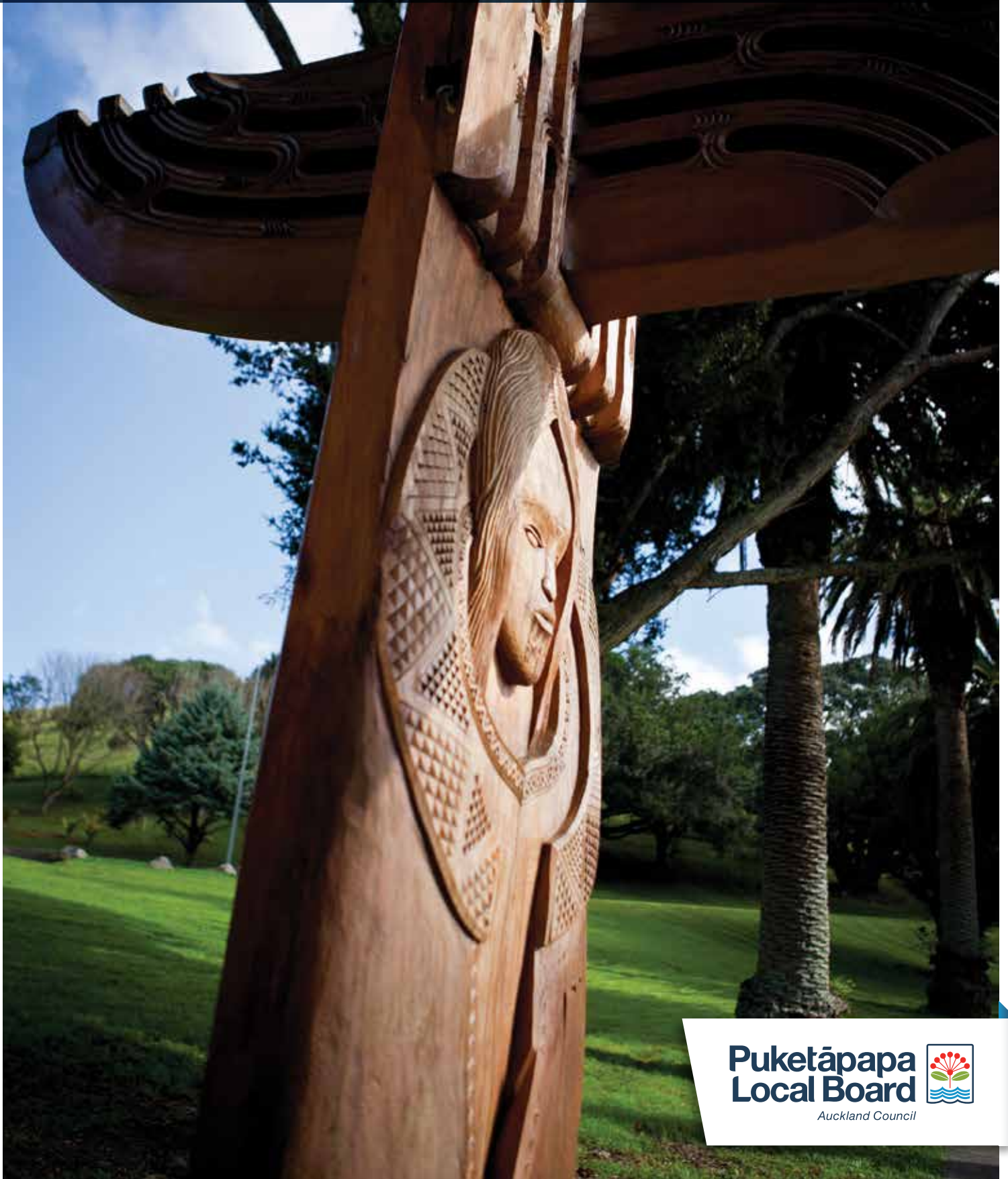


Puketāpapa Local Board Progress and Achievements Report

November 2010 – June 2013



Message from the Chair

Dear friends in Puketāpapa,

We are now completing the report that outlines progress and achievements made by the Board during its first three years. The work is strongly linked to the priorities in our Puketāpapa Local Board Plan. This Plan guides our contribution to Auckland's Long-term Plan and the projects we advocate for in annual funding agreements with the Governing Body.

Throughout our first term, the Board has endeavoured to work diligently and collaboratively to provide high quality, informed decision-making in the implementation of our numerous roles. Roles have included shaping feedback on Council policies, bylaws and strategies, advocacy on behalf of residents, exercising delegations of authority agreed with the governing body, attendance at briefings and workshops, and being proud and proactive representatives for you, our community.

Some major projects have been delivered. These include the refurbishment of the Fickling Centre and Mt Roskill Library, as well as launch of the Puketāpapa Greenways Network – a concept that makes us a leader and model community for Greenways across the region. Since its initial launch, the model has been followed by eight other Boards. In 2013, Council's Open Space team won a NZILA Distinction Award for "Auckland's Greenways: A Green Vision for the City".

2013 has seen the inception of the draft Three Kings Precinct Plan which will provide guidance for the future development of the Winstones quarry and surrounding area. The Board undertook significant consultations with key stakeholders including iwi, and the public, in coordination with draft Unitary Plan.

Many other improvements have also been delivered. We are particularly pleased with works undertaken to improve parks and reserves, from the installation of new playgrounds and walking tracks, to ecological improvements with planting and pest control. We have formed an excellent relationship with Auckland Transport, building safer routes into the Greenways project and collaborating on the upgrade of Dominion Road. Options for a resource recovery centre are being investigated and a much-desired Heritage Survey has been undertaken in 2013, resulting in a far higher level of knowledge about the history of the area and places which could be listed for protection and preservation.

We are also proud to have successfully delivered some terrific local events, including Puketāpapa's first ever Santa Parades, and Taste of Puketāpapa event, business breakfasts, citizenship ceremonies and Community Volunteer Awards.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those in our community who invested their time and energy into contributing to our consultations and engagement activity over the past three years. Your energy, ideas and feedback has enabled us to make sound and informed decisions on your behalf. I would like to thank my fellow board members and Council support staff. It is because of your energy, passion and commitment that we have been able to notch up as many worthy achievements as we have in such a short time.

Warmly,

Richard Barter

Chair, Puketāpapa Local Board

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Finance – community grants and funding; budgets; Local Board agreements; tenders and contracts.

Puketāpapa Local Board Plan Priorities

In 2011, we produced the Puketāpapa Local Board Plan that outlines the aspirations and priorities of our communities. This plan guides our work and dictates the projects we pursue. This report follows the format of the Local Board Plan and reports against the priorities listed in there. Please note some projects deliver against multiple priorities.

Improving and enjoying our parks and natural environment

Creating quality places for our people

Bringing our people together

Building local prosperity

A transport system that meets our needs

Revitalising our town centres

**How does the work we have done
measure up to the aspirations in our
Local Board Plan?**

Improving & Enjoying Our Parks & Natural Environment

The clear aspiration that guides our work in this area is the communities' wish 'to improve the quality of our parks and reserves by making our parks safer, accessible to all, smokefree, more attractive and easier to access.' In the past eighteen months, we worked closely with the Parks Department on improvements in our various parks and ecological areas.

Manukau Harbour Foreshore

The Manukau Harbour and its foreshore is an important and fragile part of our local board area. We are pleased to report on a series of local improvements in those reserves and parks along the foreshore.



Puketāpapa Local Board Chair Richard Barter with his grandson, Jimmy Walker, at Waikowhai Park.

Ecological Improvements

Weed infestation of all kinds, including wilding pines, has constituted a major deterrent to ecological integrity along the foreshore. However a concerted approach by the Board through significant funding allocations, combined with Council-coordinated volunteer groups has resulted in major reduction in weed and pest infestation.

Throughout our term, funding was allocated to specialist weed control work in several parks along the Manukau Foreshore including Wairaki Stream Reserve, Himalaya Reserve, Lynfield Cove, Wattle Bay and Hendry Reserve. Wattle Bay involved weed control to restore a precious wetland area. At Hendry Reserve, weed control reinforced a healthy and rich ecological link between Hillsborough and Onehunga bush parks. A five-year community rehabilitation plan, planting plans and pest control will sustain the gains we have made here. Importantly, the Board has forward-funded a ten year programme of weed control along key sites so that early gains are not lost to later infestation.

We were pleased to contribute to the ongoing work of local volunteers to protect the coastal forest and wildlife by supporting the Waikowhai Wildlife Sanctuary project to control animal pests. Our financial contribution to this specific project saw an existing network of traps expanded to include Granny's Bay and additional sites at Captains Bush Reserve. Rodent baiting was also intensified and old pest control covers replaced with tamper-proof stations to improve volunteer and public safety. More recently new signage was designed and is being installed for visitors to read more about the sanctuary project. An educational leaflet will soon be available online.

Local residents and volunteers have also been involved in keeping our foreshore area clean and accessible. Two highly successful cleanups of dead Pacific Oyster shells were held at Faulkner Bay, in conjunction with the local Residents Association, in 2012 and 2013 with over forty people turning up to help each time. Our efforts to tackle illegal dumping in the area have also been helped by local residents who responded to a leaflet drop by reporting dumped rubbish, and directly cleaning up certain areas. The Board commends and acknowledges the invaluable contribution of all the volunteers who have helped out with these and other activities that improve the ecological value and amenity of the area.

Finally, selected pine tree removal has begun, which will encourage the growth of canopy native trees that are more ecologically suitable in the coastal forest. Pine trees are invasive exotics which can predominate and suppress the growth of larger native tree types. The removal programme will run over ten years, with the area around Cape Horn being cleared first.

Custodianship of the Foreshore

The Board is committed to being a good steward of the foreshore and to allocate our resources to best effect. To help achieve this we commissioned a Bio-diversity Management Plan for the whole foreshore area. This provides clear direction on ecological priorities, which includes protection of regionally endangered species, restoration of the Wairaki Stream, and intensified pest and weed control in identified areas. The Board has also assisted in the set up of a volunteer group to act as stewards of the foreshore and help raise awareness and understanding of the ecological issues.

A vision for the Manukau Foreshore

On the 20 April an event was held at Waikowhai Park to provide an opportunity for local residents and park users to provide their feedback on what they value about the foreshore, what improvements they would like and their long term vision for the area. Additionally, participants also voted on their preferred name for the track running along the foreshore.

Over 40 people participated and their contribution has formed the first draft of a Vision document, which will guide developments in the future. Further consultation is currently taking place, with a final version expected August 2013.



Copies of the Waikowhai Wildlife Sanctuary leaflet are available in print and will soon be available online.

Walking Track Development

Some of the most exciting developments along the Manukau foreshore have been the development of the Manukau Coastal Walkway Network Plan and the installation of four new coastal walkway tracks that further the vision of creating a continuous walking path along the Manukau Harbour coastline. The new tracks are located as follows:

- Filgate Street to Hillsborough Cemetery
- Aldersgate Road to Waikowhai Reserve, including a link up to Hillsborough Road
- Cape Horn Road to Cape Horn Lookout
- Te Whau Point to Taunton Terrace Reserve (located in the Whau Local Board area)

The tracks weave through bush and reserves, along cliff tops and over bridges and waterways. These tracks facilitate a great recreational experience but also provide additional connections along the coastal section of the Puketāpapa Greenways Network.

The Walkway Network Plan provides an overview of actions needed to achieve the long term goal of connecting the whole coastline. It identifies priorities and the preferred route for public walking access between Onehunga and Blockhouse Bay, as well as low tide options.

The implementation of the Network Plan is a major capital project for the Board, and we have confirmed funding of approximately \$2.8 million over 10 years. Investigations into the first stage, Onehunga to Bamfield Place, have begun and we will consult with local community and other stakeholders further about this over the coming year. Further to this, a suite of directional signage will be developed for the whole network and a Wayfinder Project has been initiated to assess the information needs and frequency of signs.



Manukau walkway preferred routes map

Manukau Harbour Forum

To ensure more holistic governance and to champion the sustainable management of the Manukau Harbour and its coastline, the Puketāpapa Local Board is working closely with eight neighbouring local boards (Franklin, Mangere-Otahuhu, Manurewa, Maungakiekie-Tamaki, Otara-Papatoetoe, Papakura, Whau, and Waitakere Ranges) as part of the newly established Manukau Harbour Forum, which had its inaugural meeting on 18 May 2012.

As stated in the terms of reference adopted by the Manukau Harbour Forum, the purpose of the Forum is to 'provide for a means of collective local board advocacy on issues affecting the Manukau Harbour and the adjacent foreshore.' Michael Wood is the Board's representative on the Forum.



Puketāpapa Local Board members Michael Wood and Julie Fairey at Waikowhai Park

Environmental Forum

A successful Environmental and Sustainability Forum was held on 12 March 2013 which was attended by approximately 40 residents. The forum was designed to improve coordination of sustainability-related activity within Puketāpapa to contribute to the board's priority, 'Improving and enjoying our parks and natural environment'. This event is likely to be repeated in future years also.

Resource Recovery Facility

The Board joint-funded an investigation into the possibilities of establishing a resource recovery facility in Puketāpapa, Waitemata and Albert-Eden Local Board area, which was undertaken by Envision NZ in December 2012. This scoping study provided several options on the isthmus for possible pilot projects. The Board has strongly endorsed a Resource Recovery Network concept and further discussions have determined that a business case should be developed in 2013-14 to investigate the strategic, operational and financial aspects of a community recycling centre and associated drop-off facilities within the central – western area.

General Improvements in Parks, Reserves and Green Spaces

We have overseen many other improvements and investments in some of our other local parks. It is our hope that each of these contributes to their overall quality and enjoyment by our community members. Some of the projects are:

'Trees for Babies'

We endorsed the 'Trees for Babies' concept (planting of trees to commemorate the birth of a new child) and agreed to focus it initially on the intensifying of street tree amenity planting. The site of our first planting project, Hendry Avenue, has been selected because it can accommodate the growth of tall forest trees on the site.

We look forward to families taking part in the planting day that is currently being organised.



Trees for Babies
A celebration of life

Auckland Council and the Puketapapa Local Board invites parents to a tree planting day to celebrate the birth of their child.

Trees for Babies is for local families with children under five years old.

A fun day for the whole family with face painters, a bouncy castle and a barbecue. There will be a tree planting demonstration at 12pm.

When: Saturday 27 October (rain day 28 October), 12pm-3pm
Where: Hendry Avenue, Hillsborough
What to bring: Gumboots, raincoat and a spade.

Find out more: please contact project manager Katrina Morgan or local board member Peter Muys on 09 301 0101



Turner- Freeland Reserves

Local involvement has identified improvements in these linked reserves. Initially, fruit trees were planted in 2012 and lights installed on the basket ball court in 2013. A lively community consultation took place at Turner Reserve on 5 April this year with a BBQ and basket ball competitions and great attendance by local residents. Following that a special youth project was held on 11 May to mulch and compost the fruit trees and to paint a brand new mural. The Board is also soon to receive a report on the key improvements that local residents would like to see in the reserves.

Participants were made aware of the Board's environmental priorities and the relevance to the reserves project through presentations on the Greenways Project and the environmental state of Puketāpapa. Valuable connections were established and a number of people indicated that they would like to be involved in various environmental projects, such as the proposed resource recovery centre.



New mural at Turner Reserve

Frost Road/Carr Road

We've noticed that some spots in our local board area need a little bit of freshening up to bring them to life again. Frost Road/Carr Road roundabout is one of those. With existing plants in decline, we funded some replacement planting there to improve the look.

Bob Bodt Reserve Improvements

To improve the aesthetics of the narrow driveway entrance to Bob Bodt Reserve, we supported some improvements that included replacing the garden bed with low maintenance plants and arranging for the painting of a mural contributed to by the kindergarten children located on the reserve. We hope the involvement of the local kids will nurture their sense of ownership and pride in their local reserve. We are currently working with the kindergarten to look at establishing a small community garden in the reserve.



Mural at Bob Bodt Reserve

Keith Hay Park

Keith Hay Park is one of our most used sporting hubs with various facilities catering for different activities such as swimming, gymnastics, soccer, cricket, softball, cycling, basketball, running, walking and general fitness. We installed lighting on the basketball court allowing it to be used longer. The lights also provide additional security to those using the path next to Cameron Pools complex.

High patronage comes with a high maintenance cost and a need to respond to growth. We have focused some effort into planning holistically for the future of this park by developing the Keith Hay Park concept plan which is now being executed in stages and includes additional carparking, an identified location and footprint for the development of new clubrooms for the Three Kings United football club and improved sportsfield facilities. The Board has actively advocated for regional funding for artificial turfs to increase capacity.

The Arundel Street playground is currently being relocated and will have its play space enhanced. Relocation allows for the future redevelopment of Cameron Pool, and renaturalisation of parts of Oakley Creek which runs alongside the park. The Arundel St carpark upgrade will commence in the 2013-14 financial year.

The implementation of the Concept Plan is a major capital project for the Board, and we have confirmed funding of approximately \$2.5million to implement key aspects of the plan from 2013-2015. We look forward to working with the community and park user groups as we take this plan forward.



Football match on Mt Roskill's extremely popular and highly utilised Keith Hay Park

Margaret Griffen Reserve

Margaret Griffen Reserve is located in the heart of the Lynfield community. We have continued to build on previous improvements made in recent years including the construction of a wetland area, through the installation of new seating, picnic tables, litter bins, art work elements and replacement of the playground. These artworks comprised of a 'farm' fence and turn stile representing the former Griffen Brothers strawberry fields, a concrete path with an artistic steel inlay of native flora, fauna, fish and birds and interpretative signage in the wetland. These signs represent the different functioning areas within the wetland and show the distance from the park to local significant features such as the Whau River.



Improvements at Lynfield's Margaret Griffen Reserve

Molley Green Reserve

As part of implementing the Puketāpapa Greenways Network, we have widened the pathway that runs through the Molley Green Reserve from Molley Green Place to Morrie Laing Avenue, as this path was due for replacement. Lighting has also been installed along these pathways which increases security in the reserve at night. The playground has been replaced, and sections of the path raised to make it more navigable during heavy rainfall.

A raised boardwalk section was recently also added.

A wetland has been created in the park with planting taking place on several special days involving the local schools, Roskill South Oasis and neighbouring residents.

We are happy with the works that have happened at Molley Green Reserve and more importantly the community that has rallied around it. We have enjoyed working with local residents to form the 'Friends of Molley Green Reserve' group, who are actively involved in improving the reserve and making it a safer and better place for the community. Complementing the improvements that have been funded by the Local Board is a mural designed, painted and funded by some talented young local residents, which has contributed to lifting the profile and local stewardship of this reserve.



Members of the community planting the wetland at Molley Green Reserve

Harold Long Reserve and Fearon Park

A major project to improve linkages between these two parks is underway. The Board has approximately \$1.3 million to put into developing, consulting and implementing a plan. The improvements are likely to involve playground renewal, removal of some buildings and opening up access and visibility across the green space for greater enjoyment by residents, while still catering for the range of sports played there. Initial discussions with clubs who use the park have occurred, and a broader community consultation process will start shortly.

Monte Cecilia

Access to this premier park has been improved with works on the Buddock Rd to reshape and re-profile the entrance this year.

Sport and recreation, playground and fitness equipment

One feature of our parks and reserves that attract and entertain families are playgrounds. To reduce our children and young people's exposure to smoking, we have declared Puketāpapa playgrounds smokefree.

Stranolar Reserve

Residents surrounding this reserve actively submitted to the Board through the Local Board Plan process seeking improvements to the park to better meet the needs of the community. With this clear direction, we funded the maintenance of existing playground equipment as well as the installation of more challenging play equipment so that this playground caters for children of a wider age range. The new climbing cube, 'spika' spinner, new T-bar swing set to replace the old and new picnic table have really spruced up this playground and we hope the neighbourhood kids get to enjoy many hours of fun there. New park benches and a grove of fruit trees will also be added to the reserve to improve its amenity. A job well done to local residents whose advocacy made this happen.



New playground at Stranolar Reserve

War Memorial Park

We decided to install cross-generational fitness equipment during a scheduled renewal of the playground at War Memorial Park. It is our hope that by doing so, we make the War Memorial Park more welcoming for senior and less mobile members of our community and encourage them to be more active.

Other features are a new fitness trail around the park and a newly installed drinking fountain. The Lovelock athletics track is also currently being resurfaced in two stages, and several of the sports fields renewed with sand carpeting. Combined with the presence of the skate park, these improvements all create a physical activity hub for all ages and activity types at this park.

Waikowhai Reserve

The flying fox has been re-installed in Waikowhai Reserve, adding to its attraction as a growing 'destination park' above the foreshore and coastal forest.

Walkways & Connections

War Memorial Park pathway upgrade

We have funded an upgrade and widening of the pathway through War Memorial Park to extend the pathway along Oakley Creek from Underwood and Walmsley Parks right through to May Road. This 1.3 kilometre link constitutes part of the Puketāpapa Greenways Network and is a priority route for implementation as it is used by students travelling to and from the Mt Roskill school campus.

Owairaka & Underwood Parks Bridge

We have joint funds with the Albert-Eden Local Board, for a new bridge that will cross over Oakley Creek connecting both Underwood and Owairaka Parks and the communities of the two local board areas. Resource consent for the bridge is being sought currently. This important connection is a key link in the Puketāpapa Greenways Network.



Aerial photo of Keith Hay Park and Akarana Golf Course, Mt Roskill

Creating quality places for our people

Three Kings Precinct Plan

We received a clear signal that the development of a Three Kings precinct plan was a priority for our community. The community recognises the significant opportunities that the Winstones quarry site presents for redeveloping the whole Three Kings area.

To this end, we facilitated the establishment and inaugural meeting of the Three Kings Area Stakeholder Group to gather ideas from the community about how Three Kings could develop. The feedback provided helped develop a scope of works and a project plan for the precinct.

In 2013 a draft Precinct Plan or Discussion Document has now been prepared, based on principles established through earlier workshops and submissions, and extensively consulted through stakeholder workshops and public open days. Local residents, iwi, business owners, Fletcher Construction and Housing New Zealand have all been invited to provide feedback.

The feedback will be collated and forwarded the Unitary Plan team.



Heritage

Puketāpapa has a rich heritage but we have often neglected the preservation of key historical sites and buildings. The Board has benefited from the knowledge of local residents as well as groups like the Roskill/Puketāpapa Historical Society and we look forward to continuing to work closely with these groups to identify areas where we can make a difference.

Heritage Survey

The Board is delighted that a survey has been undertaken this year. The purpose of a Historic Heritage Survey in the Puketāpapa Local Board area is to provide research, analysis and recommendations for historic heritage places and areas; historic character, natural history, and Maori heritage. The work is intended to provide a foundation for continuing study of historic heritage in the Local Board area. Carefully selected places and areas are being studied to a level of detail that supports inclusion in the Unitary Plan.

Women's Suffrage Memorial

To mark the 120 year anniversary of New Zealand being the first country in the world to grant women the right to vote, the Board has commissioned a commemorative artwork. A sculpture by Mathew Von Sturmer will be installed in Rose Park at the juncture of Mt Albert Rd and Warren Avenue and unveiled on Suffrage Day, 19 September 2013. The garden surrounding it will have white camellias, symbol of the New Zealand women's suffrage campaign, added to the planting in the park.

Interpretative signage

We are striving to ensure our new residents and visitors to Puketāpapa can appreciate some of our historical sites even if it is through simple things such as sign posting and interpretative signage. In 2011/2012, we focused on St Andrews Reserve located on Mt Albert Road in Three Kings. This historical site is where the original office of the Mount Roskill Road Board was located. The Mount Roskill Road Board built its administration building between 1877 and 1890 at the eastern end of the reserve. We funded the installation of two interpretive signs, which have been developed in consultation with the Roskill/Puketāpapa Historical Society.

Three further signs at different sites will be chosen through public consultation and installed this year.

Heritage Forum

In 2011, the Puketāpapa Local Board co-ordinated a forum of people interested in local heritage issues to input into the development of the Puketāpapa Local Board Plan. From this initial meeting, the Roskill/Puketāpapa Historical Society has emerged. In order to ensure that the Board still had an avenue for consulting on their activities from a heritage perspective with the wider community, the Heritage Forum was reconvened in 2012 and 2013 and it is intended that this will continue on an annual basis.

Heritage Protection

The Board has worked actively to ensure that our interesting local history is acknowledged, and protected where necessary. We successfully advocated for the old Mt Roskill Fire Station to receive heritage protection after the fire service sold it, and we are thrilled to see the new private owner working to restore the building. We are also making sure that Council takes action on heritage sites in its own portfolio. Specifically, we are pushing for formal heritage protection for the old Mt Roskill Borough Council chambers, and we have taken action to protect and remediate the historic block structure Waikowhai Changing sheds, which are over one hundred years old.

Auckland Heritage Festival

Making our heritage known and sharing it with others is a priority for the Board, it helps create a sense of place and will contribute towards building an identity for Puketāpapa. We worked with local enthusiasts to plan and implement a programme of local events as part of the 2011 and 2012 Auckland Heritage Festivals. In particular, we funded a collection of heritage images that were displayed in an exhibition at Pah Homestead, some of which are now displayed at the newly refurbished Fickling Centre. We are now working closely with the Mt Roskill (Puketāpapa) Historical Society and the other interested people to develop an exciting and informative local programme for the 2013 Festival.



Pah Homestead - Puketāpapa's most prominent and celebrated heritage site

Murals

Our current generations add to the richness of our heritage and we have encouraged artistic expressions in the form of murals. Murals not only deter graffiti but often add to the character and amenity of an area. We have commissioned the following anti-graffiti murals in our Local Board areas over three years:

- Mt Roskill village walkway leading to Jasper Avenue carpark
- Sandringham Road Extension, Wesley
- Corner of Dominion Road and Keystone Avenue, Mt Roskill village
- Mt Roskill Library carpark toilets, Three Kings
- Bob Bodt Reserve, Roskill South
- Turner Reserve
- Wesley Centre - Roskill Youth Zone (RYZ)



Mural at corner Keystone Ave and Dominion Rd



Mural on toilets opposite Mt Roskill library



Mural along Sandringham Rd extension



Mural along Sandringham Rd extension

Finally, the Board and Community Development and Safety officers have been supporting the Roskill Community Network (RCN) to transition to a community-led network. The focus is to develop the network, drive interest from members, and develop leadership to drive theme-based working groups. One of the working groups has been set up to focus on community safety.

Bringing our people together

Community Groups

We believe that true community empowerment happens when everyone is connected and acting to support one another. We stand ready to support existing or new community groups formed to advance issues that the community feels strongly about. The Board has tried to identify areas where connections would be beneficial in achieving the communities' priorities and we have attempted to pay a facilitative role in this regard. Some of these are:

Connecting with Tangata Whenua

Ten iwi have an interest in Puketāpapa: Ngati Whatua (Te Runanga o/o Orakei/o Kaipara); Kawerau a maki; Nga tai ki Tamaki; Ngati Tamaoho; Te Akitai/Waiohua; Ngati Te Ata; Ngati Paoa; Ngati Whanaunga; Ngati Maru; and Ngati Tamatera.

Being consulted on so many issues, creates significant resource constraints for all iwi, when dealing with 21 Local Boards. The Puketāpapa Board has written to introduce ourselves and seek opportunities to meet, in order to establish relationships which will create meaningful dialogue over interests we share in common. Input from Iwi has been received over a number of activities including the Keith Hay Park development programme, the Greenways project and the Three Kings Precinct Plan. Board members have undergone training in Tikanga and Te Reo from Auckland Council Maori Advisory staff and are preparing for a visit to the Orakei Trust Board at Orakei Marae. With Puketāpapa being the home of more different ethnicities than nearly anywhere in New Zealand, it is felt there is a great opportunity for connections also to be made by the Board between interested Ethnic Associations and Groups and Tangata Whenua.

Community Garden Web

Establishing the Puketāpapa Garden Web is our first step towards building a community network approach to community gardening. The first meeting of the Puketāpapa Garden Web was held on 23 May 2012 and we celebrated the first birthday of the network on 22 May 2013. We would like to expand this network to everyone – from those currently involved in community gardens to those who think they might be interested in learning more about it, from sharing their excess lemons with their neighbours, to helping set up a shared garden for their area. The number of community gardens has increased significantly over the first year of the Web, and in 2013/2014 we will be focused on making good links with local schools, as well as continuing garden visits and workshops. Search for the “Puketāpapa Garden Web” on Facebook.



Community Development Initiatives

The Board is also actively involved in a number of community development initiatives in Puketāpapa, including supporting the Roskill Community Network and projects underway through the Department of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Social Development.

Really Roskill Community Network public meeting – draft Unitary Plan

The Board supported this network to organise an event for Mt Roskill residents to learn more about what the draft Unitary Plan proposals would mean for the area. The Board arranged for planners to support the event which was attended by over 120 people. This shows the appetite in Puketāpapa for such public discussion and we hope to collaborate more with the Network on such initiatives.

Roskill Together

The Board has a representative on the steering committee of this Department of Internal Affairs community-led development initiative. It is focused on coming up with a community action plan for Mt Roskill, and has undertaken some useful analysis of existing research on the Puketāpapa area.

Community Engagement

The Board has been increasingly focused on taking advantage of opportunities to get out and talk with our community; holding stalls at local events, running road shows at shopping areas on topical issues such as the Unitary Plan, and using local media to seek feedback.

Community Funding

After identifying issues for local community groups attempting to access community funding through sources such as council grant processes, the Board has investigated and initiated a project called “Funding Champions”. This programme will run later in 2013, focused on capacity-building and leadership development.

Community Safety

Council’s 2012 ‘Perceptions of Safety Survey’ indicated that for residents of Puketāpapa, concern was centred mostly on specific parks and town centres. If parks and local centres appear clean, tidy and tag-free, the community feels a heightened sense of safety. As well as installing murals and keeping walls graffiti-free, the Board has worked with community groups such as Neighbourhood Support, Asian and Pacific Safety Patrols and other volunteer groups to meet these objectives.

Neighbourhood Support is very keen to have a community Civil Defence emergency management plan and infrastructure in place, and the Board is currently investigating options.

An Alcohol Action Plan 2012-2015 was completed in collaboration with Council’s Community Development and Safety team to reduce alcohol related harm in the Puketāpapa Local Board area. Topics addressed in the local alcohol plan include public place drinking, compliance and monitoring, education, community crime reporting, engagement with existing networks, family-friendly events, responsible hosting, alternative activity generation, drinking culture, diversity and working with the industry.

Finally, the Board and Community Development and Safety officers have been supporting the Roskill Community Network (RCN) to transition to a community-led network. The focus is to develop the network, drive interest from members, and develop leadership to drive theme-based working groups. One of the working groups has been set up to focus on community safety.

Local Events

Thus far, our most enjoyable activities have undoubtedly been the ones that have allowed us to learn from and better understand our community. We have enjoyed hosting and/ or contributing to an array of events that have allowed us to come together and we will continue to look for ways to reach out to our community that have had little contact with the Board to date.

Some of the highlights of the last three years are:

Taste of Puketāpapa

A very successful first-time food festival was held in November 2012. Drawing on the multicultural nature of Puketāpapa, the festival involved numerous opportunities for sampling the delicious cuisines available in the area. A competition was held for the 'Peoples Choice' award and won by Sasuma Indian Restaurant. The Board is investigating the options for a 2013 event.

Puketāpapa Santa Parades

Our first ever Puketāpapa Santa Parade hosted in Mt Roskill village went off without a glitch bringing people together from across the community for Christmas 2011 and was repeated in 2012. We were impressed with the floats and the performances of our local youth. We know the kids had fun with our very own Santa and taking part in the free entertainment activities on the day.

A key priority of the Board is to empower and grow the capacity of our community to deliver events that bring out the best in our people and proudly showcase our ethnic and cultural diversity.



Puketāpapa's celebrated its first Santa Parade in November 2011

Carols by Candlelight

The annual Carols by Candlelight held at Three Kings Reserve in December 2011 and 2012, provided more great opportunities for our community to come together around Christmas. It was great to have so many local schools involved in the evening and we hope that this will continue going forward.

ANZAC Day commemorations

We saw an exceptional turnout at both the Mt Roskill ANZAC Day services held at War Memorial Hall, with an estimated 500 people in attendance on each occasion. Of particular note, we were encouraged by the large number of young people present to honour those who have served our country. With the centenary of World War One coming up in 2014, The Historical Society are now planning a refurbishment of the cenotaph area and parade ground and intend to add a Roll of Honour, with the support and assistance of the Board.

Matariki

In 2013, the Puketāpapa Local Board will celebrate Matariki (Maori new year) by hosting a kite day on Puketāpapa/Pukewiwi on Saturday 6 July. Attendees will get an opportunity to make their own Matariki flag and kite that they can fly on the summit of Puketāpapa/Pukewiwi. The event is free and will include story telling, as well as an invitation by iwi to participate in a blessing of the maunga.

Community Awards

The Puketāpapa Community Awards provide an opportunity for us to recognise the contribution individuals make to our community. Last year when we asked if you knew of someone who continually gives their time to our community and whose outstanding efforts should be acknowledged during our term, we received a number of nominations. We are pleased to acknowledge the winners of the Puketāpapa Community Awards as follows:

Award Category	Recipients
<p>Good Citizen Award for a person or group who has contributed a great deal to their community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaine Charteris • Tristar Gymnastics BBQ Guys • Leo Ralph Stafford-Bush • Heni Johnson • Tame Cassidy • Graeme & Margaret Davidson
<p>Youth Achievement Award for exceptional service to the community from a young person or group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Lighthouse Team • Nirupa George • Michael Smith
<p>Community Safety Champion for an outstanding contribution by a person or group in the area of local community safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosemary Currie



Puketāpapa Local Board members with Puketāpapa Community Awards 2012 recipients

Citizenship Ceremonies

The Local Board successfully advocated for citizenship ceremonies be held locally for new citizens that are residing in our Local Board area. Since November 2011 we have been able to host eleven citizenship ceremonies for approximately 900 new citizens. Hosting these events locally has allowed us to welcome, meet and help orientate immigrant residents who will contribute to the ethnic diversity, economy and communities of Puketāpapa. We hope these gatherings establish and/or strengthen community connections for new citizens that can support them as they start their lives in our country and community.

Support for other local Events

The Board is proud to note its support of the other community-led local events in 2011, 2012 and 2013 including the annual Molley Green Festival and Wesley Christmas Party.

Community Facilities

Our community facilities are the hub for our people and we are pleased with the recent improvements made to our community facilities.

Mt Roskill Library Renovations

On 14 December 2011, the Mt Roskill Library was re-opened to the public after closure for renovations. The library has a new look, is very well-utilised and co-hosts the local Citizens Advice Bureau.

Fickling Centre Refurbishment

We are extremely pleased with the fresh new look of the Fickling Centre – inside and out – including the provision of two new community rooms which were named by public vote. We celebrated the refurbishment of the centre in February 2012 when it was formally re-opened. The completion came at a time when the Local Board was looking for a temporary office. We have secured a new hot water 'zip' for the kitchen, funded better signage for the toilets, and returned the much-loved portrait of Dick Fickling to its rightful place, with proper conservation framing.



Board members Julie Fairey and Ella Kumar at the revamped Mt Roskill Library



Fickling Centre Re-opening - from left, board members Michael Wood, Julie Fairey, Richard Barter and Peter Muys with Councillor Cathy Casey

Roskill Youth Zone (RYZ)

On Friday 10 June 2011, the Local Board and the Mayor opened the Roskill Youth Zone, funded by the former Auckland City Council in the presence of the Prime Minister Rt Hon John Key. RYZ provides a community hub for our young people and their activities and we look forward to continuing our support of this facility and its programmes and initiatives. Small improvements like adding opaque film to the glass doors and sound-proofing the office have been funded by the Board.

Wesley Community Centre

The Board has supported the installation of automated double entrance doors in 2013, as well as providing new trestle tables and chairs in 2012. The next big project is likely to be the replacement of the roof.



Roskill Youth Zone facility located in Wesley

Mt Roskill Tennis Club rooms

This building was in a state of neglect but with a club who wanted to do it up and make it available to the neighbourhood for small local events. The Board has funded the first stages of the work needed, to make it water-tight, and continues to work with the club to bring back to life this historic building at Arthur Faulkner Reserve.

Grants and Community Funding

We distributed various small funding grants, which assisted the activities of our local community groups. We are supportive of the work done at the community level, as this contributes to achieving our shared priorities and building stronger communities. We have also been working with Council officers to identify ways and means to better support community groups in the grant application processes in order to increase their success rate and we have started implementing initiatives such as funding workshops.

We have also been part of the Isthmus Joint Funding Committee that has been responsible for allocating funds to community groups across the Auckland Isthmus for the following funding schemes: Natural Heritage Fund, Cultural Heritage Fund, Community Group Assistance Fund, and Accommodation Support Fund. Julie Fairey is the Board's representative on the Isthmus Joint Funding Committee, and also on the Central Facilities Partnership Committee.



Puketāpapa Local Board members Ella Kumar and Peter Muys accepting a defibrillator donated by St Johns to the Cameron Pools complex. Staff training was funded by the Board.

Building local prosperity

Youth Connections Project

We have been fortunate enough to secure funding from the Tindall Foundation to deliver a Youth Connections project in Puketāpapa Local Board area over the next two years. Auckland Council's Youth Connections Across Auckland project is about working with school leavers to ensure that they all have a plan and direction for the future. The key principles of the project are tailored for the specific needs of each participating local board area and that local champions connect schools and young people with employment, education and training.

Our local youth connections project seeks to build on a successful leadership and employment programme run at Roskill Youth Zone in 2011. The programme engages local employers many of who have now employed many young people on the programme. These relationships were instrumental in achieving the purpose of the project with the majority of those completing the programme being employed or returning to study.

The local youth connections project aims to modify the programme to reflect employer input and to expand the numbers of young people directed to the programme. We are looking for success on the ground. We want youth into jobs. In addition to ensuring more sustainable pathways into local employment, we are looking to create stronger connections between the programme and major employers in Puketāpapa and neighbouring areas. There is a lot of work to be done to achieve the Board's focus on youth – 'in bringing our people together and building local prosperity' – and this project will align and extend a successful programme targeting youth development and employment. Nigel Turnbull is the Youth Connections project champion for Puketāpapa.

Business Breakfasts

To build on our work for youth employment and provide a networking opportunity, a business breakfast was held in a local café in April for local businesses, with Sir Stephen Tindall as guest speaker. Sir Stephen focused his talk on how to grow a business and the importance of giving local youth a chance, with examples of successful opportunities. The breakfast meeting was a first for the Board and was attended by 70 keen businesspeople. Since then there have been at least seven meetings with the youth connections coordinator and the engagement of a local young person on a 6 months basis. There will be a second breakfast meeting in July.

Dialogue with Auckland Tourism, Events and Economic Development (ATEED)

We have started a dialogue with ATEED, which has allowed us to understand opportunities on offer at the regional level. There are some opportunities for support in areas such as growing small businesses and we are in the process of facilitating ways to disseminate these to our business communities as well as making recommendations on their behalf to these programmes.

A transport system that meets our needs

Transportation links are key for connecting communities and connecting to schools, town centres, parks and businesses. We don't just want more roads so we have advocated for a variety of transport modes to be made available in future plans for Auckland. In addition, we have developed the Puketāpapa Greenways Plan to identify how we can influence the development of these connections.

Puketāpapa Greenways Network

On the 10 May 2012, we adopted the first local Auckland Greenways Plan that identifies a network of greenways that link our parks, reserves and green spaces, schools, shopping centres, community facilities, rest homes, streams and beaches. A greenway is a corridor of open space that is managed for environmental and recreational benefits while increasing connectivity of our communities.

The Puketāpapa Greenways Network weaves together existing walkways and cycleways and extends them to create new or improved connections. The design creates three 'threads' of connections throughout Puketāpapa which showcases our unique natural environments – volcanic, stream and coastal.

Along the greenways network opportunities exist for native planting, archaeological conservation, education through interpretative signage, stream daylighting and restoration, riparian planting, water quality improvements, reduced flooding, enhanced ecosystems, improved access to and along waterways and the coast, weed management, pest control, new track development and track upgrades, and improved signage.



The interconnecting volcanic, stream and coastal 'threads' of the Puketāpapa Greenways Network

Key achievements

- The exponential growth of greenways plans by other boards across Auckland - eight boards have projects underway, with four more considering them for funding in the next financial year. Greenways are also referenced in the new draft Open Space Strategy, which states that they will be done in all board areas. The more the project gains momentum, the easier they are to deliver and provide the outcomes we want.
- War Memorial Park greenway track completed and opened by the Mayor, Len Brown, June 2013.
- War Memorial Park to Mt Roskill Intermediate on-road Greenway and Keith Hay Park to Hillsborough Road funding in place with Auckland Transport, and completed draft scheme design.
- Discussions underway with third parties Transpower regarding Nirvana Reserve Greenway, and the business property owner for a greenway on an easement between the SH20 shared path and Richardson Road.
- Ongoing development of the harbour esplanade reserve connections.
- Funding and design in place for Lynfield Reserve Greenway.
- Significant Greenways work (stream restoration, concept planning) underway in Underwood/Walmsley Reserves.
- Joint project underway with Auckland Transport to deliver the western portion of the Dominion Rd alternative cycleway, which follows the proposed Greenway route.
- Discussions underway with the stormwater team regarding exciting potentials to leverage stormwater funding for further 'green' and daylight sections of Oakley Creek, along the greenways corridor.



From left, Peter Muys, Richard Barter, Mayor Len Brown and Julie Fairy at opening of Greenway track at War Memorial Park

Puketāpapa Transport Forum

Our Puketāpapa Transport Forum is an initiative that has allowed the Board to dialogue with transport stakeholders from beyond Puketāpapa. Contributions of this group have been invaluable to shaping our thinking on transport issues and our transport projects. The Puketāpapa Transport Forum, in response to requests from residents about a discussion on how the extra million people expected in Auckland will get around, hosted a regional hui on 24 May, for to discuss transport issues in the context of the Unitary Plan. Presentations by Auckland Transport and a selection of panellists representing different transport sectors, created a lively debate. Feedback was noted and passed on to the Council's Unitary Plan team for consideration.

Revitalising our town centres

Town Centres are the hub of economic activity and provide employment, goods, and services that our people need. Some of our centres need a lot of care and investment. We are firmly committed to improving the quality, viability and vibrancy of our town centres. However, the unique nature of our town centres provides us with challenges that are not present in other communities around Auckland and we rely on strong leadership and support from our local business communities to progress improvements to our town centres.

Supporting Local Economic Development

We are engaging in dialogue with various agencies to identify ways that we can assist our small businesses. Precinct planning, referrals to business support programs, local events, forming of small business clusters and various other ideas are on the table and we are pursuing these. The Business Breakfast created a new network cluster.

Mt Roskill/Dominion Road village centre upgrade

The Mt Roskill village centre upgrade is our current focus for town centre improvements. We have inherited plans from the Mt Roskill Community Board that were developed in conjunction with the community and are committed to getting these plans delivered. We are working with Auckland Transport to coordinate some upgrades to be delivered at the same time as the upgrade of Dominion Road, planned to start in 2014.

Improvements to the village centre that have been completed in the interim include:



Mt Roskill village walkway leading to Jasper Avenue carpark

Mt Roskill village mural

An anti-graffiti mural named the 'Puketāpapa Time Machine' designed in conjunction with the school council from Dominion Road School along the pedestrian walkway leading to Jasper Avenue carpark.

Mt Roskill gateway sign

A lit corten steel gateway sign will soon welcome visitors to Mt Roskill along Dominion Road from the north.

Pedestrian walkway improvements

The installation of LED lights, convex mirrors and improved low growing vegetation in the Jasper Avenue carpark improves visibility for pedestrians using the walkway between shops which connect Dominion Road to the Jasper Avenue carpark.

Street furniture

Replacement of chairs and bins and the repair, painting and reinforcing of the planter boxes in the village shops.

Relevant regional strategies, plans and policies

Unitary Plan

Following briefings and workshops on the development of the Unitary Plan in 2012, the draft Unitary Plan was launched in March 2013. The Board undertook extensive public consultations to support the Unitary Plan feedback process in our local area: walks in the business area and Three Kings precinct; a heritage minibus tour; stalls in shopping centres, markets and community centres; stakeholder workshops, drop in clinics and Open Days throughout April and May, as well as the 24 May Transport Forum.

The Board will forward its feedback to the Auckland Plan Committee in July.

Other regional strategies, plans and policies

As part of Auckland Council, an important role for Local Boards is to contribute to the development of a variety of other regional strategies, plans and policies. Under this priority, we have given feedback on:

- Auckland Plan
- Auckland Council Long Term Plan 2012-2022
- Development of the Auckland Unitary Plan
- Getting Auckland Moving: Alternative Funding for Transport
- Auckland Transport Regional Land Transport Plan
- Auckland Economic Development Strategy
- Auckland Council Procurement Policy
- Auckland Region Business Improvement District Policy
- Draft Auckland Parks and Open Spaces Strategy
- Auckland Council Waste Management and Minimisation Plan
- Powering Auckland's low carbon transformation: Draft Energy and Climate Change Mitigation Strategy discussion document
- Alcohol Control Policy and Bylaw Project
- Community Assistance Framework
- Auckland Council's submission on the Gambling Harm Reduction Bill and Alcohol Reform Bill
- Auckland Graffiti Vandalism Plan
- Thriving Communities
- Housing Strategic Action Plan

Looking ahead

There are many new initiatives and projects that we are looking forward to progressing. We have highlighted a few key projects under each of the Local Board Plan priorities to give you a flavour of what is coming in the years ahead.

Improving and enjoying our parks and natural environment

We have confirmed funding of approximately \$2.5million to implement key aspects of the Keith Hay Park concept plan over the next three years. We will also be producing a vision document on the Manukau Harbour foreshore based on public consultation, to ensure that we are directing funding towards the right projects along our cherished foreshore. The adjoining Harold Long Reserve and Fearon Park will be integrated over the next few years allowing for better access and enjoyment, through the development and implementation of a concept plan based on public consultation. We look forward to you being involved in all these projects.

Creating quality places for our people

Following on from the advocacy made in relation to the old Mt Roskill Fire Station, the former Roskill Borough Council chambers, and the historic block structure Waikowhai Changing sheds, the Board is now building a business case for the ongoing use of the former Roskill Borough Council Chambers and we hope the next Local Board will continue to advocate for retention of our key heritage buildings. The draft Three Kings Precinct Plan will be finalised by the end of 2013, and the results of the first stage of the heritage survey will be completed shortly and sent to the Unitary Plan team. The second stage of the heritage survey, to identify Maori cultural heritage and natural heritage on the Manukau foreshore that should be protected and preserved will be carried out in the second half of 2013.

Bringing our people together

We have had a series of events during our term, organized to provide opportunities for diverse communities to come together. We are pleased to be hosting our first Matariki local event, a kite day, on Puketāpapa/Pukewiwi (Mt Roskill) on 6 July 2013 and we hope to work with iwi and local kaumatua to progress other events that educate our community about our Maori heritage. The Santa Parade and Carols by Candlelight will be on again in 2013, and there will be a special Anzac Day ceremony at the cenotaph in War Memorial Park in 2014 to commemorate the centenary of the beginning of World War One.

Building local prosperity

Our Youth Connections project will continue to be a focus as we build relationships with employers, build the capacity of our school leavers and ultimately get more young people into jobs. We have started an important dialogue with business owners and will continue to work with them to identify how we can support local economic development in our area. Further business events will continue to be held to foster networking in the business community.

A transport system that meets our needs

We are working with key stakeholders including Auckland Transport to plan and construct links in the Puketāpapa Greenways Network and address important transport safety concerns in our area. Providing active modes of transport is our community not only increases connectivity between our residents and facilities but also contributes to social and environmental outcomes. Our Transport forum and Environment and Sustainability forum will continue to be used as a platform for discussing and soliciting feedback from our residents into some of these plans.

Revitalising our town centres

Mt Roskill village will remain our focus for town centre improvements over the next year. We have yet to implement improvements due to seeking to coordinate delivery with other major works being planned, namely the Auckland Transport's Dominion Road project, in order to ensure minimal disruption to our businesses operating in this area and the community. Three Kings, considered to be a large town centre, is now the subject of a precinct planning exercise. We have identified Stoddard Road/May Road business area as a key area where we would like to better plan and manage its growth and we hope the next Board will continue to advocate for resources to be put towards this in coming years. Minors works that we have done and will continue to do, such as murals, act to deter graffiti and improve the appearance of our town centres and key facilities.

In Conclusion

As always, the Board welcomes suggestions from the community on where improvements can be made.

We thank you for electing us to serve you in this first term of the new, larger, one Auckland Council.

Richard Barter, Nigel Turnbull, Julie Fairey, Ella Kumar, Peter Muys and Michael Wood.



▶ **Find out more:** phone 09 373 6210 or visit
www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Puketapapa

