	Deliver seismic strengthening, restoration and modernisation of Leys Institute Library and Gymnasium to preserve as a heritage taonga for future generations
	Prioritise our renewals programme to ensure our most used assets are sustainable and resilient to the impacts of climate change



Our parks and open spaces are well-used and safe

Progress the delivery of a civic space at 254 Ponsonby Road and investigate funding options if required

Develop a Local Parks Management Plan that will set high-level management intentions across the parks and reserves network in the Waitemata Local Board area

Explore opportunities to enhance our existing network of open spaces and utilise the Play Network and Diversity in Parks assessments to ensure our parks are designed and renewed to be safe and inclusive

Increase access to parks and reserves through play activations, greenways connectivity, renewal works and park upgrades such as improving the pathways and drainage in Basque Park and the renewal of the playground at Gladstone Park

Work with the business and residential community to progress the detailed design and redevelopment of Heard Park

Identify areas within parks, reserves and open spaces that may benefit from ‘no mow’ or ‘low mow’ regimes to enable increased biodiversity, native planting, and regeneration

Support activities that bring people into our parks such as the Out and About programme

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

Connect our communities, through community activities, creative arts, sports and events

Develop a local play programme and investigate potential opportunities for youth provision such as a space for youth in Newmarket

Support and enable community-led arts activities throughout the local board area such as supporting TAPAC and continue the arts broker model with a renewed focus on supporting local creatives

Continue to support our local sports clubs and ensure they are resilient to financial, demographic, and other challenges

Support a network of community gardens, food sovereignty and other food resilience initiatives

Levels of service

- We will be reviewing our community leasing fees and charges
- We are working to identify areas within parks and reserves that are well suited for native plants to regenerate for “no mow” areas and suited to create meadow-like open spaces for ‘low mow’ areas

Advocacy

Initiative	Description	Advocating to
New open spaces	Advocate for the development of new open spaces, particularly developing Wynyard Point as a significant open space, achieving the community vision for a civic space on Ponsonby Road and creating a plaza at the intersection of Rose Road and Williamson Avenue.	Governing Body
Shared facilities in schools	Support the development of shared facilities that can be utilised by schools and the community.	Governing Body, Ministry of Education
Regional Arts and Culture Grants	Continue the Regional Arts and Culture Grants programme to support the arts sector to deliver to a wide range of audiences	Governing Body



Play Festival, Western Park – photograph by Freestyle Event Photography



Newmarket

Ō Tātou Wāhi

Our places

Waitematā is a great place to live, work, learn and play. Our neighbourhoods are well designed to be sustainable, well-connected and celebrate our heritage and unique identities.

Waitematā offers a unique landscape, and beautiful surroundings. We have a wonderful waterfront that is well connected to the city centre, an active harbour, unique historic and natural heritage, built environment and open spaces. Laneways and shared spaces have recreated existing streets to favour people, not cars, and have brought new life to the city.

Waitematā supports tourism and is a gateway to the rest of the country. The experiences offered are unable to be replicated anywhere else and we need to maintain our assets and enhance those experiences.

Our city centre is a hub for businesses, shoppers, and cultural activity whilst also home to over 33,000 residents. Our urban villages such as Ponsonby, Parnell and Newmarket are shopping, entertainment, and tourism destinations, whilst neighbourhoods such as Grafton, Westmere and Arch Hill offer their own unique character, features and history. Over recent years, Waitematā has undergone significant residential and infrastructure development. There is an increase in consenting for higher density housing which means we are increasing the efficiency of land use, enabling walkable catchments, and reducing our carbon footprint per capita in an area with good transport links.

Growth and development

The Council's Development Strategy acknowledges Auckland's city centre as Auckland's primary centre. There has been significant public and private investment in infrastructure and development projects over



the past 10 to 15 years. Public investment has revitalised areas such as Britomart and Wynyard Quarter on Auckland's waterfront and has been the catalyst for further private investment.

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.

We need to establish "blue-green" corridors in our dense urban environments in order to enhance and maintain existing habitats by connecting fragmented and isolated ecosystems, and ensure our housing stock is resilient to floods.

Parks and open spaces

Waitematā places and spaces are where we live, work, learn and play. These include parks, playgrounds and sports fields, streets and roadways, town centres with their squares, plazas and spaces between buildings. With increasing housing intensification, we must advocate for the adequate provision of parks and open spaces to respond to the potential growth provided for under proposed legislative changes. The importance of open and green spaces also increases as people live in more compact urban environments. These spaces are an extension of our homes and the way we live, and their design within our network must therefore be flexible to accommodate how people of all age groups and abilities will use them.

Placemaking recognises that our places foster wellbeing and support the way we live. It is a process that puts community-based participation at its centre.

Transport and accessibility

The transport network supports growth and transformation by prioritising public transport improvements, and improving efficiencies along growth corridors that will ensure all transport modes are safe and connected. We will work proactively with Auckland Transport to connect inner suburbs, destinations and centres of employment. As Auckland continues to grow, improving road safety and air quality while reducing congestion and carbon emissions are key priorities and pivotal to Waitematā communities and our local economy.

More transport choices will ease pressure on roads for those who need to use them. The Transport Emission Reduction Plan lays out a vision to improve public transport, cycling and walking.

Access for Everyone (A4E) is a coordinated response that manages Auckland's city centre transport needs, supporting transformation and change planned for the next 20 years.

The Victoria Linear Park and Midtown bus improvements will enable thousands more people to access and enjoy the city centre, while projects to improve transport corridors in our inner suburbs will improve safety and travel choices schools, recreation and places of work.

City shaping projects over the next ten years will support development in Waitematā. The City Rail Link will be transformational, delivering benefits across the region. It allows for significantly improved travel times to the city centre and across the entire rail network, doubling capacity and providing a direct south to west link. It will also benefit road users, as making public transport a better travel choice option will ease pressure on roads for those who need to use them.



Town centres and neighbourhoods

There are a number of plans developed with mana whenua and engagement with the community focussing on what is envisaged on a more localised area within Waitematā including: City Centre Masterplan, Waterfront Plan, Parnell Plan, Newton Eden Terrace Plan, Newmarket Laneways Plan, Karangahape Road Plan, the Ponsonby Road Plan, and the community vision for Great North Road. Auckland's dynamic planning environment continues to evolve over time. These aspirational plans provide the community's long term (20-30 year) aspirations for an area or place, the distribution of land use activities within it, and we will engage with mana whenua and local communities to develop and deliver projects and activities that will achieve the vision and outcomes over time.

The new City Rail Link stations at Karanga-a-Hape and Maungawhau provide opportunities to enhance the surrounding neighbourhood and business areas through delivering new public spaces and partnering with Kainga Ora to deliver affordable new homes. Uptown and Grey Lynn are undergoing urban regeneration, intensification and investment that offer opportunities for beautification, activation and placemaking.

Street trees and plantings are attractive, provide shade and help mitigate urban heating whilst community play streets and other playful and engaging opportunities for neighbours to spend time together can support community resilience and cohesion.

City Centre

Te pokapū tāone o Tāmaki, Auckland's city centre is the geographic and economic centre of the region. It is home to some of our densest residential neighbourhoods, two of New Zealand's biggest universities and a number of significant cultural and arts institutions. Contributing, over 7 per cent of the country's GDP, the city centre plays a critical role in the success of both Tāmaki Makaurau and Aotearoa.

The city centre covers an extensive area between the motorway ring of the Central Motorway junction and the waterfront between Westhaven in the west and Ports of Auckland in the east and falls within the Waitematā Local Board area.

City Centre development is guided by the City Centre Masterplan (CCMP). The CCMP is the key guiding document for the Auckland Council whānau, setting the strategic direction for the city centre over the next 20 years. It applies the Auckland Plan to the city centre through ten outcomes, to be delivered through eight [transformational moves](#) and [Access for Everyone \(A4E\)](#).

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.

We will continue to support a cross-agency approach to deliver key transformation in the city centre including the Midtown Programme and Waterfront Programme.

Midtown is the heart of Auckland's city centre and is home to some of Auckland's most beloved cultural institutions and landmarks. It's home to a growing residential neighbourhood, where performing arts, civic, cultural, education and commercial activities meet. The new Te Waihorotiu station will catalyse private sector investment and growth, and provide opportunities to upgrade utility infrastructure and transform the urban realm through projects like [Te Hā Noa Victoria Street](#) that will provide a greener link across the city and allow people from across the region to breathe and experience midtown's unique offerings.

We will also work with Eke Panuku to progress projects in its Waterfront Programme including the Westhaven Seawall Upgrade that will provide wave dissipation and protection from coastal flooding, and



Water Edge Response Works to ensure water edge design makes these spaces safe and accessible for the public.

Te Toangaroa / Quay Park is a major future urban redevelopment opportunity for Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, in accordance with their own masterplan principles. See the concepts of Te Tōangaroa Masterplan, produced by Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei: [Te Tōangaroa Masterplan conceptual framework \(PDF\)](#). We will work with the wider council group to integrate future infrastructure planning and connections to support the realisation of their vision including aligning the delivery of key connections.



City Centre Master Plan

Challenges

- The extreme weather events in early 2023 highlighted climate change challenges. We need to consider land use, building design and transport infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions, we also need to adapt our planning and infrastructure to manage the risks of climate change impacts.
- The floods of Anniversary Weekend 2023 have advanced conversations on adaptation and managed retreat, and the plan changes required to support well designed intensification in resilient places with good public transport links and away from vulnerable sites.
- The government's proposed legislative changes which enable more intensive development in the city centre and around our neighbourhoods present the challenge of accommodating development while maintaining valued elements of our existing urban landscapes.
- 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.
- Safety on our roads is a primary consideration for our transport network. We are continuing to work towards Vision Zero by 2050 by improving safety and reducing deaths experienced on our roads.



Opportunities

- **New urban and transformation opportunities exist around new station environments and will be** attractive places to live, work and play. We can revitalise our inner-city suburbs and provide new opportunities for businesses, diversity of housing, and support sustainable urban travel, which is reliable, safe, and efficient.
- The redevelopment of Maungawhau/ Mount Eden and Karanga-a-hape station with City Rail Link will provide the opportunity to encourage pedestrian journeys into the area and increase street level activity and vibrancy. The relationship of the stations to the wider area can be strengthened through improved public realm and pedestrian connection legibility.
- Auckland Council is regenerating midtown with new public spaces and improved infrastructure, ready to welcome the thousands of people that will flow in and out of the area daily when Te Waihorotiu Station (Aotea) opens.
- Regular road and footpath maintenance are opportunities to ensure that surfacing condition, bus stops, road marking, parking and pedestrian spaces are appropriate and stormwater networks are capable of sustaining heavy rain events.
- A sponge city approach to urban design incorporating green-blue corridors with buffer planting to manage flooding will have a positive urban cooling effect, create more habitat for plants and animals, and more space for recreation.

Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Quality city centre and urban neighbourhoods that are resilient and sustainable	<p>Endorse an integrated cross-agency approach in the delivery of the City Centre Master Plan including key development projects in midtown</p> <hr/> <p>Work with Eke Panuku, City Rail Link Limited and Auckland Transport to lead quality urban regeneration for the areas around the Karanga-a-Hape and Maungawhau stations, and with Kāinga Ora to agree strategic outcomes including diverse affordable housing</p> <hr/> <p>Work with Eke Panuku, mana whenua and key stakeholders to deliver the next phase of the Waterfront Programme including the design of a new city centre park guided by the Te Ara Tukutuku Plan</p> <hr/> <p>Work with Watercare and CCO partners to upgrade, deliver and maintain key infrastructure to adapt to climate impacts and maintain cleaner water, including Herne Bay wastewater connections and Pt Erin extension to the Central Interceptor, and delivery of the Westhaven Seawall Upgrade</p> <hr/> <p>Work with Resilient Land and Coast department to develop the Waitematā Harbour Shoreline Adaptation Plan to consider the impacts of sea level rise</p> <hr/> <p>Encourage biophilic interventions including creating blue-green corridors, permeable ground surfaces, green infrastructure (including green roofs, walls and rain gardens) in public and private buildings and spaces</p>



	Support the Newmarket Business Association to investigate funding options to deliver upgrades to Kent and York Streets from the Newmarket Laneways Plan
	Work with CCOs and Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to support safety initiatives in the city centre and suburban fringe town centres
The character and heritage of our neighbourhoods is valued and conserved within our urban landscapes	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 Waitematā 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
Our open space networks meet the needs of our changing and growing communities	Investigate opportunities to partner with Ngāti Whātua o Ōrākei as it develops new public spaces on Māori owned land at Te Tōangaroa / Quay Park
	Support the Water Edge Response Works to ensure water edge design across the waterfront precinct is accessible and safe for public
	Review the use of civic spaces in the city centre and support the creation of a place plan for Te Komititanga programming and activation
Transport choices and connected neighbourhoods	Work with Auckland Transport and utilise the Local Board Transport Capital Fund to improve road safety and wayfinding and pedestrian experience around schools and our town centres
	Work with City Rail Link Limited, Eke Panuku, business associations and Albert-Eden Local Board to ensure the new Te Waihorotiu, Karanga-a-hape and Maungawhau stations and associated development enhances the neighbourhood and economy of the area
	Work with Auckland Light Rail, Waka Kotahi, Albert-Eden Local Board and others, to ensure any proposals for light rail improves the resilience of our transport network, works for the local community, and enhances Wynyard Quarter, Aotea Quarter, Learning Quarter and Uptown focussing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban planning around future stations, including for affordable housing and retail • Identifying opportunities for parks, open space and community services • Town centres upgrades • Integration with the walking, cycling, bus and train networks • Improved/increased public amenities including public toilets and drinking fountains
	Implement the 2013 Waitematā Greenways Plan and work with Parks and Community Facilities and Auckland Transport to deliver key connections
	Continue to work with Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi to improve travel choices and prioritise active transport modes that keep pedestrians



and cyclists safe such as The Strand Optimisation project and Waitematā Safe Routes

Work with Auckland Transport and Eke Panuku to provide safe, accessible pedestrian and cycling connections to Parnell Station including progressing the Greenways route from the Strand through the old Parnell rail tunnel and develop and signpost active transport routes including an east-west link in Parnell

Advocacy

Initiative	Description	Advocating to
Renewal funding for seismic upgrades of heritage buildings	Advocate to the Governing Body to allocate adequate funds to restore and preserve heritage buildings, including incorporating seismic strengthening where necessary, to ensure their ongoing usage.	Governing Body
Identify and protect heritage in Waitematā	Advocate to the Governing Body to allocate adequate funds to continue identification and formal protection of heritage and character elements of the Waitematā environment.	Governing Body
Heritage Acquisition Fund	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.	Governing Body
Preserving significant heritage buildings	Support the preservation of significant heritage buildings such as Carlile House, the former Fitzroy Hotel and St James Theatre.	Governing Body, Central Government, stakeholders in the heritage and property sectors
Incentives to encourage the retention of heritage and character	Advocate for the introduction of central government incentives to encourage the retention of heritage and character elements of the built environment.	Central Government and other stakeholders in the heritage and property sectors
Improve residential wellbeing in urban areas	Advocate to the Governing Body for planning regulations and bylaws to give greater consideration for the wellbeing of the residential population as mixed-use intensification increases.	Governing Body, Auckland Transport, Eke Panuku
Improve connectivity between the city centre, Parnell, and eastern suburbs	Progress the east and west stitch as outlined in the City Centre Master Plan to enable better movement between Parnell, city centre, the Domain and the Learning Quarter.	Governing Body, Eke Panuku and Auckland Transport
Expand network of cycle routes	Expand the network of cycle routes, by connecting existing cycle paths using modal filters through residential areas, and installing more bicycle parking.	Auckland Transport



Parnell Train Station Pedestrian and Cycling Connections	Provide accessible pedestrian and cycling connections to Parnell Station. Open the Greenways route from the Strand through the old Parnell rail tunnel and create accessible and safe pedestrian connections from Parnell Station to the Domain, the Strand and Parnell.	Eke Panuku, Auckland Transport and Governing Body
Revitalise St Georges Bay Road and Faraday Street	St Georges Bay Road is a priority action in the Parnell Plan to improve the walking and cycling connectivity to result in a high-amenity pedestrian-focused streetscape upgrade. Advocate to the Governing Body and Auckland Transport to consider funding the streetscapes improvement as part of the Regional Land Transport Plan.	Governing Body and Auckland Transport
Access for Everyone	Advocate to Auckland Transport to advance Access for Everyone as outlined in the City Centre Master Plan.	Auckland Transport
Vision Zero outcomes	Advocate to Auckland Transport to progress Vision Zero policy outcomes including the Auckland Transport Katoa ka Ora safety management plan and speed reduction innovations and focus on lowering speeds near schools and in our town centres where safe movement of pedestrians including our tamariki are prioritised and provide opportunities for play.	Auckland Transport
Transport Emission Reduction	Advocate to Governing Body and Auckland Transport to prioritise projects that realise the Transport Emission Reduction Plan to ensure we meet our Climate Plan goals.	Governing Body, Auckland Transport
Public school in the city centre	Advocate to the Ministry of Education for the early provision of a public school in the city centre.	Governing Body, CCOs, and Ministry of Education
Public amenities	Advocate to Governing Body and Auckland Transport to include public amenities such as public toilets, drinking fountains and lockers in policy and planning for transformation projects.	Governing Body, Auckland Transport
Blue-green corridors	Advocate to Governing Body and CCOs to enable and encourage blue-green corridors within planning documents and projects that will incorporate water sensitive design and facilitate sustainable movement of both wildlife and people and mitigate risks of flooding.	Governing Body



Karangahape Road



Ponsonby

Tā Tātou Ōhanga

Our economy

Our city centre and fringe town centres are thriving and support a resilient diverse economy that embraces new opportunities and drives prosperity.

Waitematā's economy plays a significant role in Tāmaki Makaurau, and in New Zealand's economy. This means that when our area succeeds, the country succeeds.

Waitematā is a prosperous local board area and home to a high concentration of professional jobs within the city centre. One in four jobs in the region are in the Waitematā Local Board area. In addition, the location of the Ports of Auckland and cruise ship terminals on the Waitematā Harbour make the area an important entry point to New Zealand for import goods and international visitors. The area also hosts a great many of Auckland's major events.

Waitematā has a strong local economy driven by financial and professional services, while administration and support services also create a large number of local jobs. There has been recent growth in the number of jobs in business, recruitment and marketing professionals, specialist managers and information technology professionals. Insurance, telecommunications, and finance being sectors that are more strongly represented in Waitematā than in the region. The creative industries encompassing arts, entertainment and interactive media are important to the area.



Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and business associations

We are fortunate to have strong relationships with seven well-established business associations. They have told us to focus on connectivity, good quality infrastructure and services, placemaking, COVID-19 impacts and changing approaches. We are committed to working closely with them, provide access to resources and expertise to build community capability. Together we will recover and grow our local economy, reduce retail crime and antisocial behaviour in our city and town centres, and encourage the establishment and expansion of BID programmes.

Thriving city and town centres

The city fringe is home to a growing number of residents and businesses looking for a stimulating inner-city location. Active progression of precinct plans for city fringe suburbs provide significant opportunities to attract more investment into the area as a place to work and live.

Our strategic drivers are to create a place of experiences, lead the way on sustainability and celebrate our unique identity. Visitor activity in Auckland is an important contributor to retail, hospitality and accommodation and a catalyst for transport and infrastructure investment.

The City Rail Link practical completion date of the project is expected to be 2025 which will transform the connectedness of our city centre and city fringe business districts bringing more people and economy to Waitematā.

Diverse and resilient economy

Many businesses and entrepreneurs in Waitematā are well catered for by mainstream business support and initiatives like Grid AKL. Ensuring all sectors of the community are able to benefit from those opportunities and share in the growing prosperity of the area will be a key challenge.

Supporting these sectors to adapt to the climate impacts and transition into a low-carbon economy through building, knowledge, skills, capacity, and innovation will be an important focus for businesses in Waitematā.

We need to work with our universities and other tertiary and community education providers to help ensure students and staff safely and actively participate in all aspects of the life of the city.

Creative industries

Arts and culture strengthen communities, foster diversity and pride enabling a sense of identity and belonging. Waitematā is a hub of arts activities. The local board is committed to supporting the creative community at its grassroots to foster the growth of the industry.

Opportunities

- Waitematā hosts the region's major cultural assets for which a coordinated all-of-council approach is needed to ensure its recovery following the impact of COVID-19.
- Waitematā is well placed to be a sustainable event destination and currently hosts a number of regional events. There are opportunities to secure economic benefits across the wider local board area through leveraging these events.
- Waitematā funded and adopted the City Fringe Economic Development Action Plan.
- The City Rail Link is expected to be completed by 2025 and will connect more people with the city centre and fringe town centres.



- Waitemata is home to two of New Zealand’s largest universities plus other specialist tertiary institutions bringing students from across the world cultivating a highly skilled young population. This presents opportunities to partner in aligned research projects.

Challenges

- **New Zealand** has a number of increasing financial pressures at present, with the cost of living increasing, interest rate increase, and a significant reduction of both regional and local funding to support innovative economic programmes.
- Disruption from construction of major infrastructure works have impacted businesses in certain parts of the local board area.
- There have been changing expectations about office workspace shifts to include working from home. We need to ensure **the city centre remains relevant as a destination of choice**.

Our Plan

What we want to achieve (Objectives)	What we will deliver in the next 3 years (Key initiatives)
Successful and resilient Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and business associations	Encourage our Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to share learnings and resources, deliver their strategic outcomes and priorities, and further deliver actions from the City Fringe Economic Development Plan
	Encourage the development of a new BID programme for the Grey Lynn business community
	Work with BIDs to promote the prosperity of the area, achieve climate outcomes and address safety and anti-social behaviour
	Work with BIDs to broker a collective agreement across commercial property owners and council providers to enable integrated graffiti management
	Support BID crime prevention programmes including advocating to simplify regulatory processes to enable emerging crime prevention practises
	Continue to work with CCOs, City Rail Link Limited and other agencies to mitigate construction disruption from major infrastructure projects
Regenerate town centres to attract visitor and economic growth	Work with CCOs and City Rail Link Limited to transform the connectedness of our City Centre and City Fringe business districts
	Partner with BIDs to investigate and deliver placemaking opportunities and public realm improvements that will deliver economic benefits to the area
	Support arts and events that bring more people to our town centres through working with mana whenua and BIDs to leverage Tātaki Auckland Unlimited major events delivered in our area
	Encourage playful and playable elements in town centres to add attractiveness and vibrancy of urban spaces



Support a diverse and resilient economy

Promote the Sustainable Procurement Framework to support supplier diversity, quality employment and reductions in waste and carbon emissions

Support programmes that accelerate the growth and development of Māori and Pacific entrepreneurship

Support sectors to transition to a resilient, low carbon, sustainable and regenerative economy through innovation

Champion the creative sector to grow Waitemata's economy

Support the screen industry to increase filming in Waitemata

Foster education, collaboration and professional development for the creative sector including the Urban Regeneration plans for Uptown

Advocacy

Initiative	Description	Advocating to
Support comprehensive development response approaches for all major transformation projects	Waitemata is Auckland's largest employment area hub for businesses. Transformational change can cause short-term negative impacts on neighbouring properties and businesses. To support business continuity and resilience during construction, all major transformation projects must have comprehensive disruption mitigation and business support programmes.	Governing Body, CCOs and City Rail Link Limited
Engagement with business associations	Support ongoing quality relationship management between Auckland Transport and business associations.	Auckland Transport
Enable community-led events	Advocate to find a practicable solution to reducing the cost of traffic management plans and consents for recurring local community or business events without compromising safety.	Auckland Transport



Parnell

He kōrero take pūtea

Funding information

The local board funding policy sets out how local boards are funded to meet the costs of providing local activities and administration support.

Local board funding is approved through the council's budget-setting process. This involves the council's Governing Body adopting a 10-year budget (long-term plan) every three years and an annual budget every year. Local board agreements, in which the local board and the governing body agree the local board budget for each year, make up part of the annual budget.

The council's budget-setting process involves allocating funding gathered through revenue sources such as rates and user charges. It also involves setting levels of service for council activities and corresponding performance targets.

The financial and levels of service statements in this plan are based on the information included in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031 and updated through subsequent annual budgets. Updated financial information and levels of service will be adopted as part of the 10-year Budget 2024-2034 which is due to be adopted in June 2024. The 10-year Budget will be informed by the local board plans and may impact the initiatives in this local board plan.





Kaupapa ā-rohe me ngā paerewa ā-mahi

Local activities and levels of service

The current 10-year Budget 2021-2031 outlines local board responsibilities, provided for directly in legislation or allocated to boards, are summarised into local activities and levels of service statements. These are described in the table below.

More information regarding the most recent levels of services, including performance measures and performance targets, can be found in the Waitemātā Local Board Agreement 2023/2024. This is available on the council website.

The levels of services and performance measures for local activities will be reviewed as part of the 10-year budget 2024-2034 and targets reviewed subsequent Annual Budgets.

Local Activities	Level of service statements
<p>Local Community Services</p> <p>We support strong, diverse, and vibrant communities through libraries and literacy, arts and culture, parks, sport and recreation, and events delivered by a mix of council services, community group partnerships and volunteers</p>	<p>Provide safe, reliable, and accessible social infrastructure for Aucklanders that contributes to placemaking and thriving communities</p> <p>Utilising the Empowered Communities Approach, we support Aucklanders to create thriving, connected and inclusive communities</p> <p>We provide safe and accessible parks, reserves, beaches, recreation programmes, opportunities and facilitates to get Aucklanders more active, more often</p> <p>We showcase Auckland's Māori identity and vibrant Māori culture</p> <p>We fund, enable, and deliver services, programmes, and facilities (art facilities, community centres, hire venues, and libraries) that enhance identity, connect people, and support Aucklanders to participate in community and civic life</p>
<p>Local Planning and Development</p> <p>We support local town centres and communities to thrive by developing town centre plans and development, supporting Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), heritage plans and initiatives</p>	<p>We help attract investment, businesses and a skilled workforce to Auckland</p>
<p>Local Environmental Management</p> <p>We support healthy ecosystems and sustainability through local board-funded initiatives such as planting, pest control, stream and water quality enhancements, healthy homes, and waste minimisation projects.</p>	<p>We work with Aucklanders to manage the natural environment and enable low carbon lifestyles to build resilience to the effects of climate change</p>

Local Governance

Activities in this group support the local board to engage with and represent their communities, and make decisions on local activities. This support includes providing strategic advice, leadership of the preparation of local board plans, support in developing the local board agreements, community engagement including relationships with mana whenua and Māori communities, and democracy and administrative support.

The measures for this group of activities are covered under the Regional Governance group of activities in the Long-term Plan which determine participation with Auckland Council decision making in general. This includes local decision-making





Tirohanga take pūtea whānui

Financial overview

Revenue, expenditure and capital investment by local activities for the Waitematā Local Board for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

Annual Plan Financials	2023/2024 (\$000s)
Operating revenue	
Local community services	3,064
Local planning and development	0
Local environment management	0
Total operating revenue	3,064
Operating expenditure	
Local community services	23,460
Local planning and development	9,805
Local environment management	124
Local governance	1,175
Total operating expenditure	34,565¹
Net operating expenditure	31,501
Capital expenditure	
Local community services	9,617
Local planning and development	0
Local environment management	0
Local governance	0
Total capital expenditure	9,617¹

¹This exceeds the estimate local board funding allocation for 2024/2025 in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031, which is due to decisions of the Governing Body in subsequent Annual Budgets, and expenses will be met from the relevant sources as identified by the Governing Body (including as set out in the Revenue and Financing Policy)

Ngā Mema o tō Poari ā-Rohe o Waitematā

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