

NEWS

June 2006

13	<p>Power Failure (New Zealand Herald Matthew Dearnaley and Martin Johnson) Details are given of the power failure which affected Mangere, Pakuranga, Whitford and the Central Isthmus on Monday, June 12, caused by a short at the Otahuhu B substation. The City's blackout is also covered in a centre page editorial.</p>																		
17	<p>North shore faces 10 years of constant rate rises (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson) Mayor George Wood quoted his council's revised rates rise for the coming year of 9.6%, stating that additional funds were required to tackle transport problems.</p>																		
18	<p>ACC Urban Design Manager (City Scene) Auckland City's Ludo Campbell-Reid, has been in his new role for 1 month.</p>																		
18	<p>Matariki (City Scene) A short article notes that Star Dome Observatory at One Tree Hill is celebrating Matariki with a range of events from Monday, 19 June to Saturday, 25 June. Note: Civic Trust Auckland supports the concept of Matariki as an important annual festival to Maori, Polynesians and indeed anyone living within the southern hemisphere. It is the southern hemisphere's equivalent of the northern "new year" occurring shortly after the mid-winter solstice.</p>																		
20	<p>ARC votes to seek control of Watercare (New Zealand Herald Wayne Thompson and David Eames) The ARC has voted to push the government to return water and sewerage provider Auckland Water care services, back to its control. Water care has a current board of shareholder representatives from the councils of Auckland Manukau Waitakere Papakura Rodney and North Shore.</p>																		
21	<p>Auckland regional Council bus takeover plan (New Zealand Herald Matthew Dearnaley) The deadline for submissions looms this week on a Ministry of Transport discussion paper on legislative options.</p>																		
23	<p>Super city plan divides Councillors (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) One super city for Auckland appears to be back on the agenda, although exactly why, is an unanswered question. Deputy Mayor Bruce Hucker proposes an evolutionary tack, initially, with three cities rather than moving straight to a single city concept. The reporter notes that the idea has been mooted before, without success</p>																		
24	<p>White Lady (New Zealand Herald Mara Pattison-Sowden) After more than 50 years the White Lady Pie Cart is finally moving from Shortland Street. This downtown icon may find a new home in Quay Street, although talks are ongoing.</p>																		
28	<p>Blake Memorial (New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman) In an article dealing with the proposed Blake memorial, the huge increase in rates, over the period 2004 to 2007 were discussed. Some of the specified amounts for projects over the next decade were noted, including:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Eastern Transport Corridor</td> <td>\$800,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tank Farm</td> <td>\$338,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Transport Projects</td> <td>\$208,000,000</td> </tr> </table> <p>These items dwarf all other expenditure which varies from:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Eden Park up to</td> <td>\$60,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aotea Square</td> <td>\$24,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Restoring Pah homestead</td> <td>\$5,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Footpaths</td> <td>\$3,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The Town Hall Organ</td> <td>\$3,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blake Memorial</td> <td>\$2,000,000</td> </tr> </table> <p>It is surprising that the Eastern Transport Corridor is such a huge amount, bearing in mind that this has supposedly lapsed under the present administration.</p>	Eastern Transport Corridor	\$800,000,000	Tank Farm	\$338,000,000	Other Transport Projects	\$208,000,000	Eden Park up to	\$60,000,000	Aotea Square	\$24,000,000	Restoring Pah homestead	\$5,000,000	Footpaths	\$3,000,000	The Town Hall Organ	\$3,000,000	Blake Memorial	\$2,000,000
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29	<p>Super City (New Zealand Herald) The proposal for an Auckland Super City will run the risk of distancing local government even further from its voters. This is a quote from John Robertson, Mayor of Papakura District Council, the smallest local authority within the region</p>																		
29	<p>Council gags public on Jean Batten building</p>																		

	<p>(New Zealand Herald Bernard Orsman)</p> <p>A majority decision by three commissioners has granted a non-notified resource consent for a 20 storey tower on Queen Street, which will part preserve and part demolish this heritage building. Christine Caughey voted for public participation, while her two co-commissioners, Leigh McGregor and Ian Athfield voted against. The proposed \$160 million building is being developed by Multiplex for the Bank of New Zealand, which will move 700 staff from its head office across the road when the building is finished in three years. The decision follows an agreement in May between the bank the developer and the Historic Places Trust to save the main exterior features. Heritage expert hired by Multiplex, Dave Pearson and Council heritage manager George Farrant agreed that the building would lose some of its heritage value.</p>
30	<p>Spaghetti Junction</p> <p>(New Zealand Herald Arnold Pickmere)</p> <p>Progress appears to be on time for the \$195m spaghetti junction upgrade, which will include a \$20m system of traffic management signs and onramp traffic flow control signals.</p>