



## **Submission of Civic Trust Auckland**

### **Draft Local Board Plans - all**

30 June 2017

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

The aims of the Trust include:

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

(2) CTA has provided submissions on Council and Local Board plans for many years, mostly focused on:

- protecting and enhancing the built and natural environment
- improved public transport: bus, rail and ferry services
- better provision for walking and cycling
- involving the community in decision making as well as supporting them as volunteers.

(3) CTA appreciates the efforts Local Boards make in pursuance of the above.

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

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

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

(7) In the Waitematā Local Board area, CTA sees the K' Road heritage as very important not only to the local area but to the region and the nation, and in need of preservation, and the Ponsonby Plan as requiring a watching brief from the Local Board.

(8) The protection and enhancement of built heritage needs to be a focus for local boards and stated as a separate outcome in plan outcomes, not bundled with natural and cultural heritage (as, for example in the Albert-Eden plan under outcome 6). The Takapuna-Devonport Local Board plan shows a good emphasis on built heritage in its outcomes.

(9) CTA supports heritage projects such as the interpretative signage for the foreshore walk recently completed by the Waitematā Local Board, and the Takapuna Local Board annual heritage awards. These are both good models for other local boards.

(10) We support local board work in the area of preserving character areas and looking after the natural environment.

(11) We support more tree planting throughout the city and, in general, oppose the removal of already planted trees.

(12) CTA supports the provision of more public open space and better management of these places for use by the community.

(13) CTA congratulates local boards that have secured smoke-free parks and public open spaces and supports the provision of more of these.

(14) CTA encourages all local boards to investigate incentives for enhancing low quality designs and to encourage any design solutions that might assist in this.

(15) We support safer speeds, traffic calming, road safety and pedestrian and cyclist priority, including cycleways and greenways to encourage healthy activity and less care use. For implementation of such infrastructure there should be full consultation with affected people, primarily being the residents of the areas under consideration. Trees should not be removed and streetscape character should not be compromised.

(16) The maintenance of footpaths is a concern: these need to be made physically safe to walk on, both in terms of a non-slip surface and regular monitoring and maintenance to deal with damage such as potholes. Accessibility for wheelchairs needs to be taken into consideration.

(17) CTA continues to support the development of Skypath.

(18) We commend the Takapuna-Devonport Local Board efforts to solve transport congestion on Lake Rd.

(19) CTA supports the prioritisation of residents' parking schemes in the inner suburbs and would like to see more of them, in particular in Ponsonby, and in Mt Eden near the train station, to discourage commuter parking and encourage more commuters to use public transport and active means of transport.

(20) CTA supports town centre upgrades, particularly in the Albert-Eden area.

(21) We see the need for planning for future housing growth at UNITEC and Greenlane in terms of transport and community facilities.

(22) We would like to see Local Boards to advocate for the Council website to include a page where members of the public can log what they consider to be areas of wasteful and low priority Council spending.

(23) We support Local Board schemes to reduce carbon emissions and to recycle.

(24) CTA supports resource recovery centres and public education about waste reduction, especially as regards plastic bag use.

(25) CTA supports community/teaching gardens, such as Griffiths Gardens in the Waitemata Local Board area, and those in Maungakiekie-Tamaki, Otara-Papatoetoe, Waitakere Ranges and Whau Local Board areas.

(26) We suggest that small local projects involving the community could be to beautify/make use of small areas, including on land which is awaiting development, for planting or for art installations.

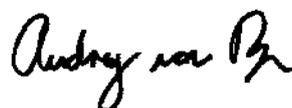
(27) Chamberlain Park in the Albert-Eden Local Board area provides the only public golf course on the central isthmus and should be considered a "regional asset" and as such, should be consulted on at a city-wide level. We object to the proposal to reduce the 18-hole golf course to 9 holes. With a rising population, demand for golf will increase. We support alternative sites being explored for the placement of the proposed swimming pool.

(28) We have observed that many members of the community still do not know much (if anything) about local boards, and a very small percentage of them actually engage with their local board. Furthermore, some people find it difficult, for various reasons, to approach their local board and/or to be listened to. A regular "clinic" where people who live or work in the area can either book in or drop in to talk one on one with a local board member may go some way to improving engagement with the community. Such a clinic needs to be at varying times of the day to cater for the availability of different members of the community.

(29) Local board's monthly meetings should be held at varying times: both during the day and in the evening, so that as many people as possible are able to attend.

Date of submission: 30 June 2017

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Audrey van Buren', written in a cursive style.

Secretary, Civic Trust Auckland