

Date: Monday, 19 April 2021

**10-Year Budget 2021/2031
Regional Organisations**

**WRITTEN FEEDBACK Vol. 2
(12731–16727)**

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12731	CleanSwim Auckland	Regional organisation	2
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12784	Shore Action	Regional organisation	2
12785	Glamorton Developments Ltd	Regional organisation	2
12820	Netball Northern Zone	Regional organisation	2
12827	Counties Tennis Association	Regional organisation	2
12842	Auckland Baseball Association	Regional organisation	2
12850	Stormwater360	Regional organisation	2
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12859	Water Safety New Zealand	Regional organisation	2
12875	Jireh Hospitality Limited	Regional organisation	2
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16688	Grey Power North Shore Association	Regional organisation	2
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16727	Federated Farmers of New Zealand	Regional organisation	2



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): CleanSwim Auckland

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: [see attachment 12731 letter for full submission]

CleanSwim accepts that the Auckland Council faces significant challenges with its financial planning, resulting from the impacts of Covid-19 Coronavirus and we support the rates increases proposed in the 10-Year Budget:

General rates increase of 5% 2021/22 and 3.0% 2022/31

Water Quality Targeted Rate (WQTR) extended to 2031 with increases of 5% 2021/22 and 3.0% 2022/31

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why: Please refer to attachment

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: [see attachment 12731 letter for full submission]: Auckland's underinvestment in its Wastewater and Stormwater Networks

Auckland has 14,300 kms of wastewater and stormwater drainage pipes that are regularly discharging sewage (human faeces) and other pollutants to waterways and many Auckland beaches, to end up in the sea.

Mayor Goff confirmed in a June 2020 letter to David Seymour MP, covering poor water quality in Hobson Bay, that:

- Auckland has a long history of underinvestment in sewerage and stormwater infrastructure that will take years to fix. - The issues we are talking about go back over 100 years.
- We need to address them, but the investment required goes into the billions of dollars which means it can't be all done at once.

The wastewater and stormwater networks are breaking and/or in need of upgrade in parts of Auckland. CleanSwim is concerned that there is no comprehensive plan detailing how and when the investments will be made to ensure that the networks are upgraded to ensure that population growth will be managed in an environmentally effective manner.

CleanSwim Auckland — 22 March 2021

Aucklanders are becoming increasingly concerned about the high numbers of 'dry weather' overflows from the Watercare network of wastewater drains and 'Engineered Overflow Points' (EOPs). These are wastewater overflows occurring when it is not raining. Except in circumstances like mechanical failures etc, dry weather overflows are not authorised by the Watercare resource consents because they should not be occurring. Dry weather overflows have a significantly greater public health risk, not only because the wastewater volume is not diluted by stormwater but also because the discharges are occurring in fine weather when Auckland's beaches and inshore waters are being used.

The ID-year Budget 'Consultation Document' has a section headed 'Implications for our assets and service levels over time', which includes some concerning comments, particularly the closing paragraph:

"Our proposed investment plan will significantly improve the reliability and performance of our network of water supply and wastewater pipes over time, but financing constraints mean we won't be able to make as much improvement to reliability and performance over the next few years as we would ideally like. Aside from financial constraints, there is also some uncertainty about the capacity of the construction market to immediately deliver the optimal rate of pipe renewals."

This section of the budget fails to give a level of comfort that the Council will take steps to address its long-term underinvestment in what are 'essential services' being provided daily by way of its sewerage and stormwater networks. Particularly after the Council comments in this section of the budget that it accepts that, "an optimum approach would be to proactively replace these network pipes rather than waiting until they fail."

The long overdue investment in the upgrades that need to be made to the Watercare wastewater network and Healthy Waters stormwater network are now urgently required and can't be delayed any longer, particularly when Auckland's population is expected to grow by 300,000 in the 10-year Budget period.

A comprehensive plan is needed detailing the total investment needed for all network upgrades, to ensure that the wastewater and stormwater networks are upgraded to be fit for purpose and also be able to handle future growth.

CleanSwim believes the underinvestment in the wastewater / sewage (human faeces) and stormwater networks, to bring them up to the point that they are fit for purpose, is in the order of \$4 billion. A new funding structure is needed as his level of catch-up investment can't be funded by general rates increases or the WQTR generating \$256 million over the 10 years to 2031.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

[see attachment 12731 letter for full submission from Cleanswim Auckland] :

Auckland's underinvestment in its Wastewater and Stormwater Networks

Auckland has 14,300 kms of wastewater and stormwater drainage pipes that are regularly discharging sewage (human faeces) and other pollutants to waterways and many Auckland beaches, to end up in the sea.

Mayor Goff confirmed in a June 2020 letter to David Seymour MP, covering poor water quality in Hobson Bay, that:

- Auckland has a long history of underinvestment in sewerage and stormwater infrastructure that will take years to fix. - The issues we are talking about go back over 100 years.
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The wastewater and stormwater networks are breaking and/or in need of upgrade in parts of Auckland. CleanSwim is concerned that there is no comprehensive plan detailing how and when the investments will be made to ensure that the networks are upgraded to ensure that population growth will be managed in an environmentally effective manner.

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This section of the budget fails to give a level of comfort that the Council will take steps to address its long-term underinvestment in what are 'essential services' being provided daily by way of its sewerage and stormwater networks. Particularly after the Council comments in this section of the budget that it accepts that, "an optimum approach would be to proactively replace these network pipes rather than waiting until they fail."

The long overdue investment in the upgrades that need to be made to the Watercare wastewater network and Healthy Waters stormwater network are now urgently required and can't be delayed any longer, particularly when Auckland's population is expected to grow by 300,000 in the 10-year Budget period.

A comprehensive plan is needed detailing the total investment needed for all network upgrades, to ensure that the wastewater and stormwater networks are upgraded to be fit for purpose and also be able to handle future growth.

CleanSwim believes the underinvestment in the wastewater / sewage (human faeces) and stormwater networks, to bring them up to the point that they are fit for purpose, is in the order of \$4 billion. A new funding structure is needed as his level of catch-up investment can't be funded by general rates increases or the WQTR generating \$256 million over the 10 years to 2031.

Central Government's role with Council infrastructure funding

Central Government receives the GST and taxation flowing from population growth, without making funding contributions to assist New Zealand Councils who have to rely on ratepayers to fund the infrastructure needed to accommodate additional population growth.

CleanSwim supports the recent Watercare / Auckland Council initiative to approach Central Government and request that the Crown provide an indemnity to debt providers, to enable Watercare to borrow \$2.5 billion to fund its infrastructure investment needs, without having to use its assets as collateral. The proposed financial structure is a timely solution that would enable Watercare to make the long overdue investment required to be able to upgrade its ageing wastewater network. This is a viable initiative that would satisfy Auckland Council borrowing constraints, if Central Government will agree to act as a guarantor.

A solution must be found as wastewater and stormwater infrastructure funding problems faced by Auckland Council can't be allowed to be kicked down the road once again, to be left to be someone else's problem in the future.

Alton Jamieson

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

SUBMISSION

Auckland Council – 10-Year Budget 2021-2031

Introduction

CleanSwim Auckland (CleanSwim) was formed in 2018 by a group of ocean swimmers who were concerned about the levels of sewage (human faeces), polluted stormwater and/or polluted waterways being discharged to the sea, degrading sea water quality and restricting the ability to swim at many Auckland beaches on a regular basis.

Auckland Beaches, waterways and the Hauraki Gulf - Tikapa Moana ecosystem have been degraded for many decades.

And when so many Auckland beaches have had 'red no-swim alerts' posted on the Auckland Council Safeswim website over the last three years, with some unswimmable permanently and others unswimmable for up to 30% of the summer, then you know there is a serious pollution problem.

CleanSwim has been campaigning for three years for all Auckland beaches to be swimmable for 95% of the time.

Proposed 10-Year Budget 2021-2031 rates increases

CleanSwim accepts that the Auckland Council faces significant challenges with its financial planning, resulting from the impacts of Covid-19 Coronavirus and we support the rates increases proposed in the 10-Year Budget:

- General rates increase of 5% 2021/22 and 3.0% 2022/31
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Auckland's forecast Population Growth

The 2018 'Auckland Plan 2050' notes that Auckland population could increase by 720,000 people over 30 years from 1.66 million people in 2017 to reach 2.4 million by 2048.

The 10-year Budget notes that "Auckland's population continues to grow rapidly" and for the 10 years to 2031 is expected to grow by around 300,000 people. The budget also notes that: "As Auckland grows, we will also need to spend more to mitigate the impacts of growth on the natural environment and the health of our waterways."

Auckland's underinvestment in its Wastewater and Stormwater Networks

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10-year budget 2021/2031

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: We need major investments in key areas very quickly if we want to transform Tāmaki Makaurau into a thriving, equitable, world-class 21st-century city. Auckland Council cannot afford to underinvest or lack ambition on the necessary changes and investments into core infrastructure and services in our city. Austerity is not a viable option in our COVID recovery - now is the chance to enact meaningful change that will benefit all Aucklanders.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why: Auckland Council has some fantastic plans. But you continue to not walk the walk, ignore the mahi of working groups, and take a half-hearted approach to climate action. The public will is there - in 2019, 80,000 Aucklanders took to Queen Street to demand tangible, bold, scientifically-driven, and ambitious action from both central and local governments. Auckland Council's feet need to be held to the flames to deliver on their plans and promises. Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri is really good in a number of regards. But we are not convinced that Auckland Council is on track to deliver on these necessary actions.

On top of this, we need to be divesting from climate-negative, expensive, car-dependent projects which encourage urban sprawl such as Mill Road. Auckland Council cannot claim to be going hard on climate action when millions of dollars are getting shovelled into scientifically-backwards, unpopular projects.

We want to see more action on public transport and implementing strong transport plans and investments. Public transport is essential to transforming Tāmaki Makaurau into an accessible, affordable, sustainable, and equitable city, especially as 43.6% of our emissions come from the transport sector. We cannot tackle climate change without majorly overhauling our public transport and transport systems. This area is where we would like to see the most ambitious and immediate action.

We also need to see more investment in climate action. \$150 million from a \$31 billion budget is pitiful - you need to demand more.

We would also like to see Auckland Council go much harder in every single aspect of climate action - the benefits are enormous and the potential losses minute. So what if we go overkill on transforming our city into a much better place to live in a climate-affected world? And to what fiery grave if we don't?

Specific measures we want to see from Auckland Council are:

- Supporting Waka Kotahi on securing funding for major infrastructure projects such as the Rapid Transit Network.
- Assisting the development of such projects through reallocation of roadspace and parking.
- Community outreach to Aucklanders on what major changes are going to need to happen in order to transform and upgrade Tāmaki Makaurau, to ease fears and understand what people want from the city in which they live.

Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri is not without flaws - there needs to be more of an emphasis on realigning the existing budget to shift spending towards climate action and away from carbon emissions. But our greater concern is that Auckland Council needs to be pushed farther faster, and enact the meaningful change we need to see in Tāmaki Makaurau.

Auckland Council needs to listen to the voices of the experts in your working groups, and the people employed to tell you what to do. Change can be scary, but the magnitude of the climate crisis is bloody terrifying.

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Support
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Support
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Don't know

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Don't know

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Important to SS4C is:

Climate action

Public transport

Urban form

We need more. We need more now, we need more fast. We cannot get to where we need to be as a city in half-measures and neutrality. It will require bravery and unprecedented action. It will require leaving comfort zones and maybe even going into uncharted territory. But ask yourself - what is your vision of Tāmaki Makaurau? And how on Earth are we going to get there?

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Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Mental Health Research & Development Ltd

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: While I support the required increase in rates and borrowing, I think the proposed 10-Year Budget is unbalanced, uninspiring & lacking the attention needed to address the biggest issue facing us all - millionaire or pauper - climate change. What is bitterly disappointing to me is that there is so little vision and sense of seizing the opportunity for the beneficial, radical change that the disruptive event of Covid offers us. Somehow the Council seems to be saying we're wanting to get back to business-as-usual, and that does not face the overwhelming fact of climate chaos if we do

not act radically. This is more of the same - there is no sense of a better future for our city - it cannot meet the demands of what we Aucklanders (and the whole world) are increasingly having to live with, a threatened physical environment. This budget is depressingly inadequate. Truly a sad, lost opportunity to show empowering leadership, wise understanding and vision.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Other

Tell us why: It is unbelievable and shameful that that so little is being set aside for climate change projects and that councillors voted less than 0.5% of the Budget for climate change efforts. Auckland Council needs to put climate change at the forefront of every plan and project. Investing just 0.5% of the budget in climate change issues is shamefully insufficient.

I join with Simon Wilson <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/politics/simon-wilson-so-much-shameful-hot-air-in-new-auckland-transport-plan/VT4BY76S5Z23ZCFIXRXMLPSLXQ/> in feeling deeply shocked by and disillusioned about the Council's lack of engagement with the issue of transport. Transport, contributing a massive 40% of Auckland's greenhouse gas emissions, is where we must invest in huge change. And the Council is ignoring this. Instead of focusing on major roading infrastructure, much more essential investment should be in accessible public transport, safe cycleways and safe footpaths, with accessible busways, trainlines, suburban car rental schemes, safe cycleways and footpaths - all allowing for more people-focussed, climate-friendly transport choices, freeing up Auckland's existing roads for those who really need to use them, including persons with disabilities, trades vehicles and emergency services.

Aucklanders need budget objectives that do not require investment in entities that cause climate damage. Auckland should & could be a leader for NZ in redirecting NZ to a safer & more stable future. This budget does not allow that.

To stay relevant, Council must invest much more effectively in the 3 key areas that everyone knows will reduce our carbon output: accessible, cheap public transport; safe cycleways and safe footpaths. Right now, transport is our biggest source of climate pollution. It's happening because many people don't have the option to leave the car at home. Investing in free public transport, accessible busways/trainlines, safe cycleways and footpaths will majorly reduce our carbon output and create a better environment, with more people- & climate-friendly transport choices. The more drivers who can make the switch, the more space there will be on Auckland's existing roads. We know if you create more roads, you create more traffic congestion (<https://archive.curbed.com/2020/3/6/21166655/highway-traffic-congestion-induced-demand>)

There has to be a complete shift in priorities but it seems this is all too late. It is unintelligent to continue putting more investment in roads when what is needed is a much bigger/more robust investment in accessible public transport, safe, effective cycleways and better footpaths.

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: There is no mention of developing & adding in any prospect of different ways of better managing the challenge of water, under not only the increasing demands of the expectations of high socio-economic populations (three bathrooms per house!) but also those of the current climate change threats. Huge amounts of savings could be made - e.g. Bill McKay's thoughts on mass collection of water from the roofs of public buildings <https://www.rnz.co.nz/tags/Bill%20McKay> and other more creative & cheap options for managing the massive demands for water in Auckland, along with other ideas, such as the recognition of and support for alternative toileting, e.g. safe composting toilets so we can stop the appalling practice of using drinking water to flush our old-fashioned water closets (WCs, unbelievably unchanged from the 1890s).

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why: My specific worry is that libraries, as community hubs and free, rich educational resources for those who have little, are being gradually but consistently down-graded. This decline is dangerous for society generally as libraries and most importantly, librarians, support anyone who wants to grow their knowledge but may have limited access to other opportunities, so I do not support further limitations on libraries.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Support
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Don't know

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

Tree management under this Council beyond the city centre seems so lacking. Trees butchered and street trees allowed to die without engaging the local population in helping to take care of them - so people have no sense they have a relationship with them

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Don't know

Tell us why:**Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?**

No

6. Local Boards

Albert-Eden Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support most priorities

Tell us why: Where the unfortunate effect of increased building of apartment blocks and greater infill housing, causes the felling of mature trees without requiring space for tree-planting and small gardens (and research tells us the beneficial effects on human beings of natural surroundings), the role of green, public space is vital. I want the Albert/Eden board to help ensure trees in this area are encouraged. Research tells us that, for their mental health, people need close access to the pleasure of gardens so Council rules should ensure every apartment block must have an accessible green space for all its inhabitants, as well as Council supporting public green spaces. As climate change grows more obvious, we will only survive well if we have both.

What is your opinion on the Dominion Road Business Association boundary expansion of the Dominion Road BID programme? Don't know**Tell us why**

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

With housing and growth infrastructure, my concern is that Auckland Council seems to be unwilling to do anything other than allowing Auckland to keep getting uglier. The quality of life of its inhabitants is increasingly reduced, and people are leaving because it is no longer pleasant living here. Some people would love to leave but cannot. I support building higher, but at the same time focussing on the quality of these buildings and their surroundings. My understanding is that the Council is to blame for the horrible apartment buildings where many apartments do not have access to sun, no good balconies, absolutely no land around the building for a child to play safely in, or that families can't sit in. We know from many studies that people living in high rises suffer from greater mental health problems, higher fear of crime, fewer positive social interactions, and more difficulty with raising their children. In NZAotearoa we don't have the massive high rises of other places, but whether you're on the 2nd or 12th floor of a building is immaterial to a parent who cannot easily take their children to play on grass, or dig in a little vege garden – these save money by helping people's mental and physical health.

Important privacy information

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Shore Action

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: 1. We support increasing debt as an urgent measure to support the proposed spending in the Recovery Budget. We support borrowing to a higher extent than that proposed. Council's own online Budget Simulator Tool shows that if the debt to revenue limit is increased to 310% that the other cost-cutting measures are not required. We believe that in this unprecedented time, this is what is required to be done in the Recovery Budget and it is worth taking the risk of a credit rating downgrade.

2. We oppose the proposed programme of asset disposals/recycling and request that land (particularly parkland) is not sold to off-set budgetary issues as it is required to off-set the loss of gardens and permeable services in new developments. Increasing debt would negate the need for asset disposals.

3. Request that the budget for the Kaipātiki Local Board's One Local Initiative (Birkenhead War Memorial Park multi-use facility and aquatic playspace development) is brought forward to within this 10 year period.

4. Request that Auckland Council's Governing Body instruct Auckland Transport to immediately stop downgrading suburban roads that carry less than 10,000 vehicles per day to chip seal, and to prioritise budget in the 10 year plan to fund asphalt (or equivalent) road surfaces on all suburban roads.

Please accept the attached petition and comments from signatories as part of our feedback.

The petition can also be found online here: www.change.org/stopaucklandchipseal

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why: Request that the Wairau Catchment and Wairau (Milford) Estuary are prioritised for additional funding from the Water Quality Targeted Rate, due to the pollution, sewage and sediment build-up in the catchment.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why: We support maximising investment in this area, and allowing local boards to determine whether assets should be renewed or not, without being strong-armed into divestment through lack of budget.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control Support

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

Kaipātiki Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why [see attachment 12784 petition re: suburban roads "We, the undersigned, call on Auckland Council/Auckland Transport to immediately

stop downgrading suburban roads to the current low standard of chip seal, and to implement a policy of asphalt (or equivalent) road surfaces on suburban roads."

With additional regional funding likely to be limited in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031, do you support us investigating options for a future locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects that are beyond the existing funding available to the local board?

If we were to introduce a locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects, how would you rank these key initiatives from our 2020 Local Board Plan? (1 = most like to be funded, 3 = least like to be funded)

Addressing flooding and seawater inundation at Little Shoal Bay, Northcote

Multi-sport facility and improved aquatic play space at Birkenhead War Memorial park

Commuter and recreational walking and cycling links, such as shared paths, bush tracks and connections to the Northern Pathway (to be prioritised in the update of the Kaipatiki Connections Network Connections Plan)

If we were to introduce a locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects, how much would you be willing to pay annually on top of your rates bill?

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Request that Auckland Council invests more in shade over playgrounds, skateparks, basketball courts, seated areas, etc. Shade protects people from the sun's harmful rays, as well as ensuring that equipment is usable during the day in Summer. Request improvements to the maintenance and safety standards in town centres and local shops within the Kaipātiki Local Board area. Request that environment maintenance contractors proactively support volunteer restoration groups to enable best possible outcomes, and that this is considered during contract negotiations. Request that council contractors prioritise local employment. Support retaining all publicly-owned heritage scheduled buildings in the Kaipātiki Local Board area. Support retaining the heritage scheduled buildings at: 2 The Strand, Takapuna, and 3 Victoria Road, Devonport. [see attachment 12784 petition re: suburban roads. We, the undersigned, call on Auckland Council/Auckland Transport to immediately. Stop downgrading suburban roads to the current low standard of chip seal, and to implement a policy of asphalt (or equivalent) road surfaces on suburban roads."] Petition with 1628 signatures.

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Auckland Council/Auckland Transport: Stop downgrading suburban roads to chip seal



Shore Action started this petition to **Auckland Council** and **Auckland Transport**

Auckland Council/Auckland Transport: Stop downgrading suburban roads to chip seal

“We, the undersigned, call on Auckland Council/Auckland Transport to immediately stop downgrading suburban roads to the current low standard of chip seal, and to implement a policy of asphalt (or equivalent) road surfaces on suburban roads.”

The **Shore Action** team has been fielding a large number of complaints and concerns from North Shore residents on the downgrading of roads to loose, poor quality chip seal. Although we are elected members on the Kaipātiki Local Board on the North Shore, this is an Auckland-wide issue and will be coming to a neighbourhood near you. We have created this petition to help the decision-makers at Auckland Council (Mayor and Councillors) and Auckland Transport (Board of Directors) understand the concerns of Auckland residents and the implications of their policy decision to effectively downgrade our suburban roads.

Media enquiries:

John Gillon, Shore Action

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Phone: 021 0497933

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ShoreAction

Website: www.shoreaction.org.nz

Background

In 2014, Auckland Transport adopted a policy to downgrade ALL suburban roads to chip seal where they carry less than 10,000 vehicles per day. A link to the signed policy is included below.

Since then, as each suburban road has come up for re-sealing, it has been downgraded from asphalt (hotmix) or old-style chip seal, to poor quality loose chip seal.

There are some small exceptions, such as the turning circles at the end of cul-de-sacs and some intersections, but otherwise pretty much all suburban roads across Auckland are being downgraded to chip seal.

Why is this a problem?

Chip seal has always been a less desirable method of sealing roads as it is noisier and produces loose chips, however the chip seal that Auckland Transport now seals our roads with is NOT the same chip seal that the former councils used - it is a smaller chip that does not stick very well.

Even after numerous sweeps of the road, a huge amount of these loose chips are spread everywhere, causing numerous problems for residents; safety issues for pedestrians and cyclists; damage to vehicles; dangers when mowing the berm; and damage to houses (carpets and wooden floors). The stones accumulate in the stormwater system which can't be good for the environment, and leave bare patches and streaks in the road.

Although Auckland Transport's contractors sweep up loose stones at least twice, in many cases there are still loose stones causing problems weeks, months or years after the resealing. We don't know for sure how many sweeps each road receives, as Auckland Transport do not keep track of them beyond the first two (CAS-259316-X0M0H7), but according to local residents many roads receive multiple sweeps in the first year following the resealing.

Why is Auckland Transport downgrading our roads?

The simple answer is "Money". Like all parts of Auckland Council, Auckland Transport has for many years been under orders from the various Mayors and Councillors to reduce costs, or divert costs into specific projects, and so resealing roads to a high standard pays the price.

Chip seal is about 1/4 the cost of asphalt (hotmix), and is also subsidised by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) when used on roads that carry less than 10,000 vehicles per day. The following costs have been sourced from Auckland Transport (CAS-259316-X0M0H7) and include the cost of the first two sweeps of chip seal:

- Cost per kilometre of chip seal:
1,000m long x 10m wide x \$9.44 per m² = \$94,000 per km
- Cost per kilometre of asphalt (hotmix):
1,000m long x 10m wide x \$49.60 per m² = \$496,000 per km

However it isn't clear if these are "whole of life" costs, or as we suspect, initial costs, which don't include further sweeps and repairs, or account for the shorter lifespan of chip seal.

For the record, Auckland Transport do not believe that they are downgrading our roads because the chip seal complies with NZTA's "M6 Chip Sealing Standards",

which sets the standards around 5 grades of stone. But we say that while the method used may be compliant and legal, it is an extremely poor quality result and definitely a downgrade from what was used before. We demand better.

Chip seal in the media

Article: "Questions raised over road resurfacing"

<https://www.times.co.nz/news/questions-raised-over-road-resurfacing/>

Article: "Chip seal: The Auckland residents who don't want a road upgrade"

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/motoring/89497371/chip-seal-the-auckland-residents-who-dont-want-a-road-upgrade>

Article: "Chip seal road grinds resident's gears"

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/north-shore-times/70876879/chip-seal-road-grinds-residents-gears>

Article: "Fight with bureaucrats over road resurfacing"

<https://www.times.co.nz/news/fight-bureaucrats-road-resurfacing/>

What you say on this issue

We have received the following comments from concerned residents and have chosen to keep their names anonymous (even where their comments are publicly available on social media):

Was terrible when they did our street this way, we had no notice & we thought maybe they just hadn't finished it. Every summer, like now we still get pools of melting tar into the driveway, up stairs, on shoes, stuck stones where they are not meant to be & this is two years on....

There's more chip on my lawn than on the road! Personally I cannot see any improvement at all... still lots bald patches up and down Lynn Rd. Not quite sure what the aim was?

Every time they have redone chip seal on the local roads we have had to replace a windscreen on one of our cars from stones flying up from cars either in front or going the opposite way.

Several weeks after the road being resealed we're still walking stone chips covered in tar into the house and getting the tar on the carpet.

Not safe for bicycles and motorcycles - loose chips means skids and accidents.

I live at the bottom of the hill and my wooden floors are scratched, [on] my drive one cannot walk bare foot on my drive due to all the stones. They are damaging my cars with the stones hitting the body work. All in all for the rates we are paying it is a very poor show. Everybody that has this on their streets should protest very strongly to the council.

Asphalt sealed streets should be provided as a core service by council, chip seal is a nightmare. We are paying rates for these services. It seems to me we are getting less and less for our money.

They said it was finished, nothing like driving on back country roads in the middle of suburbia.

It's a pain in the butt. Every car going up or down the road sounds like it's turning into my house. The road noise is really loud. One thing that is not mentioned but I'd imagine would be affected is the environment. Where do all these loose stones go? I don't mean the ones that spread over the footpaths and make them a nuisance for footpath users like scooter kids or mums with strollers, or the ones that get stuck in my car treads and ruin the life of them. I'm talking about the ones that get washed into the drains and all drains lead to the sea! Will the drains get blocked and not be efficient in weather bombs? Will the waterways start getting polluted up with little stones? Good on AT for once again only thinking about themselves!! ;(

The road is dangerous. Road chips everywhere, just because there are not a lot of cars using the road doesn't mean we should put up with inferior roading.

They did this in Sunnyhaven Road in Beach Haven and it is constantly flicking stones and hot spots of melted tar. A terrible decision by the AT. I feel AT are a lone provider with no recourse for the decisions they make and they are not decisions that are for our benefit or betterment.

Wish AT would just use asphalt, I'm so sick of stones flicking up under my car when I leave my driveway.

I've had to spend \$ on my car as the chip flicks up and gets caught in my wheels, making a horrific sound - I then have to go and have the wheels taken off at the garage to get the loose chip out!

This happened to me and I was furious. I actually wanna know how I can complain about it. It damaged my break pad sensor and it cost me \$200 to fix.

That's less than ideal for cyclists and motorcyclist bordering on dangerous if the mess left on Verbena Ave was anything to go by.

Obviously the decision makers have never lived in a street with chip seal.

I think AT have lost the plot. Chip seal requires more maintenance than "hot mix" but of course it is not their money they are spending.

I have a broken ABS sensor because of this pointless crappy stuff. Stone got jammed in it. Can I claim for it?

They did ours last March and it's STILL gumming up my shoes and sticking to my tyres. Whoever ordered/did it should be sacked.

We had ... damage to ABS on our car because of this seal.

This is a horrendous waste of money, asphalt is much cheaper in the long run and doesn't come with all the problems, I just can't believe they are getting away with this and whoever authorised it and thought was a good idea should be gone.

Salisbury Rd is due to be done. So dumb. Overseas they only put it on rural roads with low traffic flow, in Auckland we put it on busy residential streets. So what, we can save a couple of dimes? Asphalt lasts twice as long as chip seal and is lower maintenance as well. Once again, our town planners need to go back to school.

So crap. Verbena Road is already pulling up bald patches everywhere just months after reseal. Also all the stones with tar on them wash into our streams and beaches.

It chips the bottom of your car, it gets on your driveway, then you walk it into your house, just hope you don't have wooden floors, it does not last, starts to peel off the old road surface, and then hey they come back and start this all over again, they want to give us cheap roads well we should start paying less rates.

We would like them to come and look at the mess they have made of our road. Chip seal went down just before Christmas. It is patchy, noisy stones constantly coming down our drives and in our houses. It is a total waste of money. We had a perfectly good road. Look out Fowler St, Gretel Place and all you other streets. Another Council complete disaster.

Same story everywhere. It's a total waste of money and they're trashing good roads. Insanity.

They did our road (Wernham Place) a few months back. Dreadful - was much better beforehand.

We still have them since Feb or March. We were one of the first roads, just before Covid.

Chipseal is cheap and is a poor constitute for asphaltic concrete (AC) . The high volume of traffic in these areas especially main arterial roads should without fail be AC. You mention the excess chip is removed, yet it is not ever done properly, causes damage to people's cars, not to mention the low temp cut back emulsions used these days to chip seal causes residual spray on vehicles inner guards and sills, etc. Residual loose chip with bitumen enters our storm water system, blocks catchpit - the list goes on. Done properly and for the right roads chip seal is fine, but surely there comes a time we need to look at the long run.

Chip seal ends up with loose chips towards the edges of the road, just where cyclists are likely to be. Dangerously slippery.

Chip seal is garbage. Our street in Murray's Bay was done 5 months ago. We have chip walked into the house non-stop. The road surface is dreadful, continually breaking up. Parked cars are getting paint chips. Now we are in the middle of summer the surface melts in the sun, and sticks to your tyres.

All in all it's a shambles. I've complained to AT, they have basically said tough.

Yeah they didn't care in our case either & damaged some of the footpaths taking off corners making them unsafe, crappy job...little Billy in his wheelchair could really come a cropper on the footpath or an elderly person from the local home at the end of our street...they often go out for a walk...not ideal.

I think most people would prefer neglected and slightly pot-holed asphalt than the \$hitty chip seal and all the pain that goes with it. Seems they always do a \$hitty job laid with near zero care or skill. The stones hang around for months sprawled over paths, berms, driveways and load up stormwater drains. Not far off just having ghetto gravel roads. Seen kids hit with stones on the body from cars flicking them up as they drive by weeks after the job is apparently complete. Maybe it wouldn't be the worst option if laid right for some streets, but from what I've seen, they seldom ever are.

The road surface is now a mix of gravel and tar and is already, after about 6 weeks, showing signs of wear. There remains loose stones on the surface and the road is more akin to a construction area, certainly not a local road in a suburban setting.

I cannot accept that a good job has been done. Weeks after, there remains stones on the road, in the gutter and on private driveways and, the road surface is already showing signs of wear.

[Auckland Transport], your approach does not have sufficient regard to the desire of residents along the roads, your approach is very much towards economics and engineering considerations. Your approach essentially decimates the residential qualities of the locality. You are able to do that without any recourse to residents who are mainly all ratepayers and enjoy living in what is a great environment. It would have been great for you to have talked to the residents of the neighbourhood regarding what is planned before embarking on an exercise which neighbourhood conversations indicate, is not wanted. Your approach is one that residents feel they are unable to influence or participate in.

It was such a nightmare when they did our road. They never came back and fixed the smooth seal defects either. Not sure what's goes on at Council nowadays.

Can't say this was a good idea for Seaview Rd Windy Ridge- the tar is now melting then the buses will come along and rip it all up in no time.

Having loose chip seal is stupid. My husband rides a bike. He will be pinged often now from loose chips - this is dangerous to everyone. Children walking, people walking dogs with chips flying everywhere. Not great. It should go back to the smooth seal.

What a waste of money, most of these roads are perfectly fine. I thought a smoother surface road in a residential area was a good thing to assist with keeping the noise down too?

It's sooooo annoying. Moore Street has been done I don't know 4-5 times since I've lived in Hillcrest (11 + years) and the road is just wrecked from this nonsense. The stones flick up all over the footpaths for weeks and the children walking to school get the stones stuck in their shoes/feet and if they're scootering it causes them to nearly fly off their scooters because of the lumps and bumps that are left all over the

footpaths. I feel like there's absolutely no forward thinking with this CONSTANT 'downgrading'.

I noticed McBreen Street last night. Such a shame to do this as it is inferior to tarseal in my opinion, particularly if the previous roading did not need repair. Noisy, messy, tar heats in summer and sticks to cars and shoes, chip moves into silly places and damages cars. What a terrible decision.

Our road (Verbena in Birkdale) was beautiful to drive... it took months for the loose stones to stop coming so much, still there are but has reduced the amount but driving now is like living in some forgotten rural area.

More information

Resealing Guidelines adopted by Auckland Transport in 2014 (section 5.1 details where chip seal or asphalt will be used):

<https://at.govt.nz/media/339774/Reseal-Guidelines-Feb2014.pdf>

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's M6 Chip Sealing Standards:

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/sealing-chip/>

NOTE: This is a petition from Shore Action and does not necessarily reflect the view of the Kaipātiki Local Board, Auckland Transport, Auckland Council or any other organisation.

Signatures

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-04
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10
	Palmerston North, New Zealand	2021-02-10
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10
	Perth, Australia	2021-02-10
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Name	Location	Date
	New Zealand	2021-02-10
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10
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	Kamo Whangarei, New Zealand	2021-02-10
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	New Zealand	2021-02-10

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10
	CABA, Argentina	2021-02-10
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10
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	Tauranga, New Zealand	2021-02-10
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	Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand, New Zealand	2021-02-10
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Name	Location	Date
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10
	Indianapolis, Indiana, US	2021-02-10
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10

Name	Location	Date
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10
	Titirangi, New Zealand	2021-02-10
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	North shore, New Zealand	2021-02-11

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Albany, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Lower Hutt, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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Name	Location	Date
	Wellington, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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	Wellington, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11

Name	Location	Date
	Invercargill, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	palmerston north, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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	Dunedin, New Zealand	2021-02-11
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Name	Location	Date
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Glasgow, UK	2021-02-11
	New Zealand	2021-02-11
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Levin, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Kapiti Coast, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Lower Hutt, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
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Name	Location	Date
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Mt Maunganui, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	Australia	2021-02-12
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12
	North Shore, New Zealand	2021-02-12

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-14
	Greytown, New Zealand	2021-02-14
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-14
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Name	Location	Date
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-02-25
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25
	Wellington, New Zealand	2021-02-25
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25
	North Shore, Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25
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Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-26
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-26
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-26
	Owhango, New Zealand	2021-02-26
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-26
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-27
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-27
	Albany, New Zealand	2021-02-27
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-28
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-03
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-08
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-08
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-13

Name	Location	Date
	Wellington, New Zealand	2021-03-17
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-17
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Glenfield, New Zealand	2021-03-18

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Wellington, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-18
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Name	Location	Date
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	New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Rotorua, New Zealand	2021-03-18

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Wellington, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Dargaville, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-19

Name	Location	Date
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-20
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-20
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-20
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-20
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-20
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-20
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	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-20
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Paeroa, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Christchurch, New Zealand	2021-03-21
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-21

Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"By using this you think you are cost saving however in the long run it doesn't because you have to replace it more often."
	Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"The chips make cars and particularly bicycles skid out of control. Mess the pavements and coat your shoes with tarred chips."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Our areas are getting busier with more developments happening. We should be upgrading roads, not downgrading them."
	Whangarei, Northland., New Zealand	2021-02-08	"As an avid walker around our local streets in Birkenhead, (before moving North mid last year) upon this loose chip being laid, I soon came to realize that if I was a car, I would be COVERED in stone chips.... P.S. The eye is better now and the leg bruises have gone."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Safety, noise, leftover material getting into my garden, sticking tar stones making it into my house and vehicles, down grading the street appeal."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Replacing roads that do not need replacing yet with an inferior seal that is causing damage to our cars and neighbourhoods is idiotic and a waste of ratepayer funds"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Our road did not need replacing. The one pothole (on a dangerous corner) is the only area not touched. Was done in March, we STILL have loose chip everywhere. THE ABS sensor on my van has been broken by these stupid and pointless road downgrades. The whole thing is an insane waste of money."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Doesn't seem to be a financially sound option with all the additional clean up and maintenance work - apart from all the other quality reasons. I can't understand also why they would chip seal half a street on a bend on a downward slope - that's smacks of accident to me for cars, bikes (Jacaranda Ave)"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Please do not chip seal. It damages cars and creates a nuisance for many months. False economy if you don't count all the costs and aggravation. Smooth seal is much nicer and lasts longer. They had to reseal our road after poor chip seal."
	auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Chipseal is a cheap and nasty, noisy product that wears out tyres. Surely we can do better"

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Because this is a very poor way to resurface roads and it last at the most 3 months then it needs doing again. The chips also cause damage to motor vehicles."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"I cycle to work (or try to) but the chip seal around my area is horrible - very dangerous. Chip gets stuck in my tyres and tar everywhere in the heat. It seems everything AT does just makes it harder to travel."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Band-aids work in only a few scenarios, fix the roads correctly. Do it once do it right."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"The road is worse then it was and our tyres have gooey tar seal stuck in them"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"My children can no longer walk on our driveway or footpaths with bare feet - or even play in our front lawn due to all the chips/sharp stones. It's a slip hazard on steep streets (ours is one) and is a broken hip waiting to happen for our elderly neighbours."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Chip seal is bad quality and increases vehicle wear and tear,"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"Our road was downgraded early last year and the chips are still everywhere. Makes such a mess and is not good to drive on. The worse thing is there was nothing visibly wrong with the existing road in the first place. So it was an expense that wasn't needed. I would rather have waited longer and upgraded at a better standard of road. Neighbours feel the same."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-08	"I agree with this petition because of the damage to cars....my car has been a victim of this"
	New Zealand	2021-02-08	"We pay good money to the council. They use most of it to pay inadequate people for substandard work done."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"These chips when loose get hurled onto your car by cars driving in front of you or the opposite direction causing dents or scratches to the body and can even crack your wind screen. They also hurl onto and hurt pedestrians."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Chip seal is extremely noisy - not good in a suburban environment"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"This reading method is terrible for the community, rocks fly everywhere, block drains and make the road and footpath dangerous for kids on bikes and hard on strollers."
	New Zealand	2021-02-09	"i dont want to have shitty roads In my neighbourhoods"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Camilla Dadson"

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Chip seal roads are not suitable for Auckland's climate and constantly effect the paint work on my car when the roads turn to liquid because the tee gets too hot. It also makes it more dangerous to skateboard, rollerblade, scooter and bike on the road."
	New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I believe it's a danger to pedestrians, causes damage to property and causes issues on the motorways as chips stay stuck until then. It's absurd to introduce - why not go back to gravel roads. Poor decision made without consulting locals."
	Auckland, New Zealand, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I'm signing the petition because the downgraded roads that have been chip sealed are an absolute disgrace, with stones on footpaths, driveways, berms, which gets into tyres, causes damage to cars etc. Also roads are certainly not swept by contractors after 2 days of roads being chip sealed, seems that residents cars are left to do the job. I won't say more at this stage but hope that AT will listen to what we disgruntled residents have to say."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"We pay our taxes and the council cuts the quality of services to us! NOT ON"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Our cars were damaged repeatedly by chip seal when our street was downgraded. The lose seal lasted at least 12 months and and the side walk is still covered in gravel a year on. Regardless of savings, damaging our cars without consultation or remedy is totally unacceptable and I would like to suggest criminal."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"sick of the shit roads and stones getting in my brakes."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"This is a step backwards in maintaining our roads and also damaging cars with flying loose chip."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"my road is a disgrace the work carried out has caused over 30k damage to ky vehicle and my driveway is ruined!!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Damaged my mower cutting counsel very. Punctured bike tyres and dangerous to ride on."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I want to be able to drive safely on our road without risking to mine and my families safety or damage to my car at my expense"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I don't want this deal in our cul-de-sac. That's where the children ride their bikes and scooters."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"The stone chip we have still been getting (Greenvalley was stone chipped 4 years ago) lately I was happy to sign this petition . Its your city to care about, do you want smooth roads for kids to play on and safer to cross? and to save wear and tear on tires, and keep road noise down? Stop stone chip on pavements, driveways and into your house for 4-5 years? Yes we still get stone chips in our house and

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			is hard on the feet in our garage! With no consultation, all we got was a photocopy note that its happening and please talk off your shoes for a few weeks after! Approximately 90% of the road was perfect!! the was a crack you could just stick your finger in that is caused by bad storm water. all they did to fix was pour in hot tar!! then stone chipped the whole street!! Tink tink for 2-3 months after and the foot paths were covered even though I swept daily for a month!!. this is just one street Greenvalley Rise, The worst part for myself is the increase in road noise, hence I dont wear hearing aids anymore a"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Chip seal is inadequate quality"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Loose chip is lousy for bikes, scooters, and barefoot pedestrians"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I hate paying rates for inferior roads, the loose seal goes everywhere and won't last long before you have to re seal again, do it once, do it right, is that possible? And noisy for residents not to mention chipping the paint on car and breaking windscreens, and blocking up the drains"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"We deserve better"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"My streets just been done & its a mess. Stones everywhere, down drains, on grass to mow. Even slipped on the footpath walking the dog due to the number of stones on the footpath. Not too mention the poor dogs feet standing on them all."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I'm signing because this thoughtless action is (has) damaging the quality of our lives and neighbourhoods for no apparent upside,"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I'm signing because the roads are terrible to drive on and ruin my car and wheels"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Cantina Ave is a nightmare since it was done, flying stones chipping car paintwork getting stuck in tyre treads. Noisy as too. Bloody awful stuff"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Our road was downgraded and now we have disgusting chips instead of normal asphalt. Small stones stuck in our shoes and tires, stones damaging our property and blocking drainage ! It should be stopped. I don't want to waste my tax money !"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Fed up paying ever increasing rate and getting less and less for our money. And then seeing other so called projects throwing money away with very substandard work and then they pay someone else even more money to fix the incompetence"

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"This chip doesn't last, leaves bare patches and is carried into my HOUSE"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Roads in our area were resealed with chip seal in January 2020. Despite the roads being swept several times, there are still stones being brought into the garage stuck in our car tires. The chip is lifting on hills and this problem is obvious when it's hot because there are pools of tar. There are stones on berms and get flicked around when people are mowing them. We have been left with sub-standard roads which, in the long run, will cost more to maintain. I feel really angry when we pay extra for petrol in Auckland and I thought that a proportion of that went towards roading. I'm sick of getting so little for our rates and taxes in Auckland."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"This shouldnt be happening"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Leave our roads alone! Stop ripping up perfectly fine roads! And WHY now when everyone is going back to work and school!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"It's waste of money and resources and the entire neighbourhood is full if little stones, including our homes!!!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Pull your socks up council! Not good enough"
	New Zealand	2021-02-09	"quality of roading is unacceptable"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Children can't scooter or skate or skateboard locally - the stones are a hazard. Therefore this goes against the Travelwise philosophies of the AT and getting our kids moving. The chip stones stay around for a long time creating a greater fall risk for our wheelie kids."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Why would you put chip seal on our suburban roads. It is an inferior product, needs resealing more often and is very noisy. I guess for the short term to save \$\$ but in the long term it will cost more."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I'm sick of false economy from this council."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"AT did our street a few months back and its much worse than it was beforehand - loose stones stick on underside of car and in wheels, tar oozes on a hot day its pretty unsightly etc."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"This has to stop"
	auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"A chip hit my son in the leg from a passing car. A chip got stuck in my window and cracked it."

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"You continue to do maintenance on the cheap and yet spend hundreds and thousands on sculptures that dont contribute to the upkeep of the city... Rethink your priorities"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"The chip seal is so noisy and makes the roads less usable for our community"
	New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Downgraded roads are dangerous, unpleasant and in the longer term uneconomical as they simply don't last well, we deserve better."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"To stop the loose chip tar seal being used in our neighborhood"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"This is ridiculous. Why ruin the suburban look with crappy roads. Spend the money on fixing footpaths that are actually broken."
	Auckland 0642, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Is dangerous for cyclists and is noisy."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"We dont pay taxes for sub par roading. Especially when they chip sealing a road that had nothing wrong with it to start with"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Our street did not need sealing but it was done unnecessarily. Consequently this tiny chip has migrated into the street gutters, it gets in our garages on the car tyres and then into the house carpets regardless of no shoes in the house rules."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I am tired of the endless stones on the footpath, my driveway and berm (which you expect me to mow). These are not only annoying but also pose a health and safety risk."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"For many people, the worst effect of chip sealing is the increased noise pollution. It is also very uneconomic, as the seal wears out much faster than proper asphalt seal."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I'm a cyclist and riding on the loose chipping that ends up at the edge of the road is potentially fatal. Aren't they supposed to be encouraging cyclists rather than sending them to hospital with missing skin after slipping on the awful edge of road surface or being hit my missiles kicked up by passing buses"
	Matamata, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Opus is using same strategy on Coromandel peninsula. 1. Chip seal. 2. No cycle lanes. 3. Road level raised. No road side drains. Property owners receive road run-off. 4. During sealing, motorists required to drive on wet tar with flying chips. 5. Roads now noisy. Works carried out during day on grounds that night work would keep us awake!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"Gravel gets spun in car wheels and can hurt pedestrians and chip windows too. It's also poor quality"

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	AUCKLAND, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I'm signing because we have loads of chips in Stanley Road from Seaview Road, these are all over the footpath, on people's driveways - Kids & dogs are walk along these road. I didn't know as a ratepayer we also have to clean up after so called road works have finished.. come on AC/AT clean up your act and give us better value for our \$\$"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-09	"I hate it when they use chip and we have to settle it in."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"It is too noisy and doesnt last long !"
	North Shore Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Stones wreck cars, scatter across grass verges and cause broken windows. They're dangerous in the rain. Those things are just starters"
	Palmerston North, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"I believe that lifetime quality is needed over cheap to execute in the beginning."
	New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Our road has become hazardous - I'm often hit by flying chip seal when walking along the footpath; the footpaths are covered in stones which damage footwear and cause accidents for kids on scooters."
	New Zealand	2021-02-10	"NZTA doesn't listen, AT doesn't care, the contractors do a lousy job, and now my car is damaged by chips. Seriously considering taking them to court."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"The chip seal doesn't cover well and so tar becomes a problem in the heat and the small stones get everywhere and travel into the house."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Roads are appauling"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Just did our road and it's crap"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Those lower quality roads ruin the paint on our cars not to mention increase stopping distance."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"I walked undersized, tar covered stones into my house and car for months. It took months for them to sweep all of the excess away and only weeks for the tar to bleed through to the surface. If they have to chip seal they should use a larger stone size. It would be better to asphalt a small section of road each year than ruin the whole street and spread tiny stones far and wide for months."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"My car mats + shoes are covered in tar + completely ruined."

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Local government is both morally and ethically corrupt, and for every downgrade of a service, someone is cashing in at the other end!! 郎"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"It's simply not good enough."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Down grading is dangerous and a waste of bloody time!"
	Tauranga, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Dangerous for the elderly . Cheaper option does not make right, so where is the people's money going?"
	Tauranga, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Definitely corrupt , by 2130 there be no cars is this why they want us to ride bicycles."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"We're fed up with the noise and the mess from this cheap seal. I'd rather they didn't bother about re-sealing."
	Taupo, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Stop with the 2030 Agenda! Upgrade the roads!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"The noise and stone chips flying."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"you supposedly upgraded our road, and it is a worse condition than what it was before you touched it."
	Titirangi, New Zealand	2021-02-10	"Chip seal is rubbish. Messy, damages our cars, ugly and noisy."
	Albany, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"The mess and the noise is unacceptable in suburban streets."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"This is such a backwards decision and shows such disrespect to Auckland Council's residents. The roads are poor quality and disrupt residents quality of life and damage vehicles and are dangerous for cyclists. Please stop treating your residents with such disrespect and provide quality road conditions."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"Kerry Mrkusic"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"Bring back the asphalt road, and increase the time between reseals on these to save costs! The last few times they resealed the asphalt road, it was still perfectly fine and in good condition!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"The councils ruined our road with this seal!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"I'm signing due to the complete lack of transparency over where the money gained (by lowering the standard of road surface) is now being spent. Also signing due to the broad-brush approach of "road maintenance" and often

Name	Location	Date	Comment
			how wasteful it is. It is unclear how the appraisal of an existing road surface is undertaken and whether it takes into account improvements in other areas (ie, modern cars, tyre tread, current WOFs, etc)."
	New Zealand	2021-02-11	"In Castor Bay the roads in my neighbourhood have been done recently and I really thought that the job wasn't yet finished! Loose stones are getting everywhere in private driveways and gardens, ruining shoes and cars and making it dangerous for kids and bike riders. The street was in a much better state before, it is clearly a shameful downgrade. I find it to be such a disgrace for a city like Auckland. Unfortunately we live in a world where money rules everything, but surely a more acceptable alternative could have been found."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"The chip seal is a cheap sub standard seal that never works. It adds excessive noise to suburban streets, it causes stones constantly flicking onto berms (a nightmare when mowing lawns). It doesn't last and leaves the road in a worse state than it was."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"This has to stop. We are paying taxes to get decent roads and services not a half done job"
	New Zealand	2021-02-11	"Because I am seeing it my self. This type of roads are damaging my vehicles too so as everyone's else vehicles. We pay our taxes honestly but why when coming to receive the services for our taxes we get this. Auckland council please stop doing this we don't need 10 million lights for visitors to see we want better roads."
	auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"This is a disgusting waste of money. The roads are often worse afterwards and I have seen it ware off quickly"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"Stones in my tyres and flicking all over my cars and neighbour's cars! Ridiculous"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-11	"It's ridiculous. Two weeks Glendhu Road has been chip-sealed and we have already had a chipped windscreen and our driveway is covered in chips which is dangerous for the kids. Get your act together Auckland Council"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12	"Bloody stones everywhere crap finish to a job"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12	"I dont want stone chip reading"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-12	"This needs to be fixed"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-13	"Sick of the marks on my car from stone chips"

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-13	"It causes damage (including to people's feet when wearing summer shoes!), is inconvenient and blocks drains."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-13	"Because we deserve better roads and AT is misusing rate payers money!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-13	"Asphalt is the better option long term"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-13	"Chip seal is noisy, bad for the environment (via tyre wear and the loose chip itself), and bad for non-car modes with smaller wheels and/or narrower tyres (bikes, scooters, etc). Make roads better, not worse. Spend more on asphalt, less on branding and comms."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-13	"Why downgrade perfectly good roads and cause extra costs and problems for residents' cars and so much drama!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-14	"I am signing because its rubbish & doesnt last long. I pay my taxes & expect good roads to drive on!!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-20	"No care is given to residents. I recently had a fall on main due to poor roadworks."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-24	"Agree the stone chips are dangerous and damage cars and flick at pedestrians"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-24	"This chip seal is wrecking car tyres and car paint jobs./windscreens Stop this 'seal' now."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-24	"Bar the damage to vehicles, pedestrians getting flicked with stones etc, the kids on our street (and myself and siblings when we were younger) used to love skating and scootering down Castleton street for hours which got them outside having fun instead of inside on screens!!! They cant do this now!!! 💎💎"
	Beach Haven, New Zealand	2021-02-24	"Sick of things changing and the public not given option to vote on this BEFORE it occurs. Bring in some local voting for individual areas on things like this...."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25	"I cycle to work each day up Salisbury Road and this new chip definitely makes the chances of sliding way worse. Also waiting to be hit by flying stones from passing cars."
	North Shore, Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25	"The first time they went up and down the middle of the road, then moved the cones and did the edges. This time they just went up and down and made no difference to the stones going everywhere."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-25	"Salisbury Rd has recently been resealed, there is a school on Salisbury Rd so lots of children walking to school are now having to deal with the stones on the footpath, grass, and stones being flicked up by passing cars."

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-26	"It could hurt the pedestrians if the stone chipped their legs or body."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-26	"At what cost are we doing this. It's a false economy."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-02-26	"I now have a driveway FULL of stone chip, and friends cars parked on roadside getting chipped paint jobs. Thanks for that.....not."
	Albany, New Zealand	2021-02-27	"It's noisier, more dangerous for kids and damages the car."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-12	"My 2 year old new car has been damage by the loose chippings lodging between my break pads and discs causing pad to disintegrate and disc to need skimming 💎"
	North Shore City, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"No consultation with residents. These large chips are dangerous to foot traffic, cyclists and vehicles. We, in Unsworth Heights do not get very much for our rates in spite of lobbying the council. Would rather have no re seal instead of these awful chips spraying everywhere, getting embedded in lawns, driveways and houses."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"It's false economy and is horrible"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"Because the damage these chip seals cause on vehicles when they get stuck between the brake pad and rotors."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"I'm signing because last time our subdivision was re-sealed, some of the chip became lodged in my car's brakes, requiring a mechanic call-out at some expense. I've also had loose chip come flying out of someone's lawnmower as they were mowing their berm - it shattered my driver's door window, which fell into my lap as I was driving. I received a huge fright and a cut on my arm from the broken glass."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"I chipped my windscreen and can't ride my bike with Children on these roads"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"We need better road options especially for cyclists as there aren't many cycle lanes on the shore"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"That crap gets everywhere. Makes it terrible for cars, bikes, pedestrians, basically everyone."
	auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"These roads are awful! They damage cars and a lot of the roads being replaced with this new chipseal don't even need redoing yet."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"I am signing because I slipped recently on one of your dangerously chip sealed roads ! A health hazard ! Also I like to send you a bill to get my shoes repaired, as the soles get damaged when walking on these roads."

Name	Location	Date	Comment
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"I commute on an electric skateboard to get the Bayswater ferry and the loose chip seal ends up on the sides of the road which makes it dangerous as can skid out or dig a wheel and go over the front! The road is so bad you may as well put gravel down on it!"
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"This method of repairing roads is a backward step and results in a surface little better and often worse than the existing tarmac. The quality of Auckland's roads has been steadily declining for some years and the use of the stone chip surface is a big contributing factor. It is damaging to the environment, vehicles and individuals and vast amounts of the chip is washed into the stormwater system causing further damage and potential blockages. Cyclists can be seriously injured if they fall onto this surface. We would like to see a return to the high quality of road building and maintenance that was held up as an example to the quality of Auckland's roading network in the past."
	North Shore, New Zealand	2021-03-18	"I used to ride my bike down Chelsea View Drive as it's a relatively quiet street. But since the chip seal has been added to the hill, it's an accident (or a puncture) waiting to happen. I ride less now."
	Auckland, New Zealand	2021-03-21	"I believe in safer roads"



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Glamorton Developments Ltd

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Do not support

Tell us why: Covid has shown that Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate is fatally flawed in execution and intent. It should be shelved entirely. Council should collaborate with Hotel sector and wider tourism industry on a fairer funding mechanism and at a reasonable timeframe after the sector's meaningful recovery from Covid. I have no idea why council has this fascination with APTR when the hotels are making a loss and will continue to do for for the next few years.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension only

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Support
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Do not support
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Support

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Support Option 2 – targeted rate of \$153 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located in the wider Paremoremo and Lucas Heights area of the Upper Harbour Local Board

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Netball Northern Zone

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Other

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Other

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Do not support

Tell us why: please see attached submission

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Other
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Other
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Don't know

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Don't know

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Sport and Recreation Funding - please see attached submission

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

AK Have Your Say

Auckland Council – Long-term Plan 2021-2031

Executive Summary

Introduction

Aktive is a charitable trust that has been established to make Auckland the world's most active city. It is a key strategic partner of Sport NZ, Auckland Council and major grant-makers and funders and invests in a range of delivery partners, organisations and projects that will get more people recreating and playing sport in Auckland, with focuses on young people (tamariki and rangatahi) and communities.

More than one million Aucklanders – adults and children – are active each week. They are supported by 308,880 volunteers contributing 22.1 million hours of their personal time per annum, worth \$391 million to keep the sport and recreation sector moving.

This sector contributes at least \$1.9 billion to the Auckland economy, providing more than 25,000 jobs for Aucklanders. In addition, there is an estimated \$372 million in healthcare savings in Auckland¹.

Sport, recreation, physical activity connects Tāmaki Makaurau, and delivers significant physical and mental health and wellbeing, social, economic and educational benefits.

We are pleased to read the statement that Council will continue working with key partners (Aktive and Sport NZ) to invest into and target populations of low participation, and or are high risk of becoming inactive.

This submission by Aktive outlines options, opportunities and solutions that can be implemented to help to mitigate the current situation. These include:

- Recognise the economic, social and community value of the Sport and Recreation Sector
- Recognise the impact Covid 19 has had on our sector
- Retain the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund, the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant and the Sportsfield Development Capacity Fund
- Increase the funding level of the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund, the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant and the Sportsfield Development Capacity Fund to reflect sector demand
- Support Local Board sport and recreation projects and priorities
- Support the Local Board sport and recreation One Local Initiatives projects which address regional priorities
- Support reinstating the local Board Transport Capital Fund to previous levels
- Seek clarification about Council's proposal to moving from an asset-based approach to alternative ways of delivering services
- Supporting a focus on renewals and proactive asset maintenance
- Urging caution around the implications and potential impacts of community asset divestment
- Ensuring Council has the capacity to deliver the budgeted projects

We know our communities, clubs and recreation providers are vulnerable and struggling. They need Auckland Council's investment support while we all recover from the pandemic impacts. Some short-term solutions could include:

- Funding to enable making membership fees affordable or free
- Budget to fill the gap for the reduced revenue due to lack of membership fees, loss of income, funding and sponsorship reductions and ongoing administration costs

¹ Active Citizens Worldwide, Auckland City Report, Portas Consulting, 2019

- Operational support for a loss of staff, not having enough hours for staff, staff affordability and lack of and retention of volunteers.

Overview

A thank you

Auckland Council is the major provider of our city's sport and recreation facilities. We greatly appreciate this support and investment – without it much of what happens in our sector simply wouldn't be possible. Council's commitment to the sector has provided positive outcomes across the region for an inclusive range of codes, demographics, cultures, ages and abilities. We also wish to acknowledge the commitment of council staff in supporting the sector.

We acknowledge the challenge Council faces with balancing the various competing demands impacting Auckland, such as growth, transport, climate change and water quality within a context of falling revenue. We also recognise that there are capital constraints, particularly in the immediate three years of the LTP.

Strategic context of sport and recreation

The statistics prove what we know – Aucklanders love physical activity – it is incredibly important in our lives and the lives of our whanau and friends.

There is clear evidence of the huge and wide-ranging benefits of sport and recreation – improved physical and mental health and wellbeing, social connectedness, economic and productivity gains, and educational outcomes.

The following four aspects of wellbeing found within the Local Government Act underpin the six Auckland Plan Outcomes:

1. Environmental
2. Social
3. Cultural
4. Economics.

The sport and recreation sector provides opportunities for the people of Tāmaki Tāmaki Makaurau to experience all of these aspects. Similarly sport and recreation contributes to all of the Auckland plan outcomes through providing for:

1. Belonging and participation
2. Māori identity and wellbeing
3. Homes and place
4. Transport and access
5. Environment and cultural heritage
6. Opportunity and prosperity.

There is a significant amount of research demonstrating the benefit of sport and recreation on the outcomes of the Auckland Plan²:

- **Belonging and participation and improving Māori identity and wellbeing**
 - Physical activity brings \$372 million of healthcare savings for Auckland, as well as adding 7,100 additional years of healthy life and contributing to 279 fewer deaths³;
 - Participation in sport brings 74.3 million hours of meaningful, positive social interaction each year⁴.
- **Homes and places**
 - Evidence is emerging that underspending on facilities leads directly to lower participation levels⁵;
 - Sport and recreation operating spend has a direct and significant correlation with participation levels⁶.

² ACW Auckland City Report 2019, Portas Consulting

³ ACW Auckland City Report 2018, Portas Consulting

⁴ ACW Auckland City Report 2019, Portas Consulting

⁵ ACW Auckland City Report 2019, Portas Consulting

⁶ ACW Auckland City Report 2019, Portas Consulting

▪ **Opportunity and prosperity**

- Physical activity has a positive link to improved educational outcomes, leading to an increased \$8.6 million of GDP growth for Auckland⁷;
- Physical activity is delivering \$0.02 monetary impact of reduced crimes savings⁸;
- Physical activity brings \$210 million of savings to Auckland through increased productivity levels, due to reduced sickness costs⁹.

The Council consultation documents state that over the next three years Council will focus its efforts and investments on three recovery objectives, guided by the Auckland Plan:

1. **Community** - Strengthen social cohesion and build inclusive and resilient communities
2. **Economy** - Restore economic activity with greater equity and longer-term resilience
3. **Jobs** - Enable sustainable employment opportunities.

In our view, the sport and recreation sector aligns strongly with these three recovery objectives. There is significant strategic justification for the Council to consider investment in the sector to be a core role of the Council. Although often lost in the infrastructure delivery conversation, the provision of sport and recreation facilities is a critical aspect of what makes Auckland a world class city. Such infrastructure provides us with belonging, opportunities for participation, opportunities for Māori identity and wellbeing through the provision of traditional sports, a sense of place, improved access through active transport modes, a driver for a cleaner environment and improved water quality and through economic benefits.

Local Boards recognise the value of sport and recreation in their communities. We note that 16 out of 21 Local Boards have nominated sport and recreation projects in their key priorities or advocacy positions under this Long-term Plan. This is further recognition of the key benefits that are delivered through sport and recreation into our communities.

The impact of Covid-19

We acknowledge that Covid-19 has had a significant impact on revenue of Auckland Council and has exacerbated a challenging fiscal investment environment. However, the pandemic has also had a significant impact on the health of our sport and recreation providers. In August 2020 Aktive surveyed a number of clubs and active recreation organisations, and the following impacts were identified (refer appendix 1):

- 39% of these organisations have seen a decrease in membership
- Feedback suggested a decrease in junior membership has been most significant impact
- Seven key challenges have been identified:
 1. Membership retention
 2. Financial sustainability and reduced revenue
 3. Facilities and maintenance - access to facilities, updating of facilities, maintenance
 4. Staffing and volunteers - loss of staff, not having enough hours for staff, staff affordability and lack of volunteers
 5. Member wellbeing - possibility of further lockdowns and player safety and wellbeing
 6. Cancelled events - cancellation of events, tournaments and competitions, both in Auckland and globally, as well as travel restrictions
 7. Changes in delivery - challenge of completing seasons and delivery due to delays
- Reduced finances, cash flow and revenue are the biggest differences between now and previous years.
- Funding support would be most valuable for the sector over the next six months including awareness of funding available and support in making successful applications.

We know our clubs and recreation providers are vulnerable and struggling. They need Auckland Council's investment support while we all recover from the pandemic impacts. Some short-term solutions could include:

- Funding to enable making membership fees affordable or free
- Budget to fill the gap for the reduced revenue due to lack of membership fees, loss of income, funding and sponsorship reductions and ongoing administration costs
- Operational support for a loss of staff, not having enough hours for staff, staff affordability and lack of and retention of volunteers.

⁷ ACW Auckland City Report 2019, Portas Consulting

⁸ ACW Auckland City Report 2019, Portas Consulting

⁹ ACW Auckland City Report 2019, Portas Consulting

Getting Aucklanders active

The obesity epidemic and Aucklanders' inactivity remain a significant public health risk. Physical inactivity already costs New Zealand's health system hundreds of millions each year (\$200 million in 2013 alone). Thirty-two per cent of New Zealand children are expected to be overweight or obese by 2025, with 21 per cent of 4-year-old children in Auckland already in this category. These obesity rates are crippling our communities and our economy¹⁰.

Whilst most Aucklanders are physically active in any given week, their levels of activity are well below World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines. If nothing changes, there is the clear risk that 1.5 million Aucklanders will be underactive or inactive by 2040. 480,000 of these will be tamariki and rangatahi. Significantly the overall numbers hide inequities: women and girls, people with disabilities, those of Asian and Pacific ethnicities, and those living in low socio-economic areas, are less active.

Without a significant focus and targeted investment, the recovery of the sport and recreation sector from the Covid-19 pandemic will take many years, while the current obesity epidemic will continue to remain a major health issue. The survey results showing that junior membership appear to be most affected is particularly concerning as there is evidence that healthy lifestyle habits are formed at a young age. It is well documented that lower levels of physical activity are linked to negative outcomes for both physical and mental health, including loss of muscular and cardiorespiratory fitness, weight gain, psychosocial problems, and poor academic achievements (Haapala E.A., Vaisto J., Lintu N., 2017; Jiménez-Pavón D., Carbonell-Baeza A., Lavie C.J., 2020; Korczak D.J., Madigan S., Colasanto M., 2017). Evidence suggests that the negative impact may extend to adulthood (World Health Organisation, 2010).

Response to the Long-term Plan Consultation Documents

Commentary on the key themes and issues identified

Capital investment

The primary vehicle for Council capital investment in sport and recreation infrastructure is the current 10-year \$120 million Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund. The fund is aimed at regional and sub-regional level facility development and is a critical funding stream for the sector.

Known, current, and well-researched regional facility plans prepared by sports codes demonstrate current, short-, and medium-term shortfalls in facility provision before this current Long-term Plan period is over. This demonstrates that we are already struggling to meet demand in certain geographical areas of Tāmaki Makaurau.

Examples of these shortfalls include¹¹:

- Indoor courts shortfall of at least 30 courts right now, rising by an additional 24 within the life of the Long-term Plan
- Winter sports fields shortfall in hours the equivalent of circa 30 artificial turfs within the life of the Long-term Plan
- Outdoor netball courts shortfall of more than 70 courts
- Outdoor tennis courts shortfall of approximately 40 courts
- Hockey turfs shortfall of an estimated 15 new turfs plus replacement surfaces on existing turf.

We believe that while this fund goes some way to address the identified shortfalls it simply does not reflect the capital investment the sector needs now and into the future. We recommend that this fund be reviewed and increased to at least partially address the shortfall.

We are also concerned that this fund only applies to regional and sub-regional projects, leaving investment in local facilities to Local Boards who themselves have had their capital budgets reduced. We recommend either widening the criteria of the fund as well as increasing the quantum or increasing the local board budgets to enable them to address local demand. We recommend that advice is sought from relevant council staff in support of this matter.

¹⁰ Sport New Zealand Value of Sport and Recreation Auckland Report 2015 and Sport New Zealand Regional profile Auckland 2013-2014

¹¹ Source: National Indoor Sports Facilities Strategy updated by preliminary findings from Auckland Indoor Courts Facility Plan; individual code facilities' plans supported by findings from Auckland Council Sport Field Capacity Development Plan; individual code facilities' plans produced by independent consultants

We acknowledge that Auckland Council is the significant capital investor in the sector, but also that they are not and should not be the only investor. Aktive is working with the sector to investigate other options for capital investment and programme deliver, as well as working to upskill the sector in alternative funding approaches.

The ability of club participants to access fields is a key constraint for the growth of many codes. Improvements to playing surfaces, such as sand carpeting, can greatly increase the use of fields, particularly in the winter months. The Sportsfield Development Capacity Fund is an important funding source for upgrading playing field across the region. However, the \$5 million budget is inadequate to meet the demand. We ask that consideration be given to increasing the quantum of this fund to help address this challenge.

Operational investment

As Council notes in its LTP documentation, Auckland Council owns and operates a large and aging community asset portfolio, inherited from the amalgamation of legacy councils. As the portfolio of assets has grown over time, so too has the level of funding needed to support the portfolio. Limited funding, an aging community asset portfolio and Auckland's population growth has put the community facilities portfolio under pressure, requiring prioritisation resulting in deferred investment.

We acknowledge and support the focus of this LTP on funding of renewals – urgently required and in many cases long overdue. However, it is concerning that Council has stated in the LTP documentation that it has insufficient renewal funding for assets assessed as being in the most need of renewal (condition 5 assets), and investment requirements will continue to rise as the portfolio ages and deferred investment becomes more costly to deliver. We are concerned that the condition of Council's current assets will continue to decline with a lack of investment and the impact this will have on club membership and participation.

The Council's focus is on capital investment, often leaves operational costs to facility users such as clubs. These users may struggle to manage the operational side of facilities, therefore impacting the quality and condition of the asset with capex implications. We know our clubs can find operational costs, such as cyclical maintenance, challenging. We see an ongoing need to also include budget for operational costs to ensure the facilities are appropriately maintained and managed.

As evidenced by the sector survey results set out above, operational costs are a significant issue for many clubs and this has been exacerbated by Covid-19. Clubs are struggling with the impacts of shortened seasons, reduced members, particularly junior members, staff wages, loss of volunteers and cancelled events.

An Aktive Sector Support Survey in March 2020 found:

- 22 per cent of organisations have cashflow and reserves to last one to four weeks
- Almost half (49 per cent) have cashflow and reserves to last three months or more
- Almost two-thirds (65 per cent) of organisations employ full or part-time staff
- Of these, just over half (53 per cent) have applied for the Government Wage Subsidy Scheme
- 30 per cent are not confident the Government Wage Subsidy Scheme will provide the necessary financial support to remain operational during the Covid-19 pandemic
- Over one quarter (28 per cent) of organisations would consider structural change to remain operationally viable due to Covid-19.

Auckland Council has introduced the contestable Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant , offering it for the first time this financial year.

It is very clear that the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant is a critical mechanism for improving the sustainability and viability of our clubs, however the sector demand far outstrips the fund's budget. We recommend that advice is sought from relevant council staff in support of this matter.

Community Asset divestment

The Council is looking to divest aging assets that are no longer fit for purpose and "*maintain the same service levels for our communities, just delivered differently.*" As an external party it is unclear which assets are to be divested or how the new approach to move away from an "asset-based approach" to alternative ways of delivering services is to be funded or achieved. Selling off community assets has the capacity to impact on sports and recreation delivery at a local level and undermine the wider regional network. As noted previously in this submission there is currently a significant shortfall in facility provision. Therefore, we urge the Governing Body to consider the impact asset

divestment can have on peoples' access to sport and recreation opportunities, particularly at a local level and listen to the views of the relevant Local Board.

We note Council is proposing to also fund investment through a programme to sell or lease surplus properties \$70 million a year over the next three years. It is not clear which properties have been identified for this process and what impact this might have on the sector.

Council's Delivery Capacity

Since the impact of COVID-19, Aktive understands Auckland Council has reduced its staff numbers by more than a thousand employees, including the majority of contractors. We have a real concern that Auckland Council is not adequately resourced to deliver the capital projects it has budgeted for. Again, we acknowledge the challenging fiscal environment facing Auckland Council, but given the Council is already reducing the level of capital investment in community infrastructure over the next three years the impact might be exacerbated by an inability to deliver. We ask that projects which are funded be delivered.

Creating sport and recreation opportunities

We are pleased to note an ongoing commitment to active transport modes through proposed investment in walking and cycling and the ongoing investment in public open spaces in the city centre including the commencement of stage one of the Te Hā Noa Victoria Street linear park and the Downtown Investment programme.

We also welcome investment which can improve water quality of our streams and beaches to enable greater and safer use for water sport activities.

Supporting Local Board projects

Local Board projects

Local Boards are voices of their communities and recognise the value of sport and recreation. This is demonstrated by the key local priorities set out by Local Boards in the current LTP with 15 of the 21 Local Boards having at least one sport and recreation project a delivery priority and 16 out of 21 Local Boards identifying a sport and recreation project in their key advocacy list and where there is strategic justification should be supported by the Governing Body. Of particular merit are those projects which seek to address the highest needs and greatest shortfalls across the region such as aquatic facilities in the northwest, indoor courts across the region and sportsfield investment in the southern local board areas. Among other projects, these include:

- Aquatic facilities proposed for the north-west (Whau)
- Aquatic Facilities at Flat Bush Aquatic & Leisure Centre (Howick)
- Scott's Point Sustainable Spots Park (Upper Harbour)
- Covered Courts in Albany and Kumeu (Rodney and Upper Harbour)
- Chamberlain Park (Albert-Eden)
- Sports field improvements (Ōrākei, Ōtara-Papatoetoe, Manurewa)
- Manukau Sports Bowl (Ōtara-Papatoetoe)
- War Memorial Park Improvements (Manurewa)
- Seaside Park improvements (Mangere-Otahuhu)

We understand that Local Board locally delivered initiatives capital budgets have been significantly reduced particularly those projects funded by growth. This is of concern given Local Boards are the primary capital investors in facilities that sit below a sub-regional level and are therefore those facilities that are not eligible for funding through the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund.

We know Auckland is growing quickly and the Unitary Plan has greatly enabled increased residential density throughout the existing urban area as well as opening up large areas of greenfield development. We know the growth of many of our clubs are already constrained by the limitations of their facilities such as fully booked and used fields. As population density increases the demands for access to sport and recreation facilities will grow.

We are concerned that Local Boards will not have the necessary capital budgets to progress much needed local projects with a consequential impact on sport and recreation participation. Growth funding has previously enabled local boards to deliver significant capital projects that they would not have been able to fund otherwise. Frequently local sport and recreation delivery can be significantly enhanced through relatively low-cost investments, such as sand

carpeting of sports fields, which has been successfully undertaken by Local Boards. Such investments also improve the viability and sustainability of our sports and recreation clubs through increased membership and strengthen communities. Most Local Boards and their communities have invested significant budget and time in developing masterplans. Without the necessary capital budget Local Boards will not be able to implement the desired outcomes of these masterplans and they will lose value and currency. Masterplans that sit on shelves rapidly become obsolete and inevitably cause reputational damage.

We believe that Local Board funding and the role they play in the sector needs to be closely considered, to ensure that the locally delivered sport and recreation opportunities are not lost in the funding of regional and sub-regionally facilities.

One Local Initiatives (OLI)

We note that the OLI programme has its budget allocation deferred to outer years for all except two projects in the first three years: the Orewa seawall and the Flat Bush community hub. This is disappointing given the purpose of the OLI programme was to identify each Local Board's most important local initiative beyond their funding capability and ensure that funding would be made available. Local Boards and their communities have committed many hours and funds into the OLI projects and we believe that they should be prioritised for funding in the first three years of the LTP.

Many of the projects which were nominated as an OLI, such as Rodney Local Board's Kumeū-Huapai indoor courts facility and Waitemātā Local Board's Ponsonby Park project have been progressed for many years. The OLI projects have high levels of community support and address identified areas of shortfall and need. Without delivery much of the work already undertaken will become obsolete and areas of shortfall will continue to grow.

Local Board Transport Capital fund

There is evidence that busy roads create a perception of safety and encourage Aucklanders to use motorised vehicles in preference to active modes. The Local Board Capital fund was an appropriate programme for Local Boards to invest in localised road safety measures and also to provide active transport infrastructure. Auckland's streets are important public spaces. We note that 14 of the 21 Local Boards are seeking the Transport Capital Fund to be reinstated to pre-emergency budget levels. We support those local boards and welcome well designed and appropriately located active transport initiatives that support Aucklanders to be active and provide alternative options to private car use.

Recommendations

Acknowledging the impact of Covid-19

- Recognise the economic, social and community value of the sport and recreation sector
- Recognise the impact Covid-19 has had on our sector

Capital and Operational investment

- Retain the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund, the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant and the Sportsfield Development Capacity Fund
- Increase the funding level of the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund, the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant and the Sportsfield Development Capacity Fund to reflect sector demand

Supporting Local Boards

- Support Local Board sport and recreation projects and priorities
- Support the Local Board sport and recreation One Local Initiatives projects which address regional priorities
- Support reinstating the local Board Transport Capital Fund to previous levels

Asset management and delivery

- Seek clarification about Council's proposal to moving from an asset based approach to alternative ways of delivering services
- Supporting a focus on renewals and proactive asset maintenance
- Urging caution around the implications and potential impacts of community asset divestment
- Ensuring Council has the capacity to deliver the budgeted projects

We acknowledge that that Auckland Council is contending with reduced revenue and capital constraints and has to make difficult choices about the mix of services it provides. The impact of Covid-19 will be with us for some time to come, so too the decisions made in this 10-year Budget. Sport, active recreation and physical activity makes an

enormous contribution to the health and wellbeing of all Aucklanders, of all ages, socio-economic levels and ethnicities. As demonstrated, physical activity, its wide-ranging benefits and its importance to our communities are fundamental to meeting the outcomes identified in the Auckland Plan. Council itself notes “*community infrastructure supports the essential services in helping people to participate in society, promote health and wellbeing and create a sense of belonging.*”

We urge greater investment in the sport and recreation sector under this Long-term Plan. Without this commitment from Council our current and future community sport and recreation spaces will be compromised. This means our growing, increasingly diverse population will not have access to suitable infrastructure and spaces to participate in physical activity – whether it’s a competitive rugby match, social tennis, outdoor netball, school sports events, ki o rahi or kilikiti.

We believe all Aucklanders, regardless of age, ethnicity and ability level, should be able to participate in sport, recreation and physical activity in fit-for-purpose facilities and spaces to enable them to connect with their community and live active, healthy lives.

Let’s recognise the social, cultural and economic value of the sport and recreation sector and let’s make Auckland the World’s Most Active City: Tāmaki Makaurau – te tāone ngangahau rawa o te ao



Return to Play Survey Findings

We are all in this together

Aktive’s Return to Play Survey of the wider Auckland sport and active recreation sector ran from Thursday 6 to Friday 21 August. This survey aimed to help Aktive and our partners CLM Community Sport, Harbour Sport, Sport Auckland, and Sport Waitākere to understand the needs of the sector in Auckland and to identify the areas where we can focus our support over the next six months.



39% Have seen a decrease in membership

Comments suggest a **decrease in juniors has been most impacted**, which may be due to families having less disposable income as a result of job losses and wage cuts from Covid-19, as well as parents taking their children out of contact or close proximity sports.

Seven Key Challenges

- 1. Membership Retention** Retaining members, making membership fees affordable and supporting members due to the impact of Covid-19 is the most common challenge facing organisations in the next six months
- 2. Financial Sustainability** Reduced revenue and financial implications due to lack of membership fees, loss of income, funding and sponsorship reductions, and ongoing administration costs
- 3. Facilities & Maintenance** Lack of or access to facilities, updating of facilities, repairs and maintenance, and increased cost of hygiene measures under Covid-19 guidelines
- 4. Staffing & Volunteers** Loss of staff, not having enough hours for staff, staff affordability and lack of and retention of volunteers
- 5. Member Wellbeing** Possibility of further lockdowns and player safety and wellbeing
- 6. Cancelled Events** Cancellation of events, tournaments and competitions, both in Auckland and globally, as well as travel restrictions
- 7. Changes in Delivery** Challenge of completing seasons and delivery due to delays and extensions, and the impact of Covid-19 on this.

Return to Play **ACTIVE** Survey Findings

We are all in this together



Reduced finances, cash flow and revenue

are the biggest differences between now and this time last year.



Funding Support

would be most valuable for the sector over the next six months including awareness of funding available and support in making successful applications.



Online forums

would be the most useful way overall to bring the sector together, followed by newsletters. Conferences were seen to be least useful.

Next Steps

Active will use these findings to guide the response across Auckland:

1. Funding Support

Communicating available funding and grants to the sector; facilitate and support with writing successful applications



2. Membership Retention

Support with successfully retaining members and potentially attracting new members



3. Volunteer Retention

Support to retain staff and volunteers as well as attract more volunteers



4. Financial Assistance

Facilitating and advocating for financial assistance; advocating on behalf of the sector to Auckland Council.



Active will provide regular communications to the sector, including updates. It will bring the sector together for networking opportunities, to discuss best practice and to share what is working for others.





10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Counties Tennis Association

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

Franklin Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support most priorities

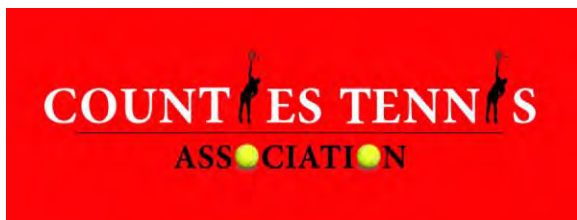
Tell us why Please see attached submission from Counties Tennis Association. We look forward to working with franklin Local Board.

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Important privacy information

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AK Have Your Say

Auckland Council – Long Term Plan 2021 – 2031

Introduction:

Counties Tennis Association is a sub-association of Auckland Tennis catering to the needs of the local tennis players and clubs in the Franklin region. Our objective is to promote, develop, enhance and protect the sport of tennis mainly as an amateur sport for the recreation and entertainment of our members and the general public. We have 9 active tennis clubs (Pukekohe, Waiuku, Patumahoe, Pukekohe East, Papakura, Hunua, Runciman, Bombay and Raquetteers +35'ys) Pokeno is starting to establish itself, Tuakau is only Social at this time, and a few social clubs are members of our association; we have 274 affiliated players and more than social 600 players. We offer our own interclub competition during the summer season from Beginner Grades to Elite players. Counties tournaments, both Junior and Senior, are run throughout the summer season and we support the Counties Development Coaching Squads which run throughout the year for our top performance youth from ages 10-18yrs. The elite players in each age group then go onto represent Counties in home and away Representative matches. We also offer free public access to some of our courts.

Our Counties Tennis Centre is located in the heart of the Franklin region and is jointly run with Pukekohe Tennis Club. We have wheelchair ramps to allow easy access for our wheelchair athletes that come regularly for coaching.

Response to the Long Term Plan Consultation Documents:

- We support Aktive Auckland's submission
- We see huge population growth in the Franklin region and to the south of Pukekohe and our facilities are already at capacity during the tennis season for our Counties Interclub evening competitions, during the winter we are at capacity for assisting soccer and rugby when they need alternative grounds to train due to weather constraints, we are competing for the same space
- We are along with Pukekohe Tennis are guided by our business plans to ensure we are responsibly maintaining our assets into the future
- We currently provide 6 courts for public access
- We have with the help of Pukekohe Tennis and the Franklin local board recently completed a feasibility study on covered courts for our tennis facility – "Counties Tennis Multisport facility". Some of the key advantages are;

- o 5 covered courts
- o Freeing up multi use courts for rugby and soccer and hockey
- o Supporting better participation outcomes for other sports
- o Increases # of lit courts to address night time season capacity



- Creates an indoor space for hotshots tennis (beginners introduction to tennis), as currently hiring high school gym and this is already at capacity(competing with basketball for this space – and school exams)
- Allow for year round training – removing the impact of adverse weather conditions
- Opportunity for winter competitions to be held independent of weather.
- No other covered courts between Manukau and Hamilton
- Design will also negate the impact from the hockey turf water guns

We continue to keep Members of the Franklin local board informed of our progress. We have been working with both Alan Cole and Rose Ward and are getting close to presenting the project to the Franklin Local Board. We look forward to sharing the vision for the project and the detail, and our progress and sharing our passion for the continued growth of tennis in the Counties Region.

We look forward to working with Auckland Council and Franklin Local Board to ensure our Community Sports facilities are fit for purpose, well maintained and are enjoyed by the Franklin Community.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Auckland Baseball Association

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Don't know

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Do not support increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why: More investment is required in sports clubs and targeted facilities,

e.g. Baseball related infrastructure to cope with an Auckland Council analysis that future investment is required. Development of 90ft baseball diamonds, all weather turf, batting cages and bullpen pitching facilities. Covered indoor training facilities to allow for year round usage. Targeted improvements across the Auckland region to allow for future growth.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Do not support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Support
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Do not support
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Support

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Support Option 2 – targeted rate of \$153 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located in the wider Paremoremo and Lucas Heights area of the Upper Harbour Local Board

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

War Memorial Park, May Road, Mt Roskill development. Improvements required for park infrastructure to support the growth of the local Baseball Club as the main user of the park. Building of a second 90foot baseball diamond and associated infrastructure including covered batting cages, pitching bullpens and increased lightning to allow for night play.

Altering the resource consent to 10pm to allow for night games. More investment is required in sports clubs and targeted facilities,

e.g. Baseball related infrastructure to cope with an Auckland Council analysis that future investment is required. Development of 90ft baseball diamonds, all weather turf, batting cages and bullpen pitching facilities. Covered indoor training facilities to allow for year round usage. Targeted improvements across the Auckland region to allow for future growth.

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Stormwater360

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: We strongly support developing the resources for stimulating infrastructure. There will likely be push-back from the public on the rates increases, and that will likely be the hardest part to manage.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why: This is critically important and we strongly support the suggested funding plan. Our question would come into the visibility of the delivery of the planned outcomes; on how the allocations are spent across the stormwater priorities.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

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Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Support
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Don't know

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Support Option 2 – targeted rate of \$153 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located in the wider Paremoremo and Lucas Heights area of the Upper Harbour Local Board

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

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10-year budget 2021/2031

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Auckland Softball Association

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

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The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

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What is your view on this proposal? Don't know

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

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What is your opinion on this proposal? Don't know

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

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Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Other
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Don't know

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Don't know

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

Albert-Eden Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why:

What is your opinion on the Dominion Road Business Association boundary expansion of the Dominion Road BID programme? Don't know

Tell us why

Franklin Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why

Henderson-Massey Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why

Howick Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why

Feedback we received during the local board plan consultation last year clearly told us that we need to focus on renewals and upgrades for the 69 play spaces in our local board area.

In addition, we want to explore the idea of a “destination” play space and would love to hear your thoughts on what one would look like.

What should a "destination" play space include for all ages?

Where do you think is the best location for a "destination" play space in the Howick Local Board area?

[Kaipātiki Local Board](#)

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why

With additional regional funding likely to be limited in the 10-year Budget 2021-2031, do you support us investigating options for a future locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects that are beyond the existing funding available to the local board?

If we were to introduce a locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects, how would you rank these key initiatives from our 2020 Local Board Plan? (1 = most like to be funded, 3 = least like to be funded)

Addressing flooding and seawater inundation at Little Shoal Bay, Northcote	3
Multi-sport facility and improved aquatic play space at Birkenhead War Memorial park	1
Commuter and recreational walking and cycling links, such as shared paths, bush tracks and connections to the Northern Pathway (to be prioritised in the update of the Kaipātiki Connections Network Connections Plan)	2

If we were to introduce a locally targeted rate to contribute towards funding major local projects, how much would you be willing to pay annually on top of your rates bill?

\$150+

[Manurewa Local Board](#)

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why

What is your opinion on the Manurewa Business Association boundary expansion in our area? Don't know

Tell us why

[Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board](#)

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why

What is your opinion on the Glen Innes Business Association boundary expansion into our area? Don't know

Tell us why

[Ōrākei Local Board](#)

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why

What is your opinion on the Glen Innes Business Association boundary expansion into our area? Don't know

Tell us why

[Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board](#)

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why

We are proposing to increase fees and charges on community places of hire by 6 per cent. This increase would reflect inflation adjustment cost of 1 per cent per year for the previous six years, as the rates have not been adjusted for inflation over that period. This increase will go towards the running costs of the community places.

What is your opinion on this inflation adjusted increase in fees and charges? Do not support

Tell us why

Are you a regular user of community places in Ōtara-Papatoetoe Local Board area? (e.g. Ōtara Music Art Centre, East Tāmaki Community Hall, Papatoetoe Town Hall, Te Puke ō Tara Community Centre)

No

Puketāpapa Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why**Waitematā Local Board**

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why**Whau Local Board**

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Don't know

Tell us why**7. What is important to you?**

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Sport and recreation is important for our communities to recover from the impacts of Covid

The sector needs help to recover from the Covid impacts

We have an ongoing obesity and inactivity crisis

Retaining the \$120 million Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund, \$1 million Regional Operating Facilities Grant and \$5 million Sports field Capacity Development Fund is critical but greater investment is required

Renewing run down facilities is welcomed

Reducing growth funding (which funds new and expands existing facilities) will have a long-term detrimental effect on the sector

Local Boards must be funded to address the issues they face and fund projects which are not covered by the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund

We need a commitment from Council to fund critical sports infrastructure

To allow sports to have a higher use of parks we need more artificial turf parks which do not have the maintenance windows. We also need more parks that have lighting to play small ball sports at nights midweek during the summer.

Important privacy information

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interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Water Safety New Zealand

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: See attached submission

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why: See attached submission

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why: See attached submission

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why: See attached submission

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Yes - the Auckland water safety strategy.

See attached submission

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Submission on Auckland Council's 10-year Budget 2021-2031

Executive Summary

1. Preventable drowning fatalities costs the NZ economy around \$320 million per year. In 2020 there were 14 preventable drownings in Auckland costing an estimated \$56 million.
2. WSNZ wants to reduce the number of preventable drownings in the Auckland region and believes this can be achieved by ensuring more drowning prevention activity is undertaken and there is better coordination and direction of the water safety effort in Auckland. Ultimately, WSNZ wants Aucklanders to be safe in, on and around water.
3. The primary focus of this submission is the strategic partnership WSNZ is seeking with Auckland Council on the development and implementation of the Auckland Water Safety Strategy. The strategy seeks to reduce drowning deaths and injuries in the Auckland region and help create a culture of safe enjoyment around water. The final strategy is to be a coordinated and collaborative action plan for water safety in Auckland that identifies priority work streams and investments for drowning prevention.
4. WSNZ is currently developing this strategy in collaboration with a range of stakeholders in Auckland. We are seeking to build a consensus view on the priority areas for drowning prevention activity and investment, as local ownership of solutions is the best way forward.
5. WSNZ needs Auckland Council's continued support to develop and implement the strategy. We want Auckland Council to continue to participate in the strategy process through your Parks and Recreation staff as well as help broker partnerships in Auckland, particularly with Local Boards. Local Boards' input will enable the strategy to be responsive to local needs, aspirations, and a knowledge of local water safety risks and environmental conditions.
6. This submission also comments on some of the key issues in the 10-year Budget Consultation Document including:
 - Provisional support to move away from an asset-based approach to providing community services;
 - Our growing concern about the impact of storm water and wastewater discharge in Auckland regions rivers, lakes and harbours;
 - The need to retain Auckland Council's water safety capacity and capability, and adequately fund local boards; and
 - Support for the retention of existing sport and recreation funds and grants.

Introduction

7. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031.
8. WSNZ wants to reduce the number of preventable drownings in the Auckland region and believes this can be achieved by ensuring more drowning prevention activity is undertaken and there is better coordination and direction of the water safety effort in Auckland. It is towards these objectives that the following submission is made.

About Water Safety New Zealand

9. Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) is the water safety sector leadership organisation for Aotearoa, New Zealand. We work with water safety sector organisations, individuals and the public to reduce the incidence of drowning and injury. Our work contributes to the reduction in drownings by ensuring evidence-based water safety policies, investment funding, initiatives and aquatic education are delivered throughout the country.
10. WSNZ is an incorporated society with charitable status that was established in 1949. WSNZ has a membership structure (37 general members and 3 core members) with a partially elected board. Surf Life Saving New Zealand, Coastguard New Zealand and Swimming New Zealand are core members of WSNZ and each have an appointed delegate on the WSNZ Board.
11. The WSNZ annual operating budget is funded by Sport New Zealand and ACC, and accountability reports are provided to Sport NZ and ACC half-yearly. Thus, while we are an incorporated society, Sport New Zealand is the 'government home' for water safety policy, and it is WSNZ's reporting agency and oversees the governance appointments at WSNZ.
12. The New Zealand Lotteries Grants Board, via Sport New Zealand, provides funds to WSNZ which we distribute to water safety providers through the WSNZ annual funding round. WSNZ also distributes funds received from charitable trusts and foundations, commercial sponsorship and other funding partnerships. Through our funding round we distributed around \$2.5 million to water safety providers across the country in 2020/21. These providers included: drowning prevention and rescue NGOs, professional and national sport and recreation organisations, child and youth support organisations, Māori organisations, swim schools, local authorities and regional sports trusts.
13. This partnership funding is focused on two main areas - water survival skills training and water safety awareness raising and behaviour change. Water Skills for Life (WSFL) is WSNZ's flagship water survival skills programme and it reaches over 200,000 primary school children each year. A range of water safety behaviour change initiatives are funded by WSNZ with emphasis placed on reaching demographic groups with high drowning risk (eg males aged 15-34).

Context

14. The World Health Organisation characterises drowning as a serious and neglected public health threat and a highly preventable public health challenge. It has been estimated that preventable drowning costs the NZ economy around \$320 million per year. (Based on an average of 80 fatalities per year at \$4.0 million per fatality.) Moreover, the national cost of water related hospitalisations in 2016 was \$83.6 million. In addition, a drowning incident may require a

response from several agencies including: Police, NZ Search and Rescue responders or ambulance and medical service. Therefore, by intervening early, or preventing the need to respond, the Auckland region will make cost savings.

15. In 2019 the Government-appointed Water Safety Working Group concluded the responsibility for water safety, drowning prevention and frontline rescue services is shared between central and local government, the community, and water safety NGOs. In essence, their message was that central government has a partial responsibility for water safety and further effort is required to ensure all responsible parties are actively involved in the prevention of drowning.
16. In response, through Budget 2020 the Government provided multi-year funding for frontline rescue services and to grow WSNZ's capability to lead and support the wider water safety sector. The government is now looking to other parties responsible for water safety, such as local government, to see what role they can play. To this end WSNZ recently briefed the Minister of Local Government on the state of the water safety sector, its new Water Safety Sector Strategy 2025, and its intentions to work with local government.
17. In 2020 there were 14 preventable drownings in Auckland creating an estimated \$56 million cost to the region. WSNZ believes Auckland Council can increase its support for water safety and drowning prevention in Auckland over the next 10-years. There are opportunities available to Council to respond to its community wellbeing responsibilities under the Local Government Act by furthering its involvement in water safety. Taking these opportunities will also contribute to Council's community recovery objective - to strengthen social cohesion and build inclusive and resilient communities.

Wai Ora Aotearoa

18. WSNZ recently launched Wai Ora Aotearoa, the New Zealand Water Safety Sector Strategy 2025. The sector strategy is the result of a year's collaborative work by sector leaders and represents a consensual view of the best way forward for drowning prevention in New Zealand. Moreover, the strategy reflects the need for step change in the way the sector operates. This change will enable the sector to meet the major challenges it is facing over the next few years.
19. Key actions for the sector to implement over the term of the strategy include:
 - Develop a water safety sector local government engagement strategy that focuses on relationship building and engaging with local government planning.*
 - Complete the Implementation of the Regional Strategy pilots and develop a Freshwater Strategy for the sector.*
20. Both these actions are relevant to WSNZ's relationship with Auckland Council and are reflected in the content of this submission. These actions are also linked in that our engagement goal is a strategic and sustainable partnership with Auckland Council and the Auckland regional water safety strategy currently underway is the best vehicle for giving effect to these partnership aspirations.
21. The sector's work on freshwater safety is ongoing and we will look to incorporate it into our work on the Auckland strategy and our interactions with the Auckland Council-owned SafeSwim system (amongst other initiatives).

Auckland Water Safety Strategy

22. WSNZ is also taking a strategic approach to improving water safety and preventing drownings in Auckland and has been pursuing a regional water safety strategy for Auckland since February 2017. The final strategy is to be a coordinated and collaborative action plan for water safety in Auckland that identifies priority work streams and investments for drowning prevention. The ultimate outcomes of the strategy are reduced drowning deaths and injuries and a culture of safe enjoyment around water in the Auckland region.
23. WSNZ's initial focus for the strategy process was on understanding the nature of the drowning problem in Auckland and fostering better relationships between key water safety stakeholders. This was aimed at providing a common objective for stakeholders to coalesce around. A Reference Group for the strategy consisting of key water safety provider organisation in the Auckland region has been established. Through this group a strategy roadmap was developed, and several focal initiatives were undertaken over summer 2019/20, including providing water safety advisors at Hunua Falls.
24. WSNZ is currently working with Drowning Prevention Auckland (DPA), one of our key partners in the region, on resetting the governance arrangement for the next phase of the strategy. It is our intention that DPA will lead the development and implementation of the strategy going forward and will liaise on our behalf with the local community.
25. The preferred approach to developing and implementing the Auckland strategy is to work with key stakeholders to ensure collective agreement and ownership of the strategy and its priorities. We believe having Auckland Council involved during all stages of the strategy process will ensure the strategy is a success. We therefore want to continue to work with Auckland Council to develop and implement, the regional strategy. We have a good working relationship with the Council's Parks and Recreation Team lead by Dave Stewart and want to leverage the Council networks, capabilities and resources to achieve the objectives of the regional strategy.
22. It is essential the strategy is developed in the context of the needs and aspirations of Auckland's varying local communities. We therefore believe it is critical that the Auckland Council's Local Boards are involved in the development and implementation of the strategy. Local Boards' input will enable the strategy to be responsive to local needs, aspirations, and a knowledge of local water safety risks and environmental conditions. We are after local water safety solutions to local water safety risks.
23. We therefore need Auckland Council's continued support and assistance to develop and implement the Auckland water safety strategy. This support and assistance includes: advocacy (communications and outreach), brokering relationships and partnerships, and facilitated access to Local Boards.
24. In return, WSNZ will facilitate the development of the regional strategy and its implementation plan through our relationship with DPA and engagement with Auckland stakeholders (including Auckland Council). WSNZ will also continue to fund drowning prevention initiatives in the Auckland region that are consistent with our national objectives (eg the WSFL programme) and regional priorities developed as part of the Auckland water safety strategy. (Note that in 2020/21 WSNZ allocated approximately \$750,000 for the delivery of drowning prevention initiatives in Auckland.) Finally, we will also fundraise in Auckland to fund the strategy's development and for drowning prevention initiatives that meet identified needs.

Response to key issues and opportunities in Budget 2021-2031

25. To ensure the improved wellbeing of Auckland communities by reducing preventable drownings and improving water safety, we want Council to consider the following points in relation to the key issues identified in the 10-year budget consultation document.

Key issue 1: Auckland Councils proposed investment package.

Managing and funding water safety and drowning prevention services and infrastructure in parks and recreation areas

26. WSNZ supports innovative multi-pronged approaches to achieve community wellbeing outcomes. The Council's approach to move away from an asset dominated approach to community services (and make more use of partnerships, grants, and multi-use facilities tailored to community needs) has merit provided current service levels do not decrease.
27. In particular, we support the use of partnerships because the water safety sector is itself an ecosystem of partnerships working together to achieve common outcomes. As noted above, the importance of partnerships is also inherent in the 2019 Water Safety Working Group recommendation - water safety and drowning reduction is a shared responsibility. To be successful, and make the biggest difference, these partnerships need to be collaborative and make value for money (and return on investment) decisions in the context of all water safety and drowning prevention investments. Partnership opportunities exist, such as Council transferring CAPEX or OPEX costs of existing (or newly invested) infrastructure to other parties. Alternatively, as more and more school pools are being closed, Council could partner with others to make these pools available to the broader community. Another opportunity is a regional portfolio approach to the provision of facilities and services, an approach that will be included in the regional water safety strategy discussed above. Taking advantage of these opportunities will enable Council to meet its wellbeing outcomes without significant increases to infrastructure costs.
28. For these same reasons we also support Council's intentions to support multi-use recreational facilities – again a concept consistent with the portfolio approach that will be found in the Auckland water safety strategy.
29. However, WSNZ's support to move from an asset-based delivery model has some caveats:
- Decisions about what facilities are to be divested, why and what the alternatives are; what aging community assets are not 'fit for purpose'; and, where to reinvest in new services and facilities; must be seen in the context of the regional strategy currently under development (where timing allows). This will ensure a more strategic investment approach, that meets the needs of the many local communities, and ensures all interested water safety parties are involved. If timing does not work, these decisions need to involve the water safety sector and reflect local community water safety needs, aspirations and overall wellbeing.
 - We do not support the sale of existing facilities if they are not replaced and/or alternatives found, unless it is a consistent with the proposed portfolio approach to services and infrastructure.

- More OPEX funding is needed over the next ten years to manage and maintain existing water safety and drowning prevention facilities and services. Operational funding spent on assets ensures their sustainability over time. This means a focus on renewals and proactive asset maintenance is needed. Again, these types of decisions need to be in the context of the proposed portfolio approach in the Auckland water safety strategy strategy.

Freshwater safety requires effective wastewater and storm water systems

30. An issue of growing concern is the impact of storm water and wastewater discharge on both the quality and safety of freshwater and Auckland's harbour. This is because the quality of freshwater has a direct relationship with the safe use of freshwater for recreation and sport. WSNZ endorses Council's Safeswim system that provides real time information on beach safety and forecasts of water quality in the Auckland region.
31. WSNZ therefore considers it essential critical waste and stormwater assets, and local network pipe renewals, are adequately funded. This will prevent the risk of asset failure that can compromise water quality (and therefore become a water safety issue). We consider this an essential part of Council's preparedness for the impact of climate change and the increased risk of flooding.

Supporting Auckland Council - Retaining water safety capability and capacity and appropriately funding local boards

32. WSNZ are aware one of the impacts of COVID-19 on Auckland Council has been a reduction in staff numbers, albeit often contractors. WSNZ enjoys a productive relationship with Council's Park and Recreation team and needs Council to retain its water safety capability and capacity to realise the objectives of the Auckland water safety strategy.
33. WSNZ is concerned about the reduction in capital funding across Local Boards. Local boards are essential to realise the objectives of the regional strategy as they enable local participation based on local needs and aspirations. It is critical that they are funded so they can continue projects which seek to address the highest water safety and drowning prevention needs (and greatest shortfalls). WSNZ notes Local Boards are not eligible for the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund. An unintended consequence of the reduction in Local Board's capital spend maybe a reduction of services and infrastructure at the sub-regional level.

Key issue 2: Responding to climate change – future proofing water safety infrastructure and services.

34. Climate change is already affecting New Zealand and we expect to see rising temperatures and sea levels, as well as changes in wind patterns, storm tracks, the occurrence of droughts and the frequency of heavy rainfall events. The impacts of climate change will become more pronounced as time goes on so adapting to the impacts of climate change on drowning risk is an area of focus for WSNZ as the water safety sector's leadership organisation. These impacts are likely to include:
- increased demand on water safety services (rescues, medical support) from higher temperatures;
 - a requirement to replace, move or protected the sector's physical assets located on the coastline (because of sea level rise);
 - a need for better monitoring of coastal and river conditions to identify changes in water safety risks attributable to climate change-related phenomenon; and

- an increasing requirement for the effective communication of the risks to the public from the changing conditions.

35. In this context, Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) has indicated that “leading and championing policy to deal with the impacts of climate change is a key policy priority for LGNZ and its 78 member councils”. For the water safety sector this means:

- participating more effectively in local government decision making in the response to sea level rise (including managed retreat);
- agreeing roles, responsibilities and funding sources with local governments for the long-term monitoring of coastal and river conditions and their public communication; and
- developing closer relationships with regional government and emergency response/civil defence organisations regarding flood response and preparedness.

36. WSNZ would welcome the opportunity to explore these climate change mitigation issues with Council on behalf of the sector and develop an Auckland-wide position.

Key issue 4: Responding to investment in our community – supporting the water safety sector through Council funds and grants.

37. WSNZ supports the recovery budget’s provision to continue funds and grants that help achieve water safety and drowning prevention outcomes. However, the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund and Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant 2020/21 need further investment.

38. These grants and funds are essential as water safety providers, like many in the voluntary sector, are struggling to fill the gap between expenses and funding. A struggle intensified by COVID-19 and the resultant membership declines, cancelled events, sponsorship deadlines, changes in lock down delivery mechanisms, and the rising administrative costs of doing things differently.

39. Adequate investment is particularly important when grants and funds are part of a broader investment package with other partners. In a shared responsibility partnership, value for money and a return on investment, is compromised if one party reduces, remove, or does not adequately invest. In such a scenario each parties individual investment is compromised, and Aucklanders wellbeing will be compromised.

40. To ensure a more strategic approach to investment in Auckland’s water safety and drowning prevention services and infrastructure, we would like to discuss the future proofing of all relevant Council funds and grants during the development of the Auckland water safety strategy.

Summary

41. The Auckland water safety strategy is a strategic opportunity for WSNZ and Auckland Council to develop a mutually beneficial partnership for a sustainable reduction in preventable drowning in Auckland.

42. This key issues for WSNZ from the 10-year Budget Consultation Document are primarily about the Council retaining capability and maintaining service levels, though freshwater quality is an emerging water safety issue.

Next steps

43. WSNZ would welcome the opportunity to speak to Auckland Council in support of this submission. To discuss this or any issue raised please contact Investment Manager on Capability and

Interim Chief Executive
Water Safety New Zealand



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Jireh Hospitality Limited

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Do not support

Tell us why: Money should come from cost savings.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Do not support increased investment

Tell us why: Proceed when we can afford it.

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension only

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Support
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Do not support
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Support

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

For the APTR - this should not be reinstated at all. As this is an unfair tax for accommodation providers on behalf of many Auckland businesses. This should be changed to a user pays systems like many overseas countries, e.g. a tax that can be passed on

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Do not support either option

Tell us why: User pays!

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

Albert-Eden Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support most priorities

Tell us why:

What is your opinion on the Dominion Road Business Association boundary expansion of the Dominion Road BID programme? Support

Tell us why

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

The Auckland Unitary Plan:

Just need to ensure that any spending is value based, efficient, and effective.

Focus our limited resources on a few key locations

Important privacy information

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interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): CP Group

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Do not support

Tell us why: See detailed attachment on APTR deferral

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Don't know

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Do not support

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control Do not support

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service Support

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre Support

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services Don't know

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Do not support either option

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

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Pullman Hotel & Pullman Residences Submission on Auckland Council's 2021/22 Budget

Pullman Auckland Hotel & Pullman Residence, one of Auckland's larger CBD's hotels make this submission in response to Auckland Council's letter of 22nd February 2021 inviting us to comment on the Accommodation Providers Targeted Rate (APTR).

REASONS FOR NOT REQUIRING AN APTR DURING CURRENT COVID-19 TIMES:

The range of proposed Options given in the Council letter is at odds with the outlook about tourism/travel recovery expressed by Auckland Airport Board. In the final section of Auckland Airports interim results for FY 21 issued 18th February 2021, the Airport board & Chairman do not see any travel recovery during 2021 or opening of a two-way quarantine free bubble with Australia this calendar year. Auckland Airport will have canvassed other Airports/Airlines world-wide to come to this position and not relied on NZ media speculation. A lack of significant overseas tourists till next year would rule out options 1+2 of the planned resumption of APTR. There is uncertainty around re-growth of travel.

The proposed logic of charging the levy because MIQ hotels are earning revenue is misguided – true some may be doing better than the overall accommodation market but on the other hand any non-MIQ facility, (and there are plenty of small hotels and motels) are haemorrhaging significant losses.

While there is some government assistance with wage subsidies this only preserves employee jobs and does not cover other costs not met by weak local demand which is most of the year bar school holidays. Most Auckland CBD hotels rely on 90 % of their guests to arrive/depart either domestically or internationally via Auckland Airport. From Official monthly statistics released each month by Auckland Airport with assistance from Statistics Department & Immigration Department, International guests are down by 97 % and Domestic by 35%. While MIQ hotels are notionally fully occupied there is not enough remaining demand to go around the rest of the accommodation providers. How could Auckland Council "equitably" levy each Accommodation provider? Council can only levy "a class of property owners "; the rating system cannot differentiate based on occupancy levels/ profitability- there is nothing in the LGRA legislation to support such an approach.

Re -starting the APTR while the accommodation market is so fragmented and mostly performing at a loss creates another level of inequity- MIQ facilities may have cashflow to pay Rates, non- MIQ will be relying on drawing down on equity or financier funding. There is no Government support package specific to accommodation providers, who economically, are incurring the greatest pain to keep the border closed. Re starting the APTR just because a few hotels may be making money is flawed logic and inequitable.

MIQ Hotels should be classed as "emergency accommodation". That is the occupants/detainees cannot be housed anywhere else and their food & shelter is being paid for by Government funding. This interpretation would allow remission under Auckland Council's current "emergency housing" remission policy. MIQ is designed entirely to protect the county's border and is not a normal accommodation market supported by visitors coming to Auckland for leisure purposes or any event staged by Auckland Unlimited.

We could use the already once delayed and now cancelled Lantern Festival as a good example of why Auckland Unlimited trying to create mass events in the present climate of uncertainty is financial suicide and brings no business to accommodation providers. Back in the period 2005-2012 the Lantern Festival was staged in Albert Park, regularly drawing 200,000+ mostly Auckland

attendees. This year was planned to be held on Captain Cook Wharf by free ticket arrangement limited to 11,000 attendees... but was delay once and then finally cancelled when Auckland went into Level 3 lockdown for the week. A lot of hard work and expense wasted.

It has just been announced that the Women's Rugby World Cup planned for Auckland in September 2021 has been cancelled due to uncertainty over the ability to run the event with lockdowns, quarantine and other uncertainties over financial uncertainties if another lockdown existed during the Games.

The Tourism Minister Stuart Nash on radio last week made comment that it would be a long- time before discount airlines start carrying large numbers of travelers back to New Zealand. It is most likely that recovery when it comes will be slow and mainly from travelers prepared to pay much higher airfares that go with a higher state of aircraft cleaning and seat spacing. These are likely to be business travelers and those seeking to re-unite or see family, not tourists. While older tourists can probably afford to pay much more for travel than young backpackers, on the contrary older tourists tend to be more risk averse and is less likely to travel on aircraft due to the perception of being at risk from infection while on the plane and airport environment. So we should not expect to see a fast recovery from this market segment.

All prudent travelers always take travel insurance to cover the unexpected and significant costs of a medical event or disruption occurring while overseas. All travel insurance policies now have specific clauses that exclude coverage for pandemics and epidemics such as Covid-19 . Meaning travelers over the next year or so until the pandemic is brought under control by widespread vaccinations will be taking on significant financial risk if they fall sick from Covid-19 or if their travel plans are disrupted by lockdowns either in NZ or transit countries & airports overseas. Some insurers are refusing to issue any policy for overseas travel.

It is widely considered that a vaccination passport will be required for international travel in future. Minister Hipkins has indicated that it could be next year before such a passport is available to New Zealanders. It is unlikely that an internationally recognized system will be up and going for more than a year so we cannot expect to see large numbers of inbound travelers.

REASONS THAT HOTELS/MOTELS CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY APTR IN CONDITIONS EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

The Accommodation market is severely depressed to levels not seen before. While comparison has been made that numbers of people travelling are down at levels not seen since the early 1960's that was against a much smaller number of available rooms. Meaning that today's hotels with a much larger number of available rooms in the market place are operating at occupancy levels way below break-even . During the last year a number of new hotels have partially opened inventory to very flat demand 20-30 %. Ownership costs of- rates, insurance, finance costs, amortization have not gone down. Business travel is down as business's tighten their belts.

Hotels are like other ratepayers expected to pay the 5 % increase in general rates. This increase will on its own be a big ask of many properties that are trading at operating losses and relying on either financier assistance or running down equity to cover losses which have now been running for almost 12 months. These operating losses will take years to make up when conditions start to improve. Financiers & banks are willing to lend on property but never willing to fund operating losses.

While there has been some government assistance during lockdowns to cover wage costs, at \$585 per week/per fulltime employee this does not cover the minimum wage. Government does not provide assistance with other operating expenses-rents, insurance, rates, finance charges, utility charges, additional security to protect property. Already a number of tourism businesses have gone into liquidation. There are 15-20 % new supply coming on this year, next year and the year after. Normally this would mean 5-7 years of lower occupancy, on top of Covid-19 affects

Many costs for hotels have increased in the last year. Government Policy changes in 2020 have increased the minimum wage along with doubling in annual provision for sick leave. Living Wage will increase costs even more. Commercial electricity contracts used by larger hotels have increased by 25 % due to price realignments as the Electrical generators move towards greener power.

Larger hotels have lost other revenue streams due to ongoing lockdowns and consumer fears changing spending patterns. Car Parks attached to hotels have lost income from no conferences as well as city workers being locked out of coming to work in the city. Alternatively many employees have now embraced working from home or sadly have been laid off work. Spa & Gyms associated with hotels have lost almost all their income as members cannot attend due to MIQ restrictions in the hotel surrounds or perceptions about virus transmission in gyms.

CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

We respectfully suggest that the APTR be deferred until at least 1st July 2022 – Option 3 ; with a full review done as part of the 2022/2023 Budget process to see what economic conditions have changed during the intervening period. This should also include a full look at the Accommodation Sectors ability to pay as it will by then have accumulated two years of losses and low profits due to new supply. Such a review should be done independently by the likes of say EY, Deloitte or Howarth (NZ) a specialized NZ tourism industry adviser. This will provide an independent view & avoid the confrontational position that currently exists between Council and the Industry, currently before the legal system.

Any APTR levy needs to be wisely spent to assist the recovery of Auckland's visitor economy and needs to be done with an Industry, Local Body and Government consensus to avoid scarce resources being mis-spent or an overlapping duplication occurring.

Novotel Ibis Ellerslie Submission on Auckland Council's 2021/22 Budget

1. This submission is the response of Hotel Council Aotearoa (**HCA**) to Auckland Council's 10-Year Budget 2021-2031 (**10-Year Budget**), with particular focus on the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (**APTR**). Novotel Ibis Ellerslie is a mid-size hotel located nearby to the motorway near Ellerslie. Approximately half its normal guests are from South East Asia and are no longer able to come to Auckland because of the border closure.
2. As a direct result of COVID, the performance of Auckland hotels has collapsed with many now unprofitable. Current hotel operating conditions are unprecedented and radically different from when Council first introduced the APTR.
3. Hotels are simply not profitable at the low levels of demand generated in Auckland since our borders closed in March 2020. In addition, during periods of lockdown, hotels accumulate massive losses on a daily basis.
4. Given the APTR is calculated on static property valuations and not actual achieved revenue, it imposes an excessive fixed cost on hoteliers at a time when fixed and variable costs are already exceeding revenues.
5. It *cannot* be reasonable against the statutory criteria to impose an additional fixed cost on accommodation providers during a global pandemic at the same that our borders remain shut to customers who previously accounted for 57 per cent of revenues. APTR activities are in no way the highest and best use of marketing funds for rebuilding after a pandemic – it is unreasonable and unfair to insist that ratepayers fund Council's generalised destination and marketing spending when those ratepayers are fighting for their commercial livelihoods
6. We submit that the APTR should be deferred until at least 1st July 2022-option 3 until the tourism /accommodation industries future, which will be decided by international demand not government edicts, is clearer and hotels start to make up accumulated losses.

Grand Windsor Hotel Submission on Auckland Council's 2021/22 Budget

Grand Windsor Hotel is a 79 Room 5 star hotel located at the lower end of Queen Street Central Auckland. It makes this submission in response to Auckland Council's letter of 22nd February 2021 inviting us to comment on the Accommodation Providers Targeted Rate (APTR).

- 1 As a direct result of COVID, the performance of Grand Windsor has during the later half of 2020 and up till now been unprofitable. Current hotel demand has been low, to unprecedented levels 20 % occupancy and radically different from when Council first introduced the APTR when the market was more 80 % plus most of the year.
- 2 Hotels are simply not profitable at such low levels of demand since our borders closed in March 2020. In addition, during periods of lockdown, hotels accumulate massive losses on a daily basis as no New Zealand business people travelled during lockdowns and have been reluctant to return to levels of travel pre-Covid.
- 3 Auckland Council considered the APTR *was* affordable in 2017 when set against CVs to replicate a bed-tax at approximately 2-4 per cent of hotel revenues (depending on rating zone), how can it remain "affordable" in Council's view in 2021 when hotel revenues have halved and losses are piling up? For many hotels, the rate will far exceed 5 per cent of "gross household income", if the equivalent measure in this context is to apportion the new rate against hotel earnings after interest and tax.
- 4 We believe that the APTR should be deferred until at least 1st July 2022- option 3. The new future of tourism that the Minister of Tourism believes is coming will be apparent by then. Certainly a travel bubble with Australia will be open and accommodation providers losses will be minimised. It will take years for accumulated losses to be made up and for employment levels to go back to pre- Covid levels.
- 5 Until the Travel bubble has been open on a stable basis for 6-9 months it would be unrealistic to think about any mass events promoted on the basis of bringing people to Auckland. It will require a period of absolutely no community cases in either country and a high level of vaccine protection.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Hospitality New Zealand

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

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Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

APTR - Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate

Hospitality New Zealand

TO Auckland Council

SUBMISSION ON

LONG TERM PLANS 2021-31

22 March 2021

CONTACT DETAILS: Hospitality New Zealand

Contact: Richard Doolan

Phone: 0800 500 503

Email: richard@hospital

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

General Comments: 22. Hospitality New Zealand and Accommodation Association NZ have always recognized the importance of AucklandUnlimited and its endeavours in the tourism sector

23. Hospitality New Zealand and Accommodation Association NZ continue to work closely alongside AucklandUnlimited in dedicated sector forums, face-to-face consulting and senior leader support for endeavours that benefit all of the Auckland Council catchment. Recommendation:

56. We recommend that the Council: Develop fair and appropriate tourism activities funding for both sunny & rainy AND stormy days Local Alcohol Policies (LAPs)

35. Hospitality NZ has and continues to be actively involved in developing LAPs, ensuring the sector, local communities and the viability of our members have the best fit settings and rules governing the sale and consumption of alcohol.

36. Hospitality NZ has actively contributed by submitting on all draft LAPs throughout the country. Some Councils have opted not to introduce a LAP and instead used the national default rules set out in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (SSAA).
37. Since the implementation of SSAA 2012 Act it has become apparent that some Councils often attempt to include rules within an LAP that are beyond their authority. This is a timely and expensive process.
38. The wider hospitality industry would like the process of LAPs to be either repealed or significantly amended.
39. Within the current District Licencing Committees system, there is the ability for each licence to have appropriate restrictions placed on it if deemed necessary by the committee. A shift in the system whereby DLCs administer appropriate restrictions would render the LAP process unnecessary. Responsible Camping
47. Freedom camping has been a part of New Zealand culture for many years. However, in recent years, freedom camping has attracted more attention as international tourism numbers have grown, and communities have expected higher standards from both domestic and international tourists. The proliferation of non-self-contained freedom campers parking up in non-compliant spots around the country has increased to the detriment of local's perception of visitors, the environment and to other visitors using these facilities.
48. The number of international visitors who did some freedom camping in New Zealand has been rising recently, from 54,000 in the year ended 2013 to around 123,000 in the year ended 2018. This followed a period of moderate growth from around 10,000 visitors at the beginning of the 2000's. Total estimated spending by visitors who did some freedom camping has also increased significantly in this period, from \$210 million in 2013 to \$540 million in 2018. The growth in numbers and spending from this group of visitors followed a similar pattern to that seen for total international visitors. However, even with this increase, only 3.4 per cent of visitors to New Zealand did some freedom camping in 2017 and 2018.
49. The definition of "self-contained" now means freedom campers wanting to stay in restricted areas will need a toilet that can be used inside the vehicle even when the bed is made up.
50. The wider industry feels their local councils need to do more to control this issue and are also concerned about the damage being done to scenic spots due to lack of appropriate facilities. When left unmanaged it effects the amenity of an area negatively through rubbish, waste and congestion in public areas.
51. Direct effects can be seen on smaller accommodation providers where freedom campers have the ability to stay in areas where no clear local rules have been established. Therefore, having the ability to stay centrally in their vehicles as opposed to staying at small to medium sized accommodation.
52. The Tourism Infrastructure Fund put public bathrooms in many popular tourism spots, and unintentionally created places where people could freedom camp – some of which were only a few kilometres from a holiday park. We do not believe this contributes to the type of high value visitor we want.
53. Businesses primarily impacted are holiday parks as these freedom campers would traditionally have stayed in these facilities. Currently issues for holiday parks include freedom campers using facilities without paying.
54. Hospitality New Zealand wants local government to develop and strengthen appropriate regulations for responsible camping, and create infrastructure cost support for the future.
55. Hospitality NZ would welcome the opportunity to work with you and related parties to:
- Take greater leadership in managing the locations where freedom campers can operate;
 - Implement freedom camping bylaws through clear, honest, pragmatic consultation and feedback during its development; and
 - Lobby to ensure Central Government has a strategy to acknowledge the growth in freedom camping – accommodating responsible camping but not to the detriment of other visitor experiences and other accommodation providers (i.e., Motels and Holiday parks).

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1

About Hospitality New Zealand



Hospitality New Zealand
and *Accommodation Association NZ*
(a division of HNZ) is a member-led, not-for-profit organization representing approximately 3,000 businesses countrywide, including motels, hotels, urban and rural commercial accommodation, cafés, restaurants, bars, nightclubs, and off-licences.

2

Comment & Specific Concerns



Hospitality New Zealand & Accommodation Association NZ welcome the opportunity to comment on Auckland Council's **Long-Term Plan Consultation Document 2021-31**.

We continue to have a number of other specific concerns regarding issues that we believe will need a focused lens in the next ten years. These include infrastructure funding, local alcohol policies, short-term rental accommodation, and responsible camping.

These will be submitted in our entire document to Council on the 22nd March 2021 that speaks to **Te Tahua Pūtea Tau 2021-2031** (10-year Budget 2021-2031)

3

Our Scope of this Consultation - APTR



Hospitality New Zealand and Accommodation Association NZ represent our 75+ Accommodation Providers in the Auckland Council catchment alone, and responds on behalf of them to the feedback sought by Council on the **APTR** (Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate)

4

The position of the Sector



Our broad summary of our position, and that of our members, is as follows:

Of the options presented by Council, *Hospitality New Zealand* submits Option 3 is the most sensible at this point in time (and beyond), namely:

Option 3:

Reinstate the APTR from 1 July 2022 and lower spending on visitor attraction, major events, and destination marketing activity to around \$14.5 million in 2021/2022

However, we believe this does not go far enough, and look for the APTR to be suspended further, or finished. There are wider issues at play that prevent any APTR (or future/substitute bed tax introduction) from being helpful - or fair and equitable - to the sector as a whole, or the individual businesses affected.

5

Whakarauora - → Rescue to Save from any Danger



Te Tahua Pūtea Whakarauora Our Recovery Budget

Hospitality New Zealand and its members believe there is little in the way of rescue (and even less in the way of saving) from any danger by reintroducing the APTR at any date - most (if not all) of our members are in danger and in need of help and rescue.

This APTR proposed reinstatement in any of Options 1-3 is not allowing sufficient time for any recovery.

6

Problems / Pinch Points



- The date of 1 July 2022 is, as of now, quite arbitrary - we are unaware today of any confirmed border re-opening, vaccination roadmap, reintroduction of international travel, the completion of the ICC, or the reinvigoration of the cruise ship sector
- Regardless of whether it is a large hotel, a bulk operation, a “Ma & Pa” business, or a luxury 5* property, the continuation/reinstatement of the APTR will stall any core investment or recovery for our members and the whole sector
- Performance is **MUCH** worse than the public and the Council believe it to be - closures, loans, layoffs, downsizing, mothballing, “pivoting” to temporary long-term accommodation/MIQ/MSD facilities, mental health anguish, financial crisis, life savings “sanitised” away

7

Problems / Pinch Points



- We will not attempt to re-hash past submissions or consultations (today or previous), suffice to say that s101(3) and obligations therein are not being covered by any reinstatement of the APTR in any of the options from Council - **it is unaffordable** - yesterday & today & tomorrow
- The APTR has proved since its inception (focused solely on commercial accommodation providers) to be inequitable
- Central & Local Support programmes brought in under Covid do not work for Accommodation - **our businesses cannot recover, in any future**, the revenue depleted by the Covid closures of yesterday & today & tomorrow

8

Problems / Pinch Points



- The **APTR** is forcing some of our members to burden themselves with further small business loans, solely to pay the rate - fixed costs are higher than revenues
- The Accommodation Sector is the **sole contributor to a rate that benefits the entire Auckland economy**
- The Accommodation Sector has cut its own individual marketing, communications, budget, and activities in order to survive. *AucklandUnlimited's* Tourism marketing spend is diluted in effect when must-have core Accommodation sector marketing is depleted
- **No one now expects our sector (Accommodation AND Hospitality/F&B) to be fully recovered by 1 July 2022**

9

Proposals / Solutions:



- **Remove the APTR permanently now**
- Use this removal as one piece of the puzzle to assist the Sector to recover quickly for any future tourism influx and spend (that will now definitely not happen until well after July 2022)
- Develop fair and appropriate tourism activities funding for both sunny & rainy **AND** stormy days
- Discuss/develop funding mechanisms and parameters with Industry bodies and representatives - work together to give sustainable solutions

10

Conclusions



- *Hospitality New Zealand and Accommodation Association NZ have always recognized the importance of AucklandUnlimited and its endeavours in the tourism sector*
- *Hospitality New Zealand and Accommodation Association NZ continue to work closely alongside AucklandUnlimited in dedicated sector forums, face-to-face consulting and senior leader support for endeavours that benefit all of the Auckland Council catchment*

11

Conclusions



- *Industry-led/wide initiatives replicated and held in Auckland, such as **Eat Drink Stay Play** presently launching in Wellington and Southland, would provide real impetus to Auckland's tourism industry in the long run whilst we recover as a Sector from Covid and the decimation of our industry*
- *We submit that **Option 3 is the most sensible and reasonable of the Council options for the APTR but does not go far enough**, so submit that **permanently removing the APTR is the best course of action for today & tomorrow & the future not coming fast enough***

12



APTR Latest Rates Bill – HNZ Member – Supporting LTP Submission

Hospitality New Zealand –

Regional Manager -



Your details

Rates assessment number: [REDACTED]	Date: 1 February 2021	Valuation number: [REDACTED]
Land value: \$160,000	Capital value: \$570,000	PIN: [REDACTED]
Legal description: [REDACTED]		
Location of rating unit: [REDACTED]		

Your summary

Balance as at 01 July 2020:	-\$0.02
Previous instalments charged:	\$2,211.68
Penalties added (no GST):	\$66.85
Payments made by 23 Jan 2021 (includes rebates/grants):	-\$1,543.18
Total instalment 3 of 4 (including GST):	\$1,105.84
This payment is overdue. Please pay immediately.	\$735.33
Payment due by 26 February 2021	\$1,841.17

myRATES myAUCKLAND

Sign up to myAUCKLAND to manage your Auckland Council services online in one place, starting with your rates. Convenient, easy, accessible with more services to be added soon.

Register at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

contact us (see over for details) if you are unable to make payment by the due date as a 10 per cent penalty will be incurred for late payment.

Your assessment

For more information on what your rates fund, see separate page. For details about council activities and expenditure visit aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/aboutcouncil

Type of Rate	Description of Rates and Activities Funded	Rate Calculation	Total Rate
Uniform Annual General Charge	A fixed charge for each separately used / inhabited part of a rating unit that funds general council activities including parks, pools, libraries and footpaths.	Number of separate parts: 1 Charge: 439.00	\$439.00
General Rate - Urban Business	A rate based on your rating unit's use and whether its location is urban or rural, that funds general council activities including parks, pools, libraries and footpaths.	Capital Value: 570,000 Rate: 0.00540893	\$3,083.09
Waste Management - Base Service (excl recycling)	A targeted rate that funds inorganic collection, resource recovery centres & other regional waste services.	Per service provided: 1 Charge: 49.40	\$49.40
Natural Environment Targeted Rate - Business	A targeted rate to help fund the capital and operating costs of investment to deliver enhanced environmental outcomes.	Capital Value: 570,000 Rate: 0.00007603	\$43.34
Water Quality Targeted Rate - Business	A targeted rate to help fund the capital costs of investment in cleaning up Auckland's waterways.	Capital Value: 570,000 Rate: 0.00010677	\$60.86
Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate - Tier 1 Zone A	A targeted rate that part funds the costs of visitor attraction, major events, and destination marketing which are part of the council's economic growth and visitor economy activity.	Capital Value: 570,000 Rate: 0.00144682	\$824.69
City Centre Targeted Rate	A targeted rate applied to city centre rating units to fund the capital and operating costs of the City Centre development programme and revitalisation.	Capital Value: 570,000 Rate: 0.00131164	\$747.63
Total rates assessed for 2020/2021 (Including GST)			\$5,248.01



limited



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Living Wage Aotearoa

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

The Living Wage. The Living Wage is important to me and my household because it ensures that our lowest-paid workers and contracted workers are being paid a wage that enables them to be active citizens in our community. The Auckland Council plan is good, but the people who will be doing the hard work need to be valued and paid fairly. Auckland Council becoming an accredited employer is also important because it keeps the Council accountable to these workers who are doing the hard work.

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



Living Wage Movement

Aotearoa New Zealand

10 year Plan Submission



Living Wage supporters holding LW banner alongside Mayor Phil Goff and some of the supportive councillors

Tēnā koutou Auckland City Council!

We would like to make an oral presentation.

We are writing to you on behalf of Living Wage Auckland. We are made up of many different community organisations around the city, all of whom support a Living Wage City vision.

We want to say a big 'thank you' for showing leadership by ensuring our council cleaners are paid the living wage. By taking care of your workforce, you are setting an example for the region and the nation.

The support the Living Wage provides for families can be vital. This is especially true for those households where one or more people may be losing their jobs or facing a pay cut during these unprecedented times. Now more than ever, continuity of the Living Wage is a real source of stability for people working at Auckland City Council. As well as this, your

Living Wage Movement Aotearoa New Zealand Incorporated

Building 2, Level 2, 646 Great South Road, Ellerslie, Auckland. Private Bag 92 645, Symonds Street, Auckland

✉ info@livingwage.org.nz 🌐 www.livingwage.org.nz 📘 Living Wage Aotearoa New Zealand



Living Wage Movement

Aotearoa New Zealand

workers can get out there and support our fantastic local accredited Living Wage Employers!

So, where do we go from here?

1. Adding to the budget funds to pay staff (Cleaners and Security guards) the Living Wage, including workers employed by contractors and CCOs

By paying all directly employed staff the Living Wage. The Living Wage means stability for workers and recognition for their work and the life they lead. It also means that Auckland Council becomes a role model for other local authorities.

2. Council projects

When Auckland Council launches a project, all the people working on that project should be paid at least the Living Wage for their work, just as the directly employed and regular contracted staff at Auckland Council do.

An excellent example of this in action would be the facilities that Council is looking at combing ownership with communities—ensuring that every person who works on the community projects and facility management and housekeeping are paid the Living Wage. This is an excellent way to show how Auckland Council cares about its constituents, workers and how the recovery budget will enable the community to bounce back. This will influence organisations and businesses wanting to work with Council in Auckland to step up and pay their staff a wage they can live on and spend locally.

3. Living Wage Accreditation

Being an accredited Living Wage Employer is huge. It means that you ensure your staff are being treated fairly and paid fairly and is a source of accountability. Accreditation also enables Living Wage communities to get involved with Council events to ensure community participation in highlighted to utilise community facilities.

4. Procurement and services

This is the big one! By setting procurement guidelines that formally prioritise Living Wage businesses and organisations for *any* service council requires, Auckland City Council will be able to positively influence the lives of low paid staff all over Auckland.



Living Wage Movement

Aotearoa New Zealand

This is not an overnight initiative, but now is the time to start identifying contracts where Auckland City Council is being provided a service by a business or organisation that pays some of its staff less than a wage they can live on. Once we know where improvements can be made, we can start working with current service providers to increase the wages of their lowest paid staff, or even look elsewhere for businesses and organisations that do pay all their staff a minimum of the Living Wage.

One example of this is with legal advice. By working with accredited firms or firms on their way to accreditation, Auckland Council can significantly impact the legal sector. Firms that pay their junior lawyers, cleaning staff, and professional staff (e.g. receptionists or executive assistants) a living wage as a minimum, are the kind of firms that Auckland Council could be proud to work with.

Throughout this whole process, the Council must work with the Living Wage Movement to identify and champion the living wage with different employers.

In this submission, there are four practical steps to become a Living Wage City council following suit with Wellington and Dunedin. As a movement, we are so proud of what we have achieved so far by working with Auckland Council with the cleaners – but let's keep that good thing going and make New Zealand's most extensive and most diverse city a Living Wage City!

Ngā mihi nui,

Living Wage Auckland

Contact –

Living Wage Movement Aotearoa New Zealand Incorporated

Building 2, Level 2, 646 Great South Road, Ellerslie, Auckland. Private Bag 92 645, Symonds Street, Auckland

✉ info@livingwage.org.nz 🌐 www.livingwage.org.nz 📘 Living Wage Aotearoa New Zealand



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Organisation (if applicable): E tū Incorporated

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: It is important that Auckland invests in a sustainable future for all residents and workers - including people working for the council as directly employed and contracted staff.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why: Auckland is the biggest population and industrial area in the country, It is essential the city does its part in the national initiative to transition to a post carbon future and that this should be done following principles of justice. This means the council must consider the impact of a such a transition on the workforce and support retraining and redeployment opportunities for any workers affected by the move to greener technologies.

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why: Watercare provides essential services to the community and it is vital they have enough funding to their work.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: Public ownership of community assets is vital, yes the council should find partners who can lease public assets but should be selling off assets that are owned by the people of Auckland.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Support
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Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Support

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Support Option 2 – targeted rate of \$153 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located in the wider Paremoremo and Lucas Heights area of the Upper Harbour Local Board

Tell us why: Public transport benefits everyone - even those who don't leave near a bus stop by removing vehicles from the road.

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

Albert-Eden Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support all priorities

Tell us why:

What is your opinion on the Dominion Road Business Association boundary expansion of the Dominion Road BID programme? Don't know

Tell us why

Aotea/Great Barrier Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support all priorities

Tell us why

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support all priorities

Tell us why

Franklin Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support all priorities

Tell us why

Henderson-Massey Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support all priorities

Tell us why

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

The Living Wage. The Living Wage is important to me and my household because it ensures that our lowest-paid workers and contracted workers are being paid a wage that enables them to be active citizens in our community. The Auckland Council plan is good, but the people who will be doing the hard work need to be valued and paid fairly. Auckland Council becoming an accredited employer is also important because it keeps the Council accountable to these workers who are doing the hard work.

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Badminton North Harbour

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Don't know

Tell us why: A number of households are already under huge strain in the Auckland area. With the uncertainty of COVID in the community additional costs for some people is simply not practical in what is already a very expensive city to live in

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why: I think we need to make steps toward helping the environment. The change of buying electric busses compare to diesel models is a step forward

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Do not support either change

Tell us why: At some point Council needs to learn to operate with in their budgets not continually blow them out. Look for savings elsewhere to support the water quality

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why: We must maintain our facilities as with the ever expanding population numbers additional strain will go on existing and the demand for new will increase. We must budget for both these areas if we are to remain in one of the best cities to live

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Do not support
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Other
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Support

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Support Option 2 – targeted rate of \$153 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located in the wider Paremoremo and Lucas Heights area of the Upper Harbour Local Board

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): The Auckland Table Tennis Association (Inc)

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: Support the budget in general however increased investment is required in the area of sport and recreation. Submission attached.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Do not support increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension only

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: Seek clarification about Council's proposal to move from an asset-based approach to alternative ways of delivering services. Supporting a focus on renewals and proactive asset maintenance. Urging caution around the implications and potential impacts of community asset divestment. Ensuring Council has the capacity to deliver the budgeted projects.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Other
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Don't know
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Other
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Don't know

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Don't know

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

Albert-Eden Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? I support most priorities

Tell us why: Do not support climate change priorities

What is your opinion on the Dominion Road Business Association boundary expansion of the Dominion Road BID programme? Don't know

Tell us why

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Sport & Recreation. Seek clarification about Council's proposal to move from an asset-based approach to alternative ways of delivering services.

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Auckland Table Tennis Association #12930
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Introduction

The Auckland Table Tennis Association (ATTA) is a non-profit regional sport organisation that exists to facilitate participation in table tennis in the Central and Eastern Auckland geographic region, and to foster the growth of the sport in Auckland and, ultimately, nationally. We deliver table tennis programmes to over 8,000 members of the community each year.

The ATTA has a facility – the Auckland table tennis stadium – that is housed on Auckland Council land. We have a Community Purposes Lease with Auckland Council.

Table tennis connects our community and delivers significant physical and mental health and wellbeing, social, economic and educational benefits.

Overview

A thank you

Auckland Council is the major provider of our city's sport and recreation facilities. We greatly appreciate this support and investment – without it much of what happens in our sector simply wouldn't be possible. Council's commitment to the sector has provided positive outcomes across the region for an inclusive range of codes, demographics, cultures, ages and abilities. We also wish to acknowledge the commitment of council staff in supporting the sector.

We acknowledge the challenge Council faces with balancing the various competing demands impacting Auckland, such as growth, transport, climate change and water quality within a context of falling revenue. We also recognise that there are capital constraints, particularly in the immediate three years of the Long-Term Plan (LTP).

Strategic context of sport and recreation

The statistics prove what we know – Aucklanders love physical activity – it is incredibly important in our lives and the lives of our whanau and friends.

There is clear evidence of the huge and wide-ranging benefits of sport and recreation – improved physical and mental health and wellbeing, social connectedness, economic and productivity gains, and educational outcomes.

The following four aspects of wellbeing found within the Local Government Act underpin the six Auckland Plan Outcomes:

1. Environmental
2. Social
3. Cultural
4. Economics

The sport and recreation sector provides opportunities for the people of Tāmaki Makaurau to experience all of these aspects. Similarly sport and recreation contributes to all the Auckland plan outcomes through providing for:

1. Belonging and participation
2. Māori identity and wellbeing
3. Homes and place
4. Transport and access
5. Environment and cultural heritage
6. Opportunity and prosperity.

There is a significant amount of research demonstrating the benefit of sport and recreation on the outcomes of the Auckland Plan:

- **Belonging and participation and improving Māori identity and wellbeing**

- o Physical activity brings \$372 million of healthcare savings for Auckland, as well as adding 7,100 additional years of healthy life and contributing to 279 fewer deaths³;
- o Participation in sport brings 74.3 million hours of meaningful, positive social interaction each year⁴.

- **Homes and places**

- o Evidence is emerging that underspending on facilities leads directly to lower participation levels;
- o Sport and recreation operating spend has a direct and significant correlation with participation levels.

- **Opportunity and prosperity**

- o Physical activity has a positive link to improved educational outcomes, leading to an increased \$8.6 million of GDP growth for Auckland;
- o Physical activity is delivering \$0.02 monetary impact of reduced crimes savings;
- o Physical activity brings \$210 million of savings to Auckland through increased productivity levels, due to reduced sickness costs.

The Council consultation documents state that over the next three years Council will focus its efforts and investments on three recovery objectives, guided by the Auckland Plan:

1. **Community** - Strengthen social cohesion and build inclusive and resilient communities
2. **Economy** - Restore economic activity with greater equity and longer-term resilience
3. **Jobs** - Enable sustainable employment opportunities.

In our view, the sport and recreation sector align strongly with these three recovery objectives. There is significant strategic justification for the Council to consider investment in the sector to be a core role of the Council. Although often lost in the infrastructure delivery conversation, the provision of sport and recreation facilities is a critical aspect of what makes Auckland a world class city. Such infrastructure provides us with belonging, opportunities for participation, opportunities for Māori identity and wellbeing through the provision of traditional sports, a sense of place, improved access through active transport modes, a driver for a cleaner environment and improved water quality and through economic benefits.

Auckland Council's Increasing Aucklanders' Participation in Sport Investment Plan 2019-2039 (July 2019) supports this view and clearly sets out the reasons that Council invests in sport – to provide Aucklanders with the opportunity to participate in society and develop a sense of belonging in Auckland. It acknowledges that participation in sport has multiple benefits including health and wellbeing, social and community, education and economic development outcomes. This investment plan states that Auckland Council's objective for investment is increasing participation in community sport. The ATTA urges Council to continue to reflect this objective in the LTP.

Local Boards recognise the value of sport and recreation in their communities. We note that 16 out of 21 Local Boards have nominated sport and recreation projects in their key priorities or advocacy positions under this LTP. This is further recognition of the key benefits that are delivered through sport and recreation into our communities.

The impact of Covid-19

We acknowledge that Covid-19 has had a significant impact on Auckland Council's revenue and has exacerbated a challenging fiscal investment environment. However, the pandemic has also had a significant impact on the health of our sport and recreation providers. The ATTA has experienced the following impacts:

- Seven key challenges have been identified:
 1. Membership retention
 2. Reduced revenue
 3. Facilities and maintenance - updating of facilities, maintenance
 4. Volunteers – volunteers cautious about returning to community venues, particularly older volunteers
 5. Member wellbeing - possibility of further lockdowns and player safety and wellbeing
 6. Cancelled events - cancellation of events, tournaments and competitions, both in Auckland and globally, as well as travel restrictions
 7. Changes in delivery - challenge of completing seasons and delivery due to delays
- Reduced finances, cashflow and revenue are the biggest differences between now and previous years.
- Funding support would be most valuable for the sector over the next six months including awareness of funding available and support in making successful applications.

We know our clubs and recreation providers are vulnerable and struggling. They need Auckland Council's investment support while we all recover from the pandemic impacts. Some short-term solutions could include:

- Budget to fill the gap for the reduced revenue due to lack of membership fees, loss of income, funding and sponsorship reductions and ongoing administration costs
- Operational support for a lack of volunteers, and retention of volunteers.

Getting Aucklanders active – the risk to our tamariki and rangatahi

The obesity epidemic and Aucklanders' inactivity remain a significant public health risk. Physical inactivity already costs New Zealand's health system hundreds of millions each year (\$200 million in 2013 alone). Thirty-two per cent of New Zealand

children are expected to be overweight or obese by 2025, with 21 per cent of 4-year-old children in Auckland already in this category. These obesity rates are crippling our communities and our economy.

Whilst most Aucklanders are physically active in any given week, their levels of activity are well below World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines. If nothing changes, there is the clear risk that 1.5 million Aucklanders will be underactive or inactive by 2040. 480,000 of these will be tamariki and rangatahi. Significantly the overall numbers hide inequities: women and girls, people with disabilities, those of Asian and Pacific ethnicities, and those living in low socio-economic areas, are less active.

Without a significant focus and targeted investment, the recovery of the sport and recreation sector from the Covid-19 pandemic will take many years, while the current obesity epidemic will continue to remain a major health issue. The survey results showing that junior membership appear to be most affected is particularly concerning as there is evidence that healthy lifestyle habits are formed at a young age.

Response to the Long-term Plan Consultation Documents Commentary on the key themes and issues identified Capital investment

The primary vehicle for Council capital investment in sport and recreation infrastructure is the current 10-year \$120 million Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund. The fund is aimed at regional and sub-regional level facility development and is a critical funding stream for the sector.

Known, current, and well-researched regional facility plans prepared by sports codes demonstrate current, short-, and medium-term shortfalls in facility provision before this current Long-term Plan period is over. This demonstrates that we are already struggling to meet demand in certain geographical areas of Tāmaki Makaurau.

Of particular interest to table tennis is an indoor courts shortfall of at least 30 courts right now, rising by an additional 24 within the life of the Long-term Plan

We believe that while this fund goes some way to address the identified shortfalls it simply does not reflect the capital investment the sector needs now and into the future. We recommend that this fund be reviewed and increased to at least partially address the shortfall.

We are also concerned that this fund only applies to regional and sub-regional projects, leaving investment in local facilities to Local Boards who themselves have had their capital budgets reduced. We recommend either widening the criteria and quantum of the fund or increasing the local board budgets to enable them to address local demand. We recommend that advice is sought from relevant council staff in support of this matter.

We acknowledge that Auckland Council is the significant capital investor in the sector, but also that they are not and should not be the only investor.

Operational investment

As Council notes in its LTP documentation, Auckland Council owns and operates a large and ageing community asset portfolio, inherited from the amalgamation of legacy councils. As the portfolio of assets has grown over time, so too has the level of funding needed to support the portfolio. Limited funding, an ageing community asset portfolio and Auckland's population growth has put the community facilities portfolio under pressure, requiring prioritisation resulting in deferred investment.

We acknowledge and support the focus of this LTP on funding of renewals – urgently required and in many cases long overdue. However, it is concerning that Council has stated in the LTP documentation that it has insufficient renewal funding for assets assessed as being in the most need of renewal (condition 5 assets), and investment requirements will continue to rise as the portfolio ages and deferred investment becomes more costly to deliver. We are concerned that the condition of Council's current assets will continue to decline with a lack of investment and the impact this will have on club membership and participation.

The Council's focus on capital investment often leaves operational costs to facility users such as clubs. These users may struggle to manage the operational side of facilities, therefore impacting the quality and condition of the asset with capex implications. We see an ongoing need to also include budget for operational costs to ensure the facilities are appropriately maintained and managed.

Auckland Council has introduced the contestable Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant, offering it for the first time this financial year.

It is very clear that the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant is a critical mechanism for improving the sustainability and viability of our clubs, however the sector demand far outstrips the fund's budget. We recommend that advice is sought from relevant council staff in support of this matter.

Community Asset divestment

The Council is looking to divest aging assets that are no longer fit for purpose and "maintain the same service levels for our communities, just delivered differently." As an external party it is unclear which assets are to be divested or how the new approach to move away from an "asset-based approach" to alternative ways of delivering services is to be funded or achieved. Selling off community assets has the capacity to impact on sports and recreation delivery at a local level and undermine the wider regional network. As noted previously in this submission there is currently a significant shortfall in facility provision. Therefore, we urge the Governing Body to consider the impact asset divestment can have on peoples' access to sport and recreation opportunities, particularly at a local level and listen to the views of the relevant Local Board.

We note Council is proposing to also fund investment through a programme to sell or lease surplus properties to the value of \$70 million a year over the next three years. It is not clear which properties have been identified for this process and what impact this might have on the sector.

Council's Delivery Capacity

Since the impact of COVID-19, the ATTA understands Auckland Council has reduced its staff numbers by more than a thousand employees, including the majority of contractors. We have a real concern that Auckland Council is not adequately resourced to deliver the capital projects it has budgeted for. Again, we acknowledge the challenging fiscal environment facing Auckland Council, but given the Council is already reducing the level of capital investment in community infrastructure over the next three years the impact might be exacerbated by an inability to deliver. We urge that projects which are funded have adequate personnel capacity to be delivered.

Supporting Local Boards**Local Board projects**

Local Boards are voices of their communities and as noted previously recognise the value of sport and recreation. This is demonstrated by the key local priorities set out by Local Boards in the current LTP with 15 of the 21 Local Boards identifying at least one sport and recreation project as a delivery priority and 16 out of 21 Local Boards identifying a sport and recreation project in their key advocacy list. There is strategic justification that they should be supported by the Governing Body.

We understand that Local Board locally-delivered initiatives' capital budgets have been significantly reduced particularly those projects funded by growth. This is of concern given Local Boards are the primary capital investors in facilities that sit below a sub-regional level and are therefore those facilities that are not eligible for funding through the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund.

We know Auckland is growing quickly and the Unitary Plan has greatly enabled increased residential density throughout the existing urban area as well as opening up large areas of greenfield development. We know the growth of many of our clubs are already constrained by the limitations of their facilities such as fully booked and used indoor courts. As population density increases the demands for access to sport and recreation facilities will grow.

We are concerned that Local Boards will not have the necessary capital budgets to progress much-needed local projects with a consequential negative impact on sport and recreation participation. Growth funding has previously enabled local boards to deliver significant capital projects that they would not have been able to fund otherwise. Frequently, local sport and recreation delivery can be significantly enhanced through relatively low-cost investments, such as sand carpeting of sports fields, which has been successfully undertaken by Local Boards. Such investments also improve the viability and sustainability of our sports and recreation clubs through increased membership and strengthen communities.

Most Local Boards and their communities have invested significant budget and time in developing masterplans for their parks. Without the necessary capital budget, Local Boards will not be able to implement the desired outcomes of these masterplans and they will lose value and currency. Masterplans that sit on shelves rapidly become obsolete and inevitably cause reputational damage.

We believe that Local Board funding and the role they play in the sector needs to be closely considered, to ensure that the locally-delivered sport and recreation opportunities are not lost in the funding of regional and sub-regionally facilities.

Recommendations

Acknowledge the impact of Covid-19

- Recognise the economic, social and community value of the sport and recreation sector
- Recognise the impact Covid-19 has had on our sector.

Capital and Operational investment

- Retain the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund, the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant and the Sportsfield Development Capacity Fund
- Increase the funding level of the Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund, the Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Operating Grant and the Sportsfield Development Capacity Fund to reflect sector demand.

Support Local Boards

- Support Local Board sport and recreation projects and priorities
- Support the Local Board sport and recreation One Local Initiatives projects which address regional priorities

Asset management and delivery

- Seek clarification about Council's proposal to move from an asset-based approach to alternative ways of delivering services
- Supporting a focus on renewals and proactive asset maintenance
- Urging caution around the implications and potential impacts of community asset divestment
- Ensuring Council has the capacity to deliver the budgeted projects.

We acknowledge that Auckland Council is contending with reduced revenue and capital constraints and has to make difficult choices about the mix of services it provides. The impact of Covid-19 will be with us for some time to come, so too the decisions made in this 10-year Budget. It is proven that sport, active recreation and physical activity makes a substantial contribution to the health and wellbeing of all Aucklanders, of all ages, socio-economic levels and ethnicities, in all communities.

As demonstrated, physical activity -its wide-ranging benefits and its importance to our communities - is fundamental to meeting the outcomes identified in the Auckland Plan. Council itself notes "community infrastructure supports the essential services in helping people to participate in society, promote health and wellbeing and create a sense of belonging."

We urge greater investment in the sport and recreation sector under this Long-term Plan. Without this commitment from Council our current and future community sport and recreation spaces will be compromised. This means our growing, increasingly diverse population will not have access to suitable infrastructure and spaces to participate in physical activity.

We believe all Aucklanders, regardless of age, ethnicity and ability level, should be able to participate in sport, active recreation, play and physical activity in fit-for-

purpose facilities and spaces to enable them to connect with their community and live active, healthy lives.

Let's recognise the social, cultural and economic value of the sport and recreation sector and let's make Auckland the World's Most Active City.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Parnell Business Association

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: [see attachment for whole report] Our overall feedback is that we support the need to continue with Council's capital investment of \$31 billion over the next 10 years and recognise that Council is projected to have its revenue impacted by around \$1 billion as a result of COVID-19. However, we do not agree with the proposed one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022 rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. We note the positive statements made in Council's half year financial results indicating a more optimistic outlook is warranted, so

we would ask that Council give due consideration to keeping any rates increase to a minimum for 2021/2022 and using other identified levers such as; • increasing Council borrowing; • making deeper cost savings and prioritising spending; and • selling more surplus property (but not green spaces/reserves)

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why: Watercare's increase in charges

We are concerned that the substantial increases in water charges proposed by Watercare have not been highlighted in the Recovery Budget 2021/2031. We question whether these substantial increases in water charges are reasonable at a time when many businesses are struggling to survive.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Other
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Other
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Other
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Other
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Other

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

[see attachment for whole report]

With regard to the proposal to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate and the Natural

Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031. While we are supportive of transparently 'ring

fencing' spending from both of these rates an

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

No

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

[see attachment for whole report]

1. Introduction and Covid impact on Business.

In addressing a snapshot of our thoughts on the proposed 10 year "recovery" budget, we wanted to highlight that in our view business is not just a segment of society. Business is the heart of a community and what makes a city a city. They are the places where people spend most of their lives, it's where they receive income to support their families, it's where they go

for coffee, food, goods and services and of course, to socialise and build community. They are the heart and rhythm of a city. A healthy businesses community is a healthy community.

COVID-19 has proved to be an extremely challenging time for many business sectors. While some sectors are doing well, such as business services and construction, décor and home improvement, many are not. Hardest hit are our tourism operators, accommodation providers, education, retail and hospitality. The movement of people has also changed and town centres who used to depend on numerous office workers for patronage are struggling as more people work from home.

An additional side-effect of COVID-19 has been the increase in crime and anti-social behaviour experienced by many BIDs. This is an added burden on our small business owners.

Council have called this 10 year budget a “recovery budget”, however we do not feel that it goes far enough in supporting businesses to recover due to the effects of COVID-19.

We would like to see business recovery and economic stimulus as the key focus in this budget.

This needs to have the biggest weighting for all council decisions over the next few years. Every council decision should be asking the question “how will this support businesses”. Projects that support businesses need to be prioritized over those that don’t.

6. Summary

In summary, we believe there are few, if any, tangible benefits for businesses out of this budget.

We all want Auckland to succeed. We live, work, and play here and a thriving Auckland is imperative for everyone’s success. Budgets don’t just have to accommodate big ticket items. We believe there is also an opportunity to identifying small wins that could demonstrate some support to businesses when recent times have been very tough for many of them.

Tactical initiatives could include the likes of:

- Supporting hospitality by considering reducing outdoor licensing costs or fees for other services.
- Reducing or eliminating costs for closing roads for some community events. (This was identified last year but we have not heard anything further about this going ahead).
- Reduced rubbish rates or additional support to help business to be more sustainable – many are unprepared for changing their practices.
- Creating greater accessibility to businesses by bringing customers to the door (with options varying depending on specific precinct needs).
 - o Wayfinding – town centres need support to identify car parking, trains, and buses in order to maximise resources.
 - o Car-parking – in many communities this is still the number one method of accessing retail and hospitality businesses. Certain areas could benefit from free parking at off peak times or evenings.
 - o Better cycle parking infrastructure in all town centres.
 - o Free public transport, possibly on weekends or at selected times to support businesses– including ferries, trains and buses to encourage people to get out and explore our city. We also understand that when people are battling, they don’t care about climate change. Free public transport helps immensely,

particularly for families.

Finally, we would advocate for more support for town centre managers in the greater Auckland community. We work closely with Local Boards; we understand our neighbourhoods. We are well connected and hear about key issues affecting our members, whether that be local transport, more targeted community events or business development opportunities.

We firmly believe that business is at the heart of the community and the Recovery Budget 2021-2031 needs to reflect that. 4. Regional Fuel Tax underspend

While we have supported a regional fuel tax of 10 cents per litre (plus GST), we ask for greater transparency regarding the spending of this tax on specific transport projects and services. We wish to avoid the regional fuel tax, which is the equivalent of a significant rates increase (especially for transport operators), being used as a 'top up' for overall transport budgets.

We note the ongoing underspend of the Regional Fuel Tax. We are concerned that:

- o the RFT is being under-spent
- o businesses are being over-taxed
- o infrastructure is not being built at the required pace

Important privacy information

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Tourism Industry Aotearoa

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: [see attachment for whole report]

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Do not support increased investment

Tell us why: NOT SANE - LANDFILL IS WRONG WHEN WE CAN BUILD + USE AN ENERGY FROM WASTE PLANT. CO2 LEVELS ARE NOT A CRITICAL ISSUE.

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: WATER QUALITY DEGRADES BECAUSE OF TOO MANY PEOPLE IN THE CITY - SO YOU ARE NOT PROPOSING TO FIX THE CAUSE JUST A BAND-AID ON THE WEEPING SORE.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Do not support

Tell us why: YOUR JOB IS TO REPRESENT OUR NEEDS - NOT TO RUN DOWN THE ASSETS. JUST KEEP THE MAINTENANCE GOING AND CUT BACK ON USELESS & WASTEFUL EXPENSES THEN PLENTY OF \$\$ WILL APPEAR.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Other
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Other
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Other
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Other
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Other

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

[see attachment for whole report]

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why: [see attachment for whole report]

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

[see attachment for whole report]

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Submission to Auckland Council
on the Draft Long-Term Plan 2021-2031

Date: 22 March 2021

Tourism Industry Aotearoa (TIA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 for Auckland Council. This submission comprises two parts. Part One provides a general perspective on tourism at a regional level. Part Two provides specific feedback on the draft Long-term Plan.

INTRODUCTION

1. TIA is the peak body for the tourism industry in New Zealand. With over 1,300 members, TIA represents a range of tourism-related activities including accommodation, adventure & other activities, attractions, hospitality, retail, airports & airlines, transport, as well as related tourism services.
2. The primary role of TIA is to be the voice of the tourism industry. This includes working for members on advocacy, policy, communication, events, membership and business capability. The team is based in Wellington and is led by Chief Executive, Chris Roberts.
3. Any enquiries relating to this paper should be referred to Steve Hanrahan, TIA Advocacy and Engagement Manager at steve.hanrahan@tia.org.nz or by phone on 027 9122 624.

PART ONE - TOURISM AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

4. Tourism takes place in local communities and provides jobs, regional economic opportunities and vibrancy. We want tourism to provide real benefits to the communities where it operates, and local government has a key role to play in managing and enhancing local tourism experiences.
5. Tourism was the first industry to be hit by the COVID-19 pandemic and will be one of **the last to recover. While the immediate outlook is uncertain, the industry's longer-term ambitions remain unchanged. TIA's Tourism 2025 & Beyond, A Sustainable Growth Framework – Kaupapa Whakapakari Tāpoi, sets a vision of 'Growing a sustainable tourism industry that benefits New Zealanders'.**
6. Our view is that central and local government must deploy their resources and work alongside the private sector to revive and then revitalise the tourism industry for the benefit of local communities and Aotearoa. This is a shared opportunity to make bold changes to fix longstanding systemic issues that have compromised our desire to build a truly sustainable tourism future.
7. In August 2020 TIA wrote to all councils in New Zealand outlining three priority areas for consideration as they developed their draft Long-Term Plans (LTP). A summary of what we asked for follows:

Support for Destination Management Plans

8. In order for your region to get maximum benefit from tourism, your tourism proposition must be community driven, align with national sustainable tourism goals and present a high quality offering that appeals to both international and domestic visitors. Destinations are a collection of interests (including local government, iwi, communities and business), meaning that coordination and destination planning is needed to deliver the best outcomes both for host communities and visitors.
9. We acknowledge the very good work done by Auckland Unlimited in the development of Destination AKL 2025, setting a new direction for Auckland's visitor economy. There was a strong collaborative approach in the development of the region's Destination Management Plan, working closely with tourism stakeholders.
10. This is the most important thing councils can do – look after and invest in the quality of your region as a destination. You must reflect the desires of your community and this includes the voice of tourism operators, which must be strongly represented in these Plans.

Keep costs down

11. Businesses are key to the economic health and vibrancy of a city, town and region. Tourism businesses typically bring significant cashflow and investment to a region through attracting both international and domestic visitors. These same businesses are now struggling to keep their lights on and trading conditions will be tough for the foreseeable future.
12. We acknowledge that councils themselves are facing reduced income as a result of COVID at a time when there needs to be ongoing investment to maintain and enhance the local mixed-use infrastructure used by both locals and visitors including roads, amenities and attractions. However, businesses cannot be expected to pick up the shortfall. The next three years is a time for councils to be willing to consider funding streams other than rates to maintain and develop infrastructure, such as increased debt and central government funding.
13. We ask in your LTP to keep any commercial or targeted rate increases to below 1.5% p.a. over 2021/22- 2024/25 and give confidence to local tourism operators by stating **there will be no new targeted tourism rates ('bed taxes') introduced over the next three years.**

Environmental management

14. **New Zealand's environment is our unique selling point. It underpins** our 100% Pure New Zealand tourism proposition and supports many of our iconic adventure and outdoor activities. The top factor influencing international visitors to choose New Zealand is our natural landscape and scenery and getting outdoors is a key driver of

domestic tourism. However, New Zealand's natural environmental assets are under constant threat, including many of our native species, our freshwater rivers and lakes, and our unique landscapes.

15. We asked your Council in your LTP recognise the environmental assets in your region are critical to tourism success and make a commitment to maintaining, enhancing and restoring these assets, including supporting the requirements of the new National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) as quickly as possible.

PART TWO - SPECIFIC FEEDBACK ON YOUR LTP

16. In the following section, we provide feedback on the tourism components within your Consultation Document for the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031. Our comments focus on rate increases and the proposal for Reinstatement of the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (APTR).

Rate Increases

17. The proposed increase in rates are higher than the 1.5% cap we sought in our August 2020 letter to Councils to support the ongoing viability of tourism businesses. However we acknowledge the efforts being made by the Council to prevent significant rate increases and the proposed increases of 5.0% in 2021/22, and 3.5% in the subsequent two years are some of the lowest we have seen to date in draft LTPs.
18. We also acknowledge that the Council recognises that business rates are too high compared to residential rates. As a result the average increase in business rates over the next three years will be 3.52%, slightly lower than the 5.34% increase for residential ratepayers.

Reinstatement of the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (APTR)

19. There are three options provided for the reinstatement of the APTR:
 - Option 1* – Resume the APTR as currently planned from 1 April 2021, raising around \$14.2m in 2021/22 to help support \$29m of spending on visitor attraction, major events and destination marketing activity.
 - Option 2* – Reinstatement the APTR from 1 January 2022 reducing the APTR revenue to around \$7.2m in 2021/22 and lower spending to around \$21.8m in 2021/22.
 - Option 3* – Reinstatement the APTR from 1 July 2022 and lower spending to around \$14.5m in 2021/22.
20. TIA led the tourism industry opposition to the introduction of the APTR in 2017, primarily on the basis of fairness – that it was totally unfair to propose this rate solely on commercial accommodation providers. The sector at the time received 9% of the total visitor spend in Auckland but was being asked to fund 100% of Council efforts

(through ATEED) to grow this spend. A number of councillors – but not quite a majority - **supported TIA's position. The APTR was passed after being reduced in size and what properties it was applied to but remained, in the industry's view, manifestly unfair.**

21. Forward four years to now. We acknowledge and applaud the Council's decision in the Emergency Budget of 2020/21 to suspend the APTR until 21 March 2021. However nothing has materially changed from when that decision was made last year and in that context we do not support any of the three options for reinstatement. Now, or any point in the foreseeable future, is not the time to be reintroducing this tax on the accommodation sector in Auckland.
22. Profitability is being severely impacted across all the tourism industry, including the accommodation sector. Year to date (Jan/Feb 2021) the occupancy rate for hotels in the Auckland region is 57%, down 29% points from 86% in February 2020. Revenue per available room (RevPar¹) is \$105, a 78% decline from YTD 2020.
23. These figures are somewhat artificially propped up through the 18 hotels in Auckland allocated to Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ). When Auckland MIQ properties are excluded, occupancy YTD falls further to 46% and the RevPar to \$82. When these contracts come off there will be a huge return of capacity into the market, putting increased pressure on occupancy and rate, and negatively impacting on profitability again.
24. It is unclear whether MIQ properties would be required to pay the APTR if their businesses are used for MIQ at the time of any reintroduction. Based on the 2018/19 remission criteria they would be justified in seeking a remission on the APTR, if accommodation is contracted to central government for the purpose of emergency housing.
25. There is huge uncertainty in the industry. We need a reopening of the border and the reliable return of international markets out of Asia, America and Europe to bring confidence back. A re-opening just to Australia may have limited impact on Auckland accommodation as much of that segment is VFR - Visiting Friends and Relatives. It is becoming quite clear that reopening to destinations beyond Australia will not occur in 2021. And it will be a gradual return as airlines build capacity and reschedule flights to NZ. A recovery for tourism in New Zealand – and a recovery for commercial accommodation providers – could take five years or longer.
26. The coming months – the immediate future - are going to be very difficult for tourism across the country, including in Auckland. New Zealanders' travel habits and behaviours are starting to change in the regular roller-coaster between alert levels. There is a huge wash of bookings as soon as an increase in Alert Level looks imminent. Confidence to travel, particularly in the leisure market, is being knocked and re-bookings are now slower than after earlier lockdowns. This trend will likely continue as

¹ Revenue per available room - calculated by dividing total room revenue by the total number of rooms available in the period being measured.

the year progresses and if Alert Levels are raised, and it may take longer to restore confidence to travel.

27. One of the important pieces of infrastructure to support the return of confidence will be the completion of the New Zealand Convention Centre. This is currently scheduled to open in 2024, and when available should bring good benefits to the hotel and accommodation sector. Until then, Auckland remains unable to attract the large conferences that would help fill hotel rooms in the city.
28. The attempts by Auckland Council to get the so-called non-commercial accommodation sector to contribute to the APTR have largely failed, with only a small minority of operators using platforms like Airbnb contributing. An inter-agency government group including MBIE Tourism have commenced a review of the sector, called the Short-term Rental Accommodation (STRA) Review. One preferred outcome from this review is a more level playing field across all the accommodation sector when it comes to payment of rates and levies as well as compliance requirements. Unfortunately, this work is currently paused while the Minister of Tourism focuses on other priorities.
29. The closed borders, the lack of profitability in the accommodation sector, the delay for important infrastructure to come online, and the need for effective systems to draw in the wider accommodation sector all drive our view that the APTR should be permanently withdrawn.

What does this mean for regional tourism funding?

The Short-term Response

30. We understand the impact of not reintroducing the APTR. It puts at risk \$14.2m, approximately 50% of **Auckland Unlimited's** spending on visitor attraction, major events and destination marketing.
31. We propose a short and medium term response to alleviate the risk of reduced capacity on Auckland Unlimited (AU). In the short-term, we provide three options to consider:
 - Some of the shortfall may be able to be picked up via the Regional Event Fund where Auckland/Northland have been allocated \$19m over a 3-4 year period and according to MBIE can be used for event funding for new and existing events that drive inter and intra-regional visitation.
 - There may also be the opportunity for Auckland Unlimited to work more closely with individual tourism operators, or groups of operators, on more targeted investment opportunities and leverage private funding that may be available.
 - Thirdly, opportunity exists in the merger of AU and RFA (Regional Facilities Auckland). RFA had six divisions – Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland Conventions, Auckland Live, Auckland Stadiums, Auckland Zoo and the New

Zealand Maritime Museum – many with individual marketing budgets. The merger enables greater efficiencies in destination promotion and marketing.

The Medium-term Response

32. The issue of regional tourism funding is not confined to Auckland. In our submission to the government-initiated Tourism Futures Taskforce we provided a paper on sustainable funding models for tourism. In the paper we outlined our proposal for Central Government to create a Regional Tourism Fund of \$300m p.a. and distribute these funds to local government to address local tourism-related needs.
33. **Local authorities' investment in tourism infrastructure would be informed by regional spatial plans** (where they exist), local authority Long-term Plans, and RTO/EDA Destination Management Plans. If these Plans are doing their job well, they should clearly articulate the aspirations of tourism in the region and funding required. While infrastructure would be included as an area for investment of funds, we support a wider scope for fund allocation as determined by regional destination management priorities.
34. The allocation model is determined by the measured level of visitor impact on each territorial authority. The premise behind this calculation is to create a transparent and sustainable model for annual funding rather than councils having to apply and hope. For example, it may be based on visitor nights in a region. Pre-COVID Auckland hosted up to 20% of total visitor nights in NZ.
35. **The proposal aligns with Infrastructure NZ's** proposal for a Regional Development Fund, expanding the former \$1 billion p.a. Provincial Growth Fund into a \$2 billion Regional Development Fund (RDF) covering all of New Zealand. Our proposal of \$300m is 15% of that \$2b fund.
36. We would work with Auckland Council and other local authorities to seek the introduction of this fund as soon as possible.

CLOSING

37. Tourism is a highly resilient industry. With targeted support, system fixes and a shared **vision, the industry will once again make an essential contribution to New Zealand's** success.
38. We acknowledge the efforts being made to keep increases in the General Rate low. However, this should not be at the expense of the accommodation sector. Now or in the foreseeable future is not the time to be reinstating the APTR. Local government has a critical role to play in managing and enhancing local tourism experiences. Now is the time to focus on keeping costs down for all tourism businesses so they can firstly survive and then move into a recovery phase which will take a number of years beyond that of this draft LTP.

39. TIA wishes to have the opportunity to participate further in any follow-up process, including any formal meetings, to ensure that the potential impacts on tourism are adequately represented.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Organisation (if applicable): Direct Democracy

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Do not support

Tell us why: YOUR AGENDA + PRIORITIES ARE NOT RIGHT - SO ALL YOUR PLANS WILL MAKE MATTERS WORSE AS YOU DO MORE OF THE SAME.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why: Environmentally friendly to use electrical and hydrogen buses. Sustainable and renewable resources quieter too less, noise pollution

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension only

Tell us why: I Feel residents living in these coastal areas should fund the bill. They choose to live coastal, they should pay for the privilege

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why: Parks and green spaces are essential. They are good for peoples mental health. A place where people can connect with one another.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Other
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	Support
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Do not support
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	Support
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Support

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

kauri dieback and weed control: NOT DOING ENOUGH.

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Don't know

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): New Zealand Farm Environment Trust

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why: We need to get our water quality back to swimmable level.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Support

Tell us why: I see a lot of under utilised facilities and also some well utilised ones, like our libraries which are so essential, I think each community needs rational input into these decisions

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Dear Sir/Madam

Working in partnership to champion good practice

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the 10 Year Budget 2021-2031.

The New Zealand Farm Environment Trust is a charity that was established in 2000 to promote sustainable farming and growing. The Trust is funded by a range of agribusinesses and through the generous support of a number of local authorities including Auckland Council.

Our flagship activity is the Ballance Farm Environment Awards. Through the awards programme, farmers and growers gain independent feedback which they use to improve the sustainability of their business. The programme also helps to share knowledge about farming and growing with others. In many cases, entrants have gone on to important leadership roles in which they have championed sustainable farming and growing to their peers.

Given the regulatory change that farmers and growers are facing through the NPS for Freshwater Management and other reforms, the awards programme is a positive way to help driver non-regulatory change which complements the outcomes sought by the Council.

One of the strengths of the awards programme is that it is managed regionally by a group of locals passionate about sustainability. The Trust's role is to help provide co-ordination and to be a point of contact with national partners.

The Trust is keen to maintain and enhance its partnership with Auckland Council. We see a number of exciting opportunities to complement the role of the council. The Trust is implementing a range of new activities to support the adoption of good practice including a programme focused on the next generation of farmers.

On behalf of the Trustees and the local awards committee, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with Auckland Council to meet community outcomes.

We would like to be heard.

Yours sincerely

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PO Box 36071
Merivale
CHRISTCHURCH 8146
www.nzfeatrust.org.nz

18 March 2021

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): GE Free Northland (in food & environment)

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why: Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission, so that together we can achieve sound environmental, economic, cultural, social, and biosecurity/ food sovereignty outcomes (and protect our valuable existing GE/GMO free status in the Auckland and Northland region).

We would like to see mention of Auckland Councils precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMOs provisions/ policies (already contained in the operative Auckland Unitary Plan) in the new Long Term Plan 2021/31. The Auckland operative Unitary

Plan contains valuable precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMOs provisions, for both land and the Coastal Marine Area (CMA).

In addition, there are numerous historical Auckland region Long Term Council Community Plans (LTCCPs/ LTP's) which contain/ed precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMOs wording/ policies/provisions (to reflect community wishes and aspirations, protect our existing valuable GE/GMO free status, set policy direction, and budgetary requirements). These included Waitakere City Council (the Eco-city), Auckland City Council, Auckland Regional Council, Rodney District Council, North Shore City Council, Franklin District Council, etc.

A precedent was also set in 1998, with Auckland City Council achieving outright prohibition of all GMOs in its Hauraki Gulf and Islands District Plan. Various parts of Auckland region and city achieved some of the very first symbolic GE Free Zones in New Zealand (Waiheke Island, Western Bays, Mt Eden, Waitakere Eco City etc)

See

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/northland/whangarei-leader/5380733/Councils-look-to-GE-changes>

Auckland Council needs to be in alignment with Northland Regional Council, who has achieved strong precautionary GE/GMO policies in the Tai Tokerau "Regional Policy Statement" and precautionary/prohibitive GE/GMOs provisions in the Coastal Marine Area of the operative Regional Plan. Whangarei and Far North District Council have achieved strong precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMO provisions/ policies in their operative District Plans (as a result of WDC PC#131 and FNDC PC#18), with Kaipara District Council about to undertake a similar GE/GMO plan change as part of the review of the Kaipara District Plan.

On behalf of our Auckland members, we urge Auckland Council to give adequate support to the operative Auckland Unitary Plan (AUP) in the new Long Term Plan 2021/31. We ask that the new Auckland Long Term Plan 2021/31 include policy wording and budget commitment for AUP E37, regarding Genetically Modified Organisms.

AUP E37 includes an precautionary GE/GMOs approach and important cost-recovery policies that protect Ratepayers from exposure to the financial risks of outdoor GE/GMO use.

We ask Auckland Council to note that Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) now include risky and controversial gene edited organisms (CRISPR technique). Gene edited organisms have been shown to contain unintended/unforeseen adverse effects (undesirable traits).

See

<https://www.independentsciencenews.org/news/fda-finds-unexpected-antibiotic-resistance-genes-in-gene-edited-dehorned-cattle/>

Gene-edited cattle have a major screwup in their DNA | MIT Technology Review

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2019/08/29/65364/recombinetics-gene-edited-hornless-cattle-major-dna-screwup/>

"Bid for barnyard revolution is set back after regulators find celebrity "hornless" bovines contaminated by bacterial genes. They were the poster animals for the so called " gene-editing revolution",

23 September 2019

Gene-Editing Unintentionally Adds Bovine DNA, Goat DNA, and Bacterial DNA, Mouse Researchers Find

by Jonathan Latham, PhD

<https://www.independentsciencenews.org/health/gene-editing-unintentionally-adds-bovine-dna-goat-dna-and-bacterial-dna-mouse-researchers-find/>

Gene-Editing Unintentionally Adds Bovine DNA, Goat DNA, and Bacterial DNA, Mouse Researchers Find - Independent Science News | Food, Health and Agriculture Bioscience News

New analytical tool reveals massive DNA damage caused by CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing

Published: 20 March 2021

Global detection of DNA repair outcomes induced by CRISPR-Cas9

Mengzhu Liu, Weiwei Zhang, Changchang Xin, Jianhang Yin, Yafang Shang, Chen Ai, Jiaxin Li, Fei-long Meng, View ORCID ProfileJiazhi Hu

bioRxiv, 16 Feb 2021

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.02.15.431335>

<https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.02.15.431335v1>

<https://www.gmwatch.org/en/news/latest-news/19732-new-analytical-tool-reveals-massive-dna-damage-caused-by-crispr-cas9-gene-editing?fbclid=IwAR0HaurkVRMQnHM-QvgU9c48YdiB9ZEcUqnmPjXtmgABvsQgcEP-mOSVTac>

We urge Auckland council to ensure precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMOs policy/ wording is in the new Auckland LTP 2021/23 (and that gene edited organisms are clearly noted as GMOs)

We ask that adequate funds are budgeted by Auckland Council (for inclusion in the new Auckland LTP 2021/31) for addressing management of GMOs (particularly important in the event of an EPA approved GE/GMO outdoor application for a GE/GMO experiment/ field trial/ release in the Auckland area). This is necessary to meet the Auckland operative Unitary Plan's precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMOs provisions.

We note that these precautions are important to diverse communities across Auckland and the outcome of extensive community consultation over many years (including prior to the creation of Auckland Council, involving Waitakere City Council, Rodney District Council, North Shore, Auckland City Council, Auckland Regional Council, Franklin District Council, etc).

In our view, the Auckland budget should be sufficient for further collaboration with other regional and local councils to address the risks of outdoor GE/GMOs. Auckland Council has worked collaboratively for many years- as a full member of the Auckland/ Northland "Inter Council Working Party on GMO Risk Evaluation and Management Options"- with every single Northland council (including all 3 District councils and Northland Regional Council). Excellent results have been achieved through the innovative, fiscally responsible, collaborative work of the ICWP on GMOs, in order to protect our biosecurity, unique biodiversity, wider environment, existing GM free primary producers, economy, cultural values, and food sovereignty.

The inclusion of this funding in the new Auckland LTP 2021/31 is important to respect the precautionary and prohibitive GE/GMO provisions in the operative Auckland Unitary Plan and community wishes/ aspirations for Auckland region.

Forestry:

We note that the FSC and PEFC (global certification bodies for truly sustainable forestry) prohibit the use of any GE/GMO trees, due to the serious ecological risks, their adherence to the Precautionary Principle, and market aversion.

As mentioned above, there are serious deficiencies in the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act, as identified by Local Government NZ and many councils since 2003. These deficiencies in HSNO have not been rectified in subsequent legislation (despite constructive lobbying by councils, Iwi/ hapu and primary producer boards, including regenerative/ organic) and include inadequate liability provisions and no mandatory requirement for the EPA to take a precautionary approach to outdoor GE/GMO applications.

However, the Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 as well as case law (Environment Court, High Court, Court of Appeal) upholds local councils authority and jurisdiction regarding GMOs. The Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 specifically upholds the right of local communities/councils to create enforceable GE/GMO free Zones.

GENE DRIVE

We oppose any outdoor use of controversial sterility technique "gene drive"

For further information please see the Civil Society Working Group on Gene Drives recent briefing

"RECKLESS DRIVING- Gene Drives and the End of Nature"

<https://etcgroup.org/content/reckless-driving-gene-drives-and-end-nature>

See also

Physicians & Scientists for Global Responsibility Charitable Trust (NZ) 5 November 2019 letter to all councils (including Auckland Council)

<https://www.psg.org.nz/genetic-engineering-new-breeding-technologies/faqs>

Physicians & Scientists for Global Responsibility/ Responsible Genetics Charitable Trust (NZ)

Thank you. I/We wish to be heard.

See also

For info on Northland/ Auckland ICWP on GMOs and the reasons why local councils are taking action in the face of serious deficiencies in the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act. As mentioned above, serious deficiencies in HSNO including inadequate liability provisions and no mandatory requirement for the EPA to take a precautionary approach to outdoor GE/GMO applications.

se

<https://www.wdc.govt.nz/Council/Council-Documents/Reports/Genetic-Engineering-Review>

Genetic Engineering Review - Whangarei District Council ([wdc.govt.nz](http://www.wdc.govt.nz))

<http://www.wdc.govt.nz/PlansPoliciesandBylaws/Plans/Genetic-Engineering/Pages/default.aspx>

Thank you. We wish to be heard- please do keep us informed.

Further Background:

Risk Evaluation and Management Options

The Inter-Council Working Party on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) Risk Evaluation and Management Options was established to respond to community concerns in the Northland region about GMOs.

The Far North, Whangarei, and Kaipara District Councils, Auckland Council and Northland Regional Council are represented on the working party (Auckland Council subsequently joining once all Northland councils were full members).

Three major reports commissioned by the Working Party have identified a range of risks involved with the trialling and release of GMOs. They also include approaches to managing those risks.

Environmental risks

- GMOs becoming invasive and affecting non-target species including indigenous flora and fauna
- the development of herbicide or pesticide resistance creating 'super-weeds' or 'super-pests'
- long term effects on ecosystem functioning.

Socio-cultural risks

- effects on Maori cultural beliefs of whakapapa, mauri, tikanga
- ethical concerns about mixing genes from different species including human genes
- concerns about the long term safety of genetically engineered food.

Economic risks

- loss of income through contamination (or perceived contamination) of non-GMO food products
- negative effects on marketing and branding opportunities such as 'clean and green' or 'naturally Northland'
- costs associated with environmental damage such as clean-up costs for invasive weeds or pests.

Linked to these risks are limited liability provisions under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996.

ENDS excerpt from ICWP on GMOs information provided on WDC "Genetic Engineering/ GMOs" webpage

ENDS

next:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/northland/whangarei-leader/5380733/Councils-look-to-GE-changes>

Councils look to GE changes

10:57, Aug 03 2011

GE Free Northland members are delighted by news the supercity's Auckland Council and Far North District Council have made a commitment to collaborate with the Whangarei District Council in investigating some type of regulation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

At least three councils are now set to investigate a plan change and section 32 analysis of GMOs, because of the risks to biosecurity, environment, economy, and the livelihoods of non-GM primary producers.

Kaipara District Council and Northland Regional Council will shortly vote on whether they will join in this important work, in keeping with their official precautionary GE policies.

There is sustained concern in Northland and other parts of New Zealand, about genetic engineering (GE) experiments and releases particularly in view of documented adverse impacts of GMOs overseas.

"Nonetheless, central government continues to ignore local community concerns as it pushes for free trade agreements and allows industry interests to dominate regulation and decision-making," GE Free Northland spokesman Martin Robinson says.

Whangarei councillors have already unanimously rejected the outdoor use of GMOs in Whangarei District.

A precedent was also set in 1998, with Auckland City Council achieving outright prohibition of all GMOs in its Hauraki Gulf and Islands District Plan.

This was put in place at low cost, without legal challenge, in keeping with the wishes of Auckland ratepayers' concerns about GMOs.

After lobbying central government for more than seven years to fix the flaws and gaps in the national minimal legislation that covers GMOs, local councils have finally had enough of their concerns being ignored and are saying no to the outdoor use of GMOs and yes to protecting the public interest by building on our clean, green, nuclear free and GE free brand, Mr Robinson says.

Whangarei's acting mayor Phil Halse says the decisions are very welcome.

"It's great to hear that the Auckland Council and the Far North District Council are joining us in investigating the local regulation of GMOs," he says.

"This reinforces the council's push to keep the wider region free of GMOs until such time as a truly strict liability regime is put in place and the risks to our biosecurity, farmers, and economy are adequately identified and addressed.

"It's highly significant that all the councils from south Auckland to Cape Reinga (one-third of the population) are taking action on a local level on their constituents concerns about GMOs."

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

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What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension and the increase

Tell us why: As long as the money is set aside for it and not disappearing into the slush fund

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

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Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Do not support

Tell us why: The council has neglected so much but increased its bureaucracy which is no benefit to maintaining buildings

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Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

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7. What is important to you?

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Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

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What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment for details

Important privacy information

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Auckland Region - Zone 2 Grey Power Federation

Auckland Council 10 Year Budget 2021-2031

AKHaveYourSay Feedback

Email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Name:

Last Name:

**Position: Chair Community Affairs
President Grey Power North Shore**

Email:

Local Board: All

Re: Grey Power Auckland Region Submission

Grey Power in the Auckland region has 6,500 members, who have played a significant role of building the city we have today.

Grey Power made a verbal submission to the Finance and Performance Committee on March 10th and the points made are listed below. These may already be noted in the submission process.

Senior Social Housing/Haumaruru Development

The housing crisis both general and for seniors is the most immediate problem for the community and the Government. Auckland Council has the opportunity to play a significant part in assisting with both.

There is a need for a major change in Council social housing policy..

Council must work with Haumaruru/Panuku to maximise the number of units they can build on the existing senior Court sites,.

This means that the current policy of selling off part of the land of sites being redeveloped to finance the redevelopment must cease. All land must be retained and new units maximised on the old sites.

The developments are self funding through the IRRS rental subsidy and the low interest rates available. Grey Power has already worked with the Government on this approach.

Where a site is unsuitable for redevelopment it could be sold but the proceeds used to buy land for a senior Court in a more suitable site, preferably in the same community.

This is a situation in Devonport at the moment where a six unit site is closed down and being sold. Kainga Ora and Ngati Whatua have major residential developments going on in the area at the moment, and the proceeds must be used to develop a new Haumaru block in conjunction with the other developments.

Grey Power has been working with Council and Haumaru for some years,

Haumaru is doing an excellent job, and Grey Power asks that a working group be set up with Grey Power, Haumaru, Council and the Ministry of Housing to develop a strategy for Haumaru to expand in this way.

Haumaru only has units on the North Shore, West and South Auckland as Auckland City sold their senior units years ago.

This is a critically important proposal and a top Grey Power priority.

Auckland Primary Schools Music Festival Funding

Grey Power asks that Council recognise the iconic nature of the Festival which will be holding its 80th festival this year and the magnificent contribution our primary school teachers have made and are still making coping with COVID19 pandemic fallout on the school operations.

Grey Power asks that the Festival be granted a special community award of permanent complimentary use of the Town Hall each November for the festival which brings 4,000 children from Auckland's primary schools together for this major community cultural event.

The Auckland Primary School principals run on a voluntary basis the Festival which involves over 4,000 students performing at the Auckland Town Hall. It has been going for 80 years, and was threatened with closure in 2017 when the RFA increased the rent from \$30,000 to \$90,000 over three years. Through Grey Power initiated National Radio publicity it was saved by the personal intervention and a three year sponsorship organised by the new Chair of RFA, Andrew Barnes

It is up for review, and no new arrangements have been made and the RFA no longer exists.. The cost is insignificant in the context of other event support in the city through ATEED with whom RFA have been combined to form Auckland Alive.

It is mindful to recall that the Viaduct Exhibition Centre was rented to Team NZ for the Americas cup for \$1 a year, a revenue loss to the Council of a reported \$13 million.

Forum On Future Population Growth and Demographic Changes

The 10 Year Plan core assumptions are that the population of Auckland will increase from the current 1.7 million by 261,000 over the 10 years to 2031, reaching 1.96 million.

This is another 10,000 homes a year needed on top of the current shortfall, and probably another 12,000 cars a year on the roads.

And what happens after 2031 ?

The growth assumptions Council is using has 2.13 million people in 2041 and 2.3 million in 2051, another 340,000 in the following 20 years, and ongoing.

It is hard to see a sudden stop this rampant growth.

The Plan advises that the number of seniors over 65 has increased 13% since 2013, and is expected to double in the two decades from 2018 to reach a total of 400,000 by 2038.

Our Shore community is already under serious stress, as is the whole city, with the impact of the Unitary Plan intensification and development, and the character, natural environment and livability is deteriorating, and faces getting worse.

In our very first submission in 2011 Grey Power asked for a Population Policy Forum to study the impacts of the underlying assumptions on growth and demographic changes the first Auckland Plan was based on.

The same request has been made in subsequent submissions, and its time has come.

Commentators, including Professor Paul Spoonley are calling for a discussion on where Auckland is heading with this continuing massive growth and demographic and cultural shifts.

Grey Power asks the the Council in conjunction with AUT hold a forum to impartially and critically assess the impact of this massive population growth on Auckland and its community, and appropriate policy steps to address the issues that arise..

Civil Defence Emergency Management Failure At Local Level In First COVID19 Lockdown.

The lack of an operating and effective local Civil Defence Emergency Management organisation on the ground, and the inability to communicate with residents and connect them to groups who could assist was a serious problem with the unexpected first COVID19 lockdown. It was several days before Council was partially effective but serious communication and support issues remained. Grey Power, Age Concern and MSD needed to step in to cover the deficiencies.

A discussion on this was planned at the August Mayors meeting but was a COVID19 casualty. It needs to be held now and special Budget provision made to get an effective local emergency structure operational and in place.

Effectiveness of HaveYourSay consultation process

Grey Power has serious concerns about the effectiveness and quality of the HaveYourSay consultation and submission process, and corresponded with the Auditor General on this with the last 10 Year Budget in 2018, and featured in his report to Parliament.

The process needs to be critically reviewed.

Age Friendly Action Plan

Grey Power is concerned that the Age Friendly Action Plan of the Council be progressed and fully incorporated in the current 10 Year Budget?

We have a concern that the early termination of the previous Senior Advisory Panel may have left a gap in the “institutional knowledge” of this critical piece of work.

Heritage – Museum of Auckland

Heritage funding has suffered in recent times and there is a real gap in the museum world through their being no specific Museum of Auckland to preserve and present our city’s history, Neither Auckland Museum or MOTAT fulfil this role, and Grey Power is submission to both museums Draft Annual Plans have asked them to correct this deficiency.

This is particularly important with the Government requirement to teach NZ history in our schools with a special focus on local history.

The Council is asked to develop this concept with the two museums.

Points not made included in the verbal presentation but included in previous Plan submissions for consideration in the new 10 Year Budget are:

General Heritage

The revised Auckland Plan seriously diminished Council policy intent and focus on the heritage, and the special section Chapter 4 of the original Auckland Plan needs to be re-introduced.

The Regional Heritage Grants programme has been increased for \$84,000 to “up to \$500,00” but grant applications were shut down by the Emergency Budget last year, the only grant categories to have this imposed.

Transport

The special needs of seniors must be considered in all Auckland transport decisions.

Grey Power asks that some realism be put into Council policy recognizing that while increasing cycling as a key means of transport is laudable and is receiving major funding input there appears to be little actual usage on the roads.

It is important to recognize that car travel is critical for the mobility of many seniors, most of which is local.

Similarly the provision of parking is important in commercial and social activity areas.

Council is asked to consider a SuperGold parking facility for seniors in line with the Palmerston North City Council free parking from 9.00am to 12.00 pm on weekdays.

It is also expected that there will be no change in the SuperGold transport concession currently in place in the city

Review of Auckland Council Super City Structure, Planning and Operational Effectiveness

There is increasing community concerns in the light of ten years experience of whether the SuperCity core structure is “fit for purpose” and providing the vision and operational efficiencies that were anticipated in the original legislation

Grey believes it is timely for a major discussion of the overall efficacy, structure and operation of the Auckland Super City model to be held with a view to making appropriate amendments to improve it political, operational and community connectivity effectiveness.

It is appreciated this would necessarily involve Government participation.

“Ombudsman” for the Council

Grey Power has previously recommended that an “Ombudsman” type office be established for handling of issues arising within the Council structure where residents can get assistance in resolving these and/or receive guidance on whom should be dealing with their particular issue.

The sheer size, complexity, and silo-ed nature of the Council structure creates considerable difficulty for residents to get answers or resolution of relatively minor issues.

Budget Part Four: Rates

Level of Rate/Charges Increases

Grey Power is very conscious of the financial situation facing the Council but has a real concern at the proposed current very high level of rate and other impost increases in the 10 Year Budget and their ongoing impact on the senior community, particularly those reliant only on NZ Superannuation.

We have been unable in the time available to carry out a specific analysis of the rates and revenue gathering increases, but would stress again the need for a critical review of cost cutting and the continuing movement of the rating base from business to residential ratepayers.

A sensible suggestion has been the selling of part of the Auckland Airport share portfolio to assist with current revenue shortfalls- The shares are a fluid Council asset that could be repurchased in the future if Council so decided. This is a flexibility which is not available with selling land assets.

We will come back to you on this.

Grandfathering of Rates (new)

It has been a long standing Grey Power submission point that Council should introduce a rates stabilisation for ratepayers at the age of 65. This is a common practice overseas which recognizes both the low income level of many seniors and as importantly their contribution they have made after a lifetime of paying the rates that have provided the city's infrastructure and community facilities. A major part of the current rating increases are for people who aren't here yet.

Grey Power asks that a Council working group be set up to research and develop an appropriate policy on this which would include Grey Power representatives.

Rates Rebate Scheme (new)

An associated long term submission point is to work with the Government to simply and extend the Government rates rebate scheme to provide a more meaningful rebate situation for low income ratepayers. This could be included with the working group on the rates grandfathering.

Development Levies Extension (new)

An extended and more effective level of development levies on developments to more equitably contribute to the infrastructure and community facility costs that their developments impose on the broader community should be put in place.



Auckland Region - Zone 2 Grey Power Federation

Auckland Council 10 Year Budget 2021-2031

AKHaveYourSay Feedback

**Email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
waitematalocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz**

Local Board: Waitemata

Re: Leys Insitute – Provision of funding for restoration, earthquake strengthening, and re-opening the library and the associated community facilities

Grey Power in the Auckland region has 6,500 members, who have played a significant role of building the city we have today.

Core Grey Power policy is the protection and restoration of our city's built heritage, and is concerned that heritage in general is not being given the recognition and support in the current 10 Year Budget.

This deficiency should be addressed. In the current development pressure and population growth it is absolutely critical that the importance of the heritage and history of our city so important to the community, and seniors in particular as it is part of their lives. With the Government requirement to teach New Zealand history in our schools with a key focus on local heritage stories it is imperative that Auckland Council faces up to this core responsibility and provides a more equitable funding provision for the heritage sector.

In particular Grey Power supports the Waitemata Local Board and the Ponsonby community's advocacy for the strengthening and restoration of the Leys Institute Library.

This is an iconic Auckland heritage building with a Category A heritage schedule ranking, a centre point in one of Auckland's oldest communities.

It role as a library is also a critical community function particularly with the population growth and the continuing lack of library issues is an important social issue. The senior community has a special affinity and need for the library

both from the access to books, but also for the support activities particularly in the digital and online access area that so many do not have in their own homes.

An interim phase of strengthening must be possible to get the building operational reasonably quickly.

Grey Power asks that you give the re-opening of the Leys Institute the highest priority.

The submission has key relevance to:

Key Issues 4: Investment in our community in that Council must recognize the cultural relevance of the Leys Institute both in the preservation of the city's heritage but also the critical cultural and social nature of the services it provides.

The Council refers to the shift to “digital channels” but must recognise that many sections of the Auckland community do not have access to digital and computer channels, the older senior community in particular.

Key Challenges: Looking After Our Assets highlights the importance or protecting our assets and reducing the risk of infrastructure failure..

Looking after our heritage assets are the most critical of all.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Grey Power North Shore Association

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: Generally support but not cultural development. Let's keep to essential categories only during these difficult times due to COVID and lockdowns.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 16688 for further information

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North Shore Association

Auckland Council 10 Year Budget 2021 – 2031
AKHaveYourSay Feedback

Email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
devonporttakapunalocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Name:

Position: President Grey Power North Shore

Email:

Local Board: Devonport-Takapuna

Disposal of Listed Properties per Budget Supporting Information Document page 560 and 601-605.

Grey Power is extremely concerned about the proposed sale of these properties, particularly the Shore properties in our Local Board area which consist of three small pocket parks

2 Forrest Hill Rd, Forrest Hill
24 Linwood Ave, Forrest Hill
2 Blomfield Spa, Takapuna

and two community facility heritage buildings

2 The Strand, Takapuna – the old Takapuna Library
3 Victoria Rd, Devonport – the old Devonport Borough Council building.

Grey Power strongly supports and endorses the submission from Save Our Shore Public Spaces a copy of which is attached.

Grey Power as a general policy of opposing the disposal of community open space and community facility assets, and Council property in general except in the most exceptional circumstances.

It is appreciated that the Council has financial difficulties but the disposal of these properties in the current rapid growth of the city and the pressure on communities through development and intensification is just not sensible.

The small parks will be critical in mitigating the environmental impact of the high level of intensification and the proliferation of multi storey apartments blocks in suburban areas on sites previously having one dwelling with surrounding open space and greenery now being covered in concrete. Also the visual impact on the streetscape and broader community environment is a serious negative as well.

With the major increase in local population retention of these small parks are very important.

The two heritage properties are highlighted for sale specifically in the Consultation Document Part Five: Other Matters For Feedback

Both should be retained recognising their heritage value and the opportunity for ongoing innovative community use.

The 2 The Strand property, the old Takapuna Library was the focus of serious community efforts to establish an art and exhibition gallery.

Grey Power has made submissions to Council, and the Auckland Museum and MOTAT for the building to be developed as a satellite exhibition centre for the two museums and the Art Gallery to share their taonga and collections with the community. This was a concept developed in the Council Cultural Facilities Review still ongoing which has considerable merit.

The building also has bequest limitations on the use of sale proceeds which should not be distorted in the interests of Council expediency.

3 Victoria Rd in Devonport has been involved in long standing community concern about its closure and lack of effective use for some considerable time. The moving of the volunteer Information Centre by Council has been a spectacular failure in what is a key city tourist destination, as was the removal of the office of the Local Board funded Community Co-ordinator, and the Local Board Council staff to the new Library, and recently to Takapuna.

All banks have now closed their Devonport branches, and leaving residents with a trip to Takapuna for any Council contact or banking. For seniors this creates considerable difficulty.

There is a real opportunity and community and commercial need to re-activate 3 Victoria Rd as a vibrant community facility.

This option should be seriously explored and progressed and the building not sold. Devonport has a highly effective and dynamic community and an innovative and effective solution over the positive use of 3 Victoria Rd can be sorted.

There will be a critical need for these properties in the immediate future to keep with the demands and needs of our rapidly increasing population.

The properties should not be sold – if “commercialised” they should be leased and ownership retained. This is sound common sense in the current property market, and in line with the Te Ao Maori principles that the Council is now guided by.

A funding alternative would be to sell a small part of the Auckland Airport shares which can be repurchased at a later date if Council policy requires a minimum shareholding to be maintained. That is not an option with selling off properties.

Grey Power also has a fundamental policy of in the event of any Council property being sold the proceeds should be retained and re-invested in the local community area.



North Shore Association

**Auckland Council 10 Year Budget 2021 – 2031
AKHaveYourSay Feedback**

Email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Name:

Position: President Grey Power North Shore

Email:

Local Board: All

Budget Consultation Document Key Issue 1

Proposed Investment Package Economic and cultural development (Page 27)

Iconic heritage Event Funding – Auckland Primary Schools Music Festival

The Auckland Primary Schools Music Festival is an iconic Auckland community event organised on a volunteer basis by the primary schools principals, and involves over 4,000 students performing at the Auckland Town Hall in a series of concerts in November.

It draws participants from all over the city, and this year's Festival will be its 80th year.

It was threatened with closure in 2017 when the RFA increased the Town Hall hire from \$30,000 to \$90,000 over three years. Through Grey Power initiated National Radio publicity it was saved by the personal intervention and arrangement of a three sponsorship by the new Chairman of RFA, Andrew Barnes.

This is the last year of this support and no ongoing sponsorship arrangements have been made, and the RFA no longer exists being absorbed with ATEED into Auckland Alive.

Last year's festival was cancelled because of COVID19, and our primary schools and their staff have had an incredibly difficult time dealing with the pandemic impact on the schools, a situation that is still continuing.

The children are already practicing for this year's Festival with great anticipation and excitement.

Grey Power is asking our city community and Council to recognise the iconic nature of the Festival about to celebrate 80 years of giving our young people the opportunity to perform on the stage of the Town Hall, our long standing heritage city and cultural centre, before their family and friends in a major cultural event. This is life changing for many.

And also the magnificent contribution our primary school teachers have made, and are still making, in coping with the COVID19 pandemic fallout on the school operations and their personal lives.

Grey Power asks our Mayor Phil Goff and Council to make a special community award of permanent complimentary use of the Auckland Town Hall for the Festival.

It is not only a very appropriate community and Council recognition of the Festival and the people involved, but also gives the stability of an ongoing permance removing the stress and uncertainty of needing to arrange funding year by year. School principals are extremely busy people and the removal of this obligation would be a great relief.

It would be a appropriate and welcome gesture from a grateful and appreciative community.

With the large size and complexity of our city and the major events and activities that take centre stage, many community based cultural events that have major community and social impact can get easily overlooked and unrecognised.

The Festival is a very special case.

Please take our proposal on board and make it happen. The children of Auckland will thank you.

As will their grandparents.

Nga mihi nui



North Shore Association

Auckland Council "Recovery" 10 Year Budget 2021-2031
AKHaveYourSay Feedback

Email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz
devonporttakapunalocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Name:

Position: President Grey Power North Shore

Email:

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Priorities

This is a summary of the points made at the Board submission meeting on March 9th, with the addition of the request for support for the Auckland Primary Schools Music Festival.

Key points:

Devonport/Takapuna is one of Auckland's oldest communities being founded in 1840 with the arrival of Capt.Hobson and has a rich unique heritage element that must be protected and enhanced.

The 10 Year Plan core assumptions are that the population of Auckland will increase from the current 1.7 million by 261,000 over the 10 years to 2031, reaching 1.96 million.

This is another 10,000 homes a year needed on top of the current shortfall, and probably another 12,000 cars a year on the roads.

And what happens after 2031 ? - It is hard to see a sudden stop this rampant growth.

The Plan advises that the number of seniors over 65 has increased 13% since 2013, and is expected to double in the two decades from 2018 to reach a total of 400,000 by 2038.

Our Shore community is already under serious stress with the impact of the Unitary Plan intensification and development, and the character, natural environment and livability is deteriorating, and faces getting seriously worse.

The key role of the Local Board is to push back and work to ensure that the quality and character of our community is protected in the face of this over rapid change, and recognition of the increasing community needs in the future.

Grey Power has 2,500 members across the Shore, and will be developing a closer working relationship with Age Concern, the other major community group involved with seniors.

Specific proposals are:

Level of Rate/Charges Increases

Grey Power has a real concern at the proposed current very high level of rate and other impost increases in the 10 Year Budget and their impact on the senior community and other low income residents.

We will be making this point very clear to the Governing Body. We expect a very careful and prudent expenditure policy from the Local Board – key needs not desires. A time for restraint.

Retention of Council Properties for Community

All Council open space must be retained, and indeed expanded.

Heritage community facilities/buildings must be retained, including 3 Victoria Rd and the old Takapuna Library in the Strand and renovated for effective community benefit. Grey Power has proposed to the Auckland museums that the Takapuna building be developed as a satellite exhibition centre for them to take their collections to the community.

A suggestion is that the Board approach major developers such as Smales, KBS Armia apartments, Ngati Whatua, and Kainga Ora for significant donations towards the provision of keynote community facilities in line with the community benefactors of the past.

Haumaruru Senior Courts Development.

The provision of housing for seniors is a critical need, a key part of the overall housing crisis. Grey Power has worked closely with Haumaruru for some time, and has a core policy position with Council is the need to increase the housing capacity of Haumaruru beyond the current 1400 units. This includes the retention of all land occupied by the Courts on redevelopment contrary to Council policy of selling off part to finance redevelopment.

Any Court that is unsuitable for redevelopment may be sold, but the proceeds be used to purchase an alternative site in a more suitable place in the surrounding community.

This is the current situation with the Handley Ave block of six units in Devonport, currently empty and planned for sale.

The proceeds from the sale should be used to obtain a block for new units in the Belmont area negotiating with Kainga Ora and Ngati Whatua as part of their development in the area. Appropriate development finance would be readily available in the current Government housing development processes, and be part of this critical Government housing crisis programme.

Grey Power expects support from this project from the Local Board and our two Councillors.

Effective Survey of the State and Needs of the Senior Community Organisations in the Local Board Area

This is a repeat of the request of previous years that got lost in the consultation process, and needs to be undertaken. Many senior organisations are struggling and need support.

SuperGold Parking

SuperGold free parking must be provided in the new Gasometer building in particular for the senior community, but should also be provided across the whole Shore

With the loss of the Takapuna Car Park and increasing restrictions around the Shore is important that the mobility difficulties of seniors be recognised and provided for. Many, indeed most, cannot ride bikes or e-scooters or walk significant distances particularly carrying something.

Palmerston North City has SuperGold parking free from 9 am to 12 am. on weekdays. With the closure of bank branches etc in the smaller centres, and the traffic congestion around Takapuna a more extensive time frame will be necessary.

Restoration Work On Mt.Victoria and O'Neills Point Cemeteries

A heritage and open space priority is to accelerate the restoration of the heritage cemeteries in Devonport.

Assurances have already been given to Nga Puhī and Ngāti Whatua about the Mt.Victoria cemetery, the burial place of Patuone, and Gladwin Wynyard following their refusal to allow the Council to have a ceremony there acknowledging Patuone because of the disrespectful state of the urupa.

Similarly, the RSA and other groups are cleaning the military graves at O'Neills Point.

A keynote policy of Council and the Local Board is the recognition of Te Ao Māori – we need to walk the talk, as well as the overall heritage responsibility.

Senior Citizens Associations

There are a number of Senior Citizens Association across the Shore established in the 1960's as community centres. They have a special need as they tend to be struggling with outdated premises and falling memberships but a critical in the development of the city in that they own their own premises and provide a physical centre for seniors.

Grey Power is involved directly with the Devonport and Takapuna Senior Citizens Associations, both of which are involved in current Council redevelopment plans. The Takapuna Senior Citizen's Hall is part of the Strand Community Centre currently being reviewed by Council for possible disposal.

The Devonport Senior Citizens Association has their Harmony Hall, in Wynyard St, on a Council lease of the block that is adjacent to the 3 Victoria Rd building Panuku wishes to sell.

Two points arise:

- 1. The Local Board must take a direct interest, as part of the survey of the needs of the senior community organisations, to ensure that the Senior Citizens Associations where needed have support to maintain their activity levels, and community contact.**

It is critical that the Associations continue as a sound base for the provision of more modern senior citizens facilities in the new development of local commercial centres, Takapuna, in particular.

- 2. The Council and Panuku must recognise the considerable equity the Associations have in their properties as they were all built with community fundraising, in the Takapuna situation paid to Council.. This creates an obligation to provide like for like in any redevelopment, which is not only equitable, but will be a critical need for the seniors of the future.**

Age Friendly Action Plan

The Board must be aware of the Age Friendly Action Plan of the Council currently being progressed as well as recognise the special needs of seniors in the provision of bus stops, the state of footpaths, digital inability, and general lack of mobility.

You will all appreciate the attention you give to this element in your years to come.

Effectiveness of HaveYourSay consultation process

You will be well aware of our concerns about the overall effectiveness of the annual HaveYourSay consultation process of registering clearly the wishes and requirements of the residents and ratepayers.

Support For Auckland Primary Schools Music Festival

Grey Power is proposing that Auckland Council recognise the iconic nature of the Festival which will be holding its 80th festival event this year, and the magnificent contribution our primary school teachers have made and are still making coping with the CIVID19 pandemic fallout on the schools operations.

Grey Power asks that the Festival be granted a special community award of permanent complimentary use of the Town Hall each November for the festival which brings 4,000 children from Auckland's primary schools together for this major cultural community event.

Grey Power asks that you incorporate an expression of support for this recognition by the Auckland Council in the Local Board priority plan, and their formal presentation to Council.

There is no financial impact to the Board budgets.

A further specific submission will be being made on this issue.

We ask that you take a specific note of the points as we will be looking for a further dialogue over the coming months.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 16690 for more info

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



#16690

22 March 2021

By email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Dear Councillors,

Submission of the Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance on Auckland Council's 10 Year Budget (Long Term Plan)

Introduction

1. This is a submission by the *Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance* in response to the consultation documents for Auckland Council's 2021 – 2031 Long Term Plan

About the submitter

2. Founded in 2015 by Jo Holmes and local members of the *New Zealand Taxpayers' Union*, the *Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance* is a group of concerned citizens who want an end to Auckland Council's persistent rate hikes and culture of wasteful spending. We stand for *Reasonable Rates and Sensible Spending*. We are now New Zealand's largest ratepayer organisation with more than 26,000 registered members. Unlike many ratepayer groups across Auckland, we do not take funding from and are independent of Auckland Council.
3. The aims of the *Ratepayers' Alliance* are to:
 - a. reduce wasteful Council spending;
 - b. increase transparency and accountability of those funded by ratepayers;
 - c. increase institutional checks on Auckland Council;
 - d. enable Aucklanders to easily scrutinise Council spending;
 - e. lower the rates burden; and
 - f. promote evidence-based public policy.

Submission

Summary

4. Auckland Council faces a range of pressures. Existing infrastructure shortages are being exacerbated by population growth; historic debt accumulation is limiting the capability of Council to make necessary investment; and wasteful operational expenditure continues to push up rates. Clearly the loss of revenue associated with Covid-19 has worsened each of these pressures – leading to the proposed 5 percent rates rise for the coming financial year.
5. The proposed 5 percent rates hike is unacceptable. While Council faces revenue pressures, this is downstream of the economic environment. Ratepayers facing job losses, reduced hours, and the pressures of rolling lockdowns should not be burdened by higher than necessary rates hikes.
6. Putting the proposed 5 percent rates hike aside, the 2021 – 2031 Long Term Plan has strengths and weaknesses. While Auckland Council should be applauded for its proposed savings and capital recycling programme, there is still significant waste to be cut – especially in the “economic and cultural development” portfolios. Council needs to place additional emphasis on cutting wasteful expenditure and redundant programmes in order to ensure Auckland is both liveable and affordable. Making additional cuts to operational spending (as we highlight in our submission) would limit the financial burden to ratepayers.
7. In recent years the *Ratepayers’ Alliance* has pushed Council to reprioritise capital expenditure over operational expenditure. While on the surface it’s concerning to see a significant increase in operation expenditure (larger than the increase in capital expenditure), clearly a large share of this increase is attributable to an increase in depreciation (itself attributable to significant capital expenditure, particularly in water management). This ongoing pivot should be applauded but will require constant strategic review of Council’s balance sheet to affordably deliver the assets Auckland needs.
8. This should include the use of Council’s balance sheet to fund a significant share of its infrastructure needs to reduce the burden on current and future ratepayers. Existing proposals to recycle capital should be welcomed and expanded to other opportunities.
9. Reducing Council’s stake in and ownership of Auckland International Airport and Ports of Auckland should be a priority in the coming decade. The loss in dividends from these two assets alone exceeds the proposed 5 percent rates hike for the coming year. Ratepayers should not face additional financial pressure during every recession to cover loss in dividends through greater than expected rates increases.
10. Freeing up capital in Auckland International Airport and Ports of Auckland could be used to help fund necessary water infrastructure. This would ensure Watercare is not required to significantly increase charges on residents to fund this infrastructure in the coming 8 years.

Rates Increases and Operational Expenditure

11. Despite revenue pressures due to the Covid-19 outbreak and multiple lockdowns, the decision to increase rates by 5 percent in the coming year is regrettable. Revenue pressures facing Auckland Council are simply reflective of the wider downturn in the Auckland economy – families facing unemployment, reduced hours, and rolling lockdowns should not be burdened by higher-than-required rates increases.
12. While Council is becoming more efficient in using its balance sheet to fund capital expenditure, there are still a range of efficiencies to be found in operational spending. We propose some areas for Council to find these efficiencies or make changes to the proposed 2021 – 2031 Long Term Plan.

Auckland Unlimited – economic development and Covid-19

13. The decision to merge RFA and ATEED into Auckland Unlimited for the purpose of finding savings should be applauded – but there is more waste to cut and efficiencies to be found.
14. For instance, many of the programmes formerly run by ATEED are obviously redundant in light of the substantial limits on international travel. If international travel opens up, private event operators and central government can and should be responsible for advertising the Auckland region as a destination. If the Auckland economy remains closed, Auckland Unlimited should not duplicate COVID-19 services which are already being provided by central government and business associations¹.
15. More generally, Auckland Unlimited needs to learn that not all value-creating ventures require a financial contribution from ratepayers. Where there are great opportunities to host events or advertise Auckland to the world, the best business and philanthropic minds will make sure Auckland sees the benefits – with no ratepayer involvement required.
16. The most successful economic development strategy available to Council is to simply provide the best affordable infrastructure available and leave residential and commercial ratepayers with more to spend and invest in their community.

Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (APTR)

17. The proposal to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate (APTR) to fund marketing activity should be abandoned.
18. Clearly there is significant short- and medium-term economic uncertainty given the ongoing presence of Covid-19 both domestically and overseas – undermining any potential marketing campaign. Council cannot assume that even a successful marketing campaign would be effective with a mix of closed borders and health-conscious travel-hesitant potential customers.

¹ For example, ATEED's 2020 Annual Report boasts of a range of business support measures in light of the pandemic. However, many information sharing and support programmes were being operated on a national level by government departments and Business NZ and on a regional level by employers' associations.

19. Even if rapid vaccination of New Zealand and our major trading partners ensured steady international tourism, there's very little evidence that these campaigns are even effective. Simply surveying visiting tourists on whether they were aware of certain campaigns or events is not a sound evaluation of comparative effectiveness.
20. In contrast to the unknown effect of advertising campaigns, we can know for certain there will be a negative effect on accommodation providers from the targeted rate. It is not enough for Council to claim that because a small share of accommodation providers have been awarded MIQ contracts, providers generally can financially weather these additional costs – the vast majority have only experienced financial downside from Covid².
21. It is also not a question of whether these providers “can afford” the targeted rate. Auckland will need continued investment in world class hotels and other accommodation to continue to be a great destination for tourism and commerce. The resumption of the targeted rate will discourage this necessary ongoing investment.
22. On net, gambling additional rates revenue from already struggling businesses on marketing campaigns with unknown effectiveness cannot be justified.

Library Late Fee Elimination

23. The proposal to eliminate library late fees should be treated as a temporary 12-month trial, rather than permanent given the very large revenue stream it necessarily sacrifices. \$1.2 million per annum (in what amounts to asset loss recovery) clearly helps to fund library services for those who want them.
24. If after 12 months Council finds that there is a net financial benefit from the additional number of books returned against the cost of late fees forgone, then the fee elimination strategy should be retained – but clearly if the converse is true then late fees should be reinstated. There is little to no cost in treating the first 12 months as a trial and then evaluating the strategy.

Capital Expenditure and Asset Recycling

25. Auckland has a range of urgent infrastructure needs (particularly water and transport). Council needs to prioritise investment to ensure the city continues to be liveable and an efficient centre of commerce.
26. Council has correctly identified that much of this capital expenditure can and should be funded by recycling aging or superfluous assets. We strongly support the proposed decisions to lease Bledisloe House, the sale of heritage buildings in Devonport and Takapuna, and private development partnerships on the Auckland waterfront.
27. Council should continue to identify similar opportunities. Either leasing or selling existing assets is an effective way to fund necessary infrastructure while limiting the financial impact on ratepayers. Council should consider leasing superfluous space in libraries or other community spaces as office space, cafes, or

² Including many accommodation providers who were awarded MIQ contracts, who would have otherwise been filling rooms.

other market opportunities, for example.

28. Council also needs to seriously consider whether its stake in and whole ownership respectively of Auckland International Airport and Ports of Auckland is strategic.
29. As the pandemic ripped through financial markets last year, there was a period of two months between mid-January to mid-March where ratepayers lost in excess of \$1.1 billion in capital value on its holding of Auckland International Airport shares alone.
30. While clearly share markets have recovered, the fall in dividends from Auckland International Airport and Ports of Auckland alone have had a significant impact on ratepayers and this impact will continue for some time. The projected loss of dividends for one year alone³ exceeds the proposed 5 percent increase.
31. The recent Covid-19 pandemic highlights the very poor strategic thinking of Council in choosing to retain its large holdings in these assets. The returns on these assets are highly correlated to other Council revenue streams and the economic environment that families in Auckland face. Therefore, when Auckland experiences unexpected negative economic shocks Council is forced to hike rates on households to cover the loss in dividends just as households also face significant financial pressures.
32. If Council had disposed of these assets earlier and used the capital to fund infrastructure investment, no rates rise for the coming year would be necessary because no hole in the budget would have opened up.
33. It may not be sensible to completely dispose of these assets immediately (given the global economy is still recovering and therefore asset prices might have some room to increase), but the 10-year Budget needs to allow for Council to reduce its stake in these assets over time, both to fund necessary infrastructure and reduce financial risk to ratepayers before the next inevitable economic downturn.
34. Large planned increases in water charges could be avoided if capital from these assets were reinvested in proposed improvements to water infrastructure. Options to recycle existing assets should be favoured over very large hikes to charges over 8 years.
35. Obviously, this would have the additional benefit of reducing rates pressure on Auckland families.

Yours faithfully,

Auckland Ratepayers' Alliance

³ \$120 million in combined loss of dividends according to Council.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Organisation (if applicable): Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why: see attachment 16691 20. We support the proposed increase in the rates levy (5% followed by 3.5% annually thereafter). We also support the Targeted Rates for Water Quality Improvement and Environment. We think that overall this is an appropriate overall level.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why: see attachment 16691 for full submission from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei The climate emergency highlights the need to ensure that all actions are driving us towards a more sustainable future. It should not be seen as an “expenditure item” in itself – rather as a modus operandi that directs all spending. Therefore, the key action should be to ensure that climate change is at the centre of any council initiative and that there is a clear climate change benefit to all spending. This will require attention to ensure all teams can access support and expertise in how to address climate change concerns in their project. Climate change should not be considered as a major budget header in its own right, but rather as a cross-cutting priority that directs all Council activity. A lot of that expertise is already in council and in actions are identified in the Council's climate strategy.

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why: see attachment 16691 for full submission from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Water should therefore be the number one priority for Council. This is because:

- a. Water quality in Tāmaki Makaurau is a shameful disgrace – water supply is now also a serious and growing issue;
- b. Auckland Council bears direct responsibility for both the state of water and the remedial action required.
- c. Council investment in water has direct and immediate effect. This contrasts with other major issues of the day – climate change, transport and growth – where council can only act tangentially in a wider context.
- d. Water quality issues are still in danger of being “out of sight and out of mind”. They are not immediately obvious in a day-to-day experience. This is in contrast to other major issues which have a more immediate (and hence political) profile. For example traffic congestion is plainly a day to day experience for all Aucklanders, and hence attracts greater calls for action.
3. As Tangata Whenua we have an intrinsic connection with our water – it is fundamental to our very wellbeing – the mauri of the water and the mauri of our people are one. This connection has been utterly severed in Tāmaki Makaurau. This is a shameful dereliction of the duty of care for our taonga.
4. At the same time, Auckland Council has the ability to directly effect change. This is in contrast to the other major issues of the day, where effecting change depends on the actions and influence of others.
5. We do not think that prioritisation of water is sufficiently reflected in the LTP. The 30 year Infrastructure Strategy identifies the “biggest issues” facing Auckland's infrastructure. These are:

- Climate change

- Natural hazards
- Growth
- Equity
- Funding

6. We think that Legacy Issues should be added to the list. Auckland's water infrastructure is sub-standard. In particular, a system whereby the contamination of surface waters ("stormwater" is something of a misnomer) with wastewater is routinely accepted is completely unacceptable. This situation is a direct result of decades of under-investment, itself a manifestation of the utilitarian "out of sight, out of mind" attitude to water. Council has a duty to address this history of neglect.

7. Failure to identify legacy issues as a key issue for Auckland's infrastructure is a serious weakness under the Local Government Act s101B Requirements¹. It leads directly to the under-prioritisation of Water in the rest of the Strategy.

8. We acknowledge that more attention is being given to water now than in the past – our point is that it is still not sufficient. Auckland cannot move forward as a sustainable and resilient community whilst the legacy infrastructure issues remain.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

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Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

see attachment 16691 for more info

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NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Auckland Council
AK Have Your Say
Auckland 1142
Tāmaki Makaurau

Via email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan)

Consultation Response of

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei (22 March 2021)

Tēnā koutou

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei thanks te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau for this opportunity to comment on the 10-year Budget 2021-2031.

Below is a summary of our key points.

Our Priority

1. We see four major issues facing Auckland Council today. These are, water (quality and quantity), climate change, transport and growth. We think that for the immediate future, council should direct its attention to a “water campaign” – focusing the bulk of its effort on this above all other priorities. It is vital to tackle this issue now to lay the foundation for other priorities.
2. **Water** should therefore be the **number one priority** for Council. This is because:
 - a. **Water quality** in Tāmaki Makaurau is a shameful disgrace – **water supply** is now also a serious and growing issue;
 - b. Auckland Council bears **direct responsibility** for both the state of water and the remedial action required.
 - c. Council **investment in water has direct and immediate effect**. This contrasts with other major issues of the day – climate change, transport and growth – where council can only act tangentially in a wider context.
 - d. Water quality issues are still in danger of being “out of sight and out of mind”. They are not immediately obvious in a day-to-day experience. This is in contrast to other major issues which have a more immediate (and hence political) profile. For example traffic congestion is plainly a day to day experience for all Aucklanders, and hence attracts greater calls for action.
3. As Tangata Whenua we have an intrinsic connection with our water – it is fundamental to our very wellbeing – the mauri of the water and the mauri of our people are one. This connection has been utterly severed in Tāmaki Makaurau. This is a shameful dereliction of the duty of care for our taonga.
4. At the same time, Auckland Council has the ability to directly effect change. This is in contrast to the other major issues of the day, where effecting change depends on the actions and influence of others.

5. We do not think that prioritisation of water is sufficiently reflected in the LTP. The **30 year Infrastructure Strategy** identifies the “biggest issues” facing Auckland’s infrastructure. These are:
- **Climate change**
 - **Natural hazards**
 - **Growth**
 - **Equity**
 - **Funding**
6. We think that **Legacy Issues** should be added to the list. Auckland’s water infrastructure is sub-standard. In particular, a system whereby the **contamination of surface waters** (“stormwater” is something of a misnomer) **with wastewater** is routinely accepted is **completely unacceptable**. This situation is a direct result of decades of under-investment, itself a manifestation of the utilitarian “out of sight, out of mind” attitude to water. Council has a duty to address this history of neglect.
7. Failure to identify legacy issues as a key issue for Auckland’s infrastructure is a serious weakness under the Local Government Act s101B Requirements¹. It leads directly to the under-prioritisation of Water in the rest of the Strategy.
8. We acknowledge that more attention is being given to water now than in the past – our point is that it is still not sufficient. **Auckland cannot move forward as a sustainable and resilient community whilst the legacy infrastructure issues remain.**

Other Matters

9. The matters below are normally considered top priorities. We list them here as “other matters” not to undermine their importance, but to emphasise that in the Auckland context, they have to come second to the water prerogative.
10. The **climate emergency** highlights the need to ensure that *all* actions are driving us towards a more sustainable future. It should not be seen as an “expenditure item” in itself – rather as a modus operandi that directs *all* spending. Therefore, the key action should be to ensure that climate change is at the centre of any council initiative and that there is a clear climate change benefit to all spending. This will require attention to ensure all teams can access support and expertise in how to address climate change concerns in their project. Climate change should not be considered as a major budget header in its own right, but rather as a cross-cutting priority that directs all Council activity. A lot of that expertise is already in council and in actions are identified in the Council’s climate strategy.
11. For **transport**, effecting change requires effecting behaviour (transport choices). Clearly it is necessary to invest in the services and infrastructure to enable such change, but timing is an important consideration and there is a danger of over-capitalisation – spending too much too early. In an ideal world this a concern and a time lag between investment and utilisation may be acceptable. Given the significance of our water issues, however, we suggest that council be more circumspect in transport expenditure, with careful consideration to timing.
12. For **growth**, council faces considerable demands in up-front infrastructure investment, but it is also vital to get the foundations of our existing urbanisation right before growth compounds the problem. Ultimately the bulk of growth infrastructure costs should be recoverable through development contributions and the subsequent

¹ Notably S101B(2)(a) (key infrastructure issues)

increased rates-base. Growth should therefore be more of a consideration for borrowing requirements, rather than a driver for Council spending policy per se.

13. In terms of **budget and cost accounting**, we are concerned that more sophistication is needed in accounting for environmental costs and benefits. These may accrue at some distance from the point of application and more consideration should be given to a whole-system approach. There is a gap in this LTP around ecosystem services and the economic benefits to resilient ecosystems. There should be recognition of the cost of poor environmental management and climate change response (such as in the case of the drought) but also the benefits to resilient ecosystems (such as improving water quality). Accounting for these costs and benefits highlights the need to put water and the environment as more of a priority.
14. **Nature based solutions** should be more of a priority and a strategy. Mātaranga Maori puts the environment above human need, understanding that our own health and wellbeing is directly impacted by the health of the environment. Nature based solutions also put environment as the priority and the solution – addressing climate change issues, but also building ecosystem resilience and community engagement.
15. The LTP should be thinking more innovatively and strategically around a **partnership approach** with iwi and community groups. A more strategic approach to partnering and supporting iwi and community groups would enable enhanced outcomes without necessarily incurring significant expense – helping to bridge the gap between budget and required action.
16. While there is some work being done in this space, we feel it this approach is under-developed and should be made a priority. This is not just in regards to *funding* community groups and iwi (although that is important) it is about working smarter - thinking strategically about how council utilises the available resources and good-will to meet our shared goals.
17. Our experience is that whilst council is supportive of the idea of more iwi-led (and community-led) initiatives the advice and support needed to achieve those initiatives could be better co-ordinated. This is a matter of facilitation – making Council expertise and goodwill more accessible.
18. We suggest that more consideration needs to be given to a deliberate and strategic approach to the partnership approach, again recognising that the cost and benefits may one or two stages removed and require a broader scope to account for.
19. **Rating proposals**
20. We support the proposed increase in the rates levy (5% followed by 3.5% annually thereafter). We also support the Targeted Rates for Water Quality Improvement and Environment. We think that overall this is an appropriate overall level.

Summary

21. We commend Auckland Council for the work being done on the 10 Year Plan in these difficult times, and commend the above observations in the spirit of constructive partnership. We will be happy to discuss further at any time.

Nāku noa, nā



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan)

Puketāpapa Local Board

Consultation Response of

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei (22 March 2021)

Tēnā koutou

1. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are the tāngata whenua and mana whenua in the Central Isthmus of Auckland. This is acknowledged in the 2011 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Deed of Settlement and the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Claims Settlement Act 2012.
2. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei historically exercised mana whenua in the Tāmaki Isthmus from at least the 1700s, and continues to do so. Mana whenua is an aspect of tikanga Māori (Māori customary practices) that broadly aligns with the Pakeha concept of territorial rights and authority over land. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei gained mana whenua in its primary area of interest via raupatu and ahi kā – continuous occupation. This is considered to be the strongest evidence of rights in the land.
3. As tāngata whenua for central Auckland we have a key role in developing this city. We look forward to working in partnership with our wider Ngāti Whātua iwi, neighbouring iwi, Government, Auckland Council and our communities. The environmental issues we face are bigger than all of us. As well as tackling a legacy of environmental and cultural neglect, we face new and serious challenges, often global in nature: climate change, resource depletion and population growth. We can only deal with these by co-operation.
4. At the same time, we now face new constraints arising from the global Covid-19 pandemic. In this context, public finances are limited, and prioritisation becomes difficult. We consider that **water**, and especially the legacy issues of **water quality** degradation should be the number one priority for local government in Auckland.
5. This is reflected in our LTP submission to the Governing Body, a copy of which is attached.



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

6. We appreciate that these are also difficult times for the Local Boards, and we commend Puketāpapa Local Board for your work in identifying local priorities.
7. We welcome your stated priority for **Protecting and enhancing our environment** e.g., *mitigating and adapting to climate change*, but would also like to see more emphasis on **water quality** in particular. Water quality is an Auckland-wide issue which reflects a long period of neglect and requires urgent concerted action. Further detail is given in our submission to the Governing Body (See attachment).
8. We would welcome further discussion the Puketāpapa Local Board with as to how we may work together to achieve our common aims.

Nāku noa, nā

Attachment: Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan), Consultation Response of, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI





NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

www.ngatiwhatuaorakei.com

16 March 2021

Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan) Consultation

Response of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei (Presentation notes)

Tēnā koutou

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei thanks te Kaunihera o Tāmaki Makaurau for this opportunity to discuss the 10-year Budget 2021-2031.

Below is a summary of our key points – Talking to these will be:

1. We see four major issues facing Auckland Council today. These are, water (quality and quantity), climate change, transport and growth. We think that for the immediate future, council should direct its attention to a “water campaign” – focusing the bulk of its effort on this above all other priorities. It is vital to tackle this issue now to lay the foundation for other priorities.
2. **Water should therefore be the number one priority for Council.** This is because:
 - a. **Water quality** in Tāmaki Makaurau is a shameful disgrace – **water supply** is now also a serious and growing issue;
 - b. Auckland Council bears **direct responsibility** for both the state of water and the remedial action required.
 - c. Council **investment in water has direct and immediate effect.** This contrasts with other major issues of the day – climate change, transport and growth – where council can only act tangentially in a wider context.
 - d. Water quality issues are still in danger of being “out of sight and out of mind”. They are not immediately obvious in a day-to-day experience. This is in contrast to other major issues which have a more immediate (and hence political) profile. For example traffic congestion is plainly a day to day experience for all Aucklanders, and hence attracts greater calls for action.



As Tangata Whenua we have an intrinsic connection with our water – it is fundamental to our very wellbeing – the mauri of the water and the mauri of our people are one. This connection has been utterly severed in Tāmaki Makaurau. This is a shameful dereliction of the duty of care for our taonga.

At the same time, Auckland Council has the ability to directly effect change. This is in contrast to the other major issues of the day, where effecting change depends on the actions and influence of others.

3. The **climate emergency** highlights the need to ensure that *all* actions are driving us towards a more sustainable future. It should not be seen as an “expenditure item” in itself – rather as a modus operandi that directs *all* spending. Therefore, a key action in this LTP should be to ensure that climate change is at the centre of any council initiative and that there is a clear climate change benefit to all spending. This may require additional funding to ensure all teams can access support and expertise in how to address climate change concerns in their project, but a lot of that expertise is already in council and in the Council’s climate strategy.
4. For **transport**, effecting change requires effecting behaviour (transport choices). Clearly it is necessary to invest in the services and infrastructure to enable such change, but timing is an important consideration and there is a danger of over-capitalisation – spending too much too early. In an ideal world this a concern and a time lag between investment and utilisation may be acceptable. Given the significance of our water issues, however, we suggest that council be more circumspect in transport expenditure, with careful consideration to timing.
5. For **growth**, council faces considerable demands in up-front infrastructure investment. Ultimately, however, the bulk of this should be recoverable through development contributions. This should therefore be more of a consideration for borrowing requirements, rather than a driver for Council spending policy per se. It is also vital to get the foundations of our existing urbanisation right before growth compounds the problems.
6. In terms of **budget and cost accounting**, we are concerned that more sophistication is needed in accounting for environmental costs and benefits. These may accrue at some distance from the point of application and more consideration should be given to a whole-system approach. There is a gap in this LTP around ecosystem services and the economic benefits to resilient ecosystems. There should be recognition of the cost of poor environmental management and climate change response (such as in the case of the drought) but also the benefits to resilient ecosystems (such as improving water quality). Accounting for these costs and benefits highlights the need to put water and the environment as more of a priority.
7. **Nature based solutions** should be more of a priority and a strategy. Mātaranga Maori puts the environment above human need, understanding that our own health and wellbeing is directly impacted by the health of the environment. Nature based solutions also put environment as the priority and the solution – addressing climate change issues, but also building ecosystem resilience and community engagement.

8. The LTP should be thinking more innovatively and strategically around a **partnership approach** with iwi and community groups. A more strategic approach to partnering and supporting iwi and community groups would enable enhanced outcomes without necessarily incurring significant expense – helping to bridge the gap between budget and required action.

While there is some work being done in this space, we feel it this approach is under-developed and should be made a priority. This is not just in regards to *funding* community groups and iwi (although that is important) it is about thinking strategically about how council utilises the available resources and good-will to meet our shared goals.

Our experience is that whilst council is supportive of the idea of more iwi-led initiatives the advice and support needed to achieve those initiatives could be better. For example, in discussions regarding how we may be more engaged with monitoring activities for water quality we have found that whilst the necessary equipment is readily available, the technical support design a monitoring plan was more difficult. This appears to be a matter of staff time prioritisation – Council officers, whilst individually very personable and willing, are simply focussed on meeting immediate in-house project objectives and do not have sufficient capacity (or priority) to devote to 3rd party assistance.

We suggest that more consideration needs to be given to a deliberate and strategic approach to the partnership approach, again recognising that the cost and benefits may one or two stages removed and require a broader scope to account for.

We have heard similar experiences from community groups. For example, we have had groups come to us wanting to do plantings, but not knowing the most strategic areas to plant or the best species to use. They have struggled to get this information and support, and we think this is an area where council could add considerable value. There are people who are keen, willing and able to do a lot of the mahi, who want to work in partnership with the council, adding to the work that is being done to ensure positive environmental outcomes. In such cases, it is not just funding that is needed from the council, but the expertise, support and overall knowledge of what is happening in the area.



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan)

Albert-Eden Local Board

Consultation Response of

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei (22 March 2021)

Tēnā koutou

1. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are the tāngata whenua and mana whenua in the Central Isthmus of Auckland. This is acknowledged in the 2011 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Deed of Settlement and the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Claims Settlement Act 2012.
2. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei historically exercised mana whenua in the Tāmaki Isthmus from at least the 1700s, and continues to do so. Mana whenua is an aspect of tikanga Māori (Māori customary practices) that broadly aligns with the Pakeha concept of territorial rights and authority over land. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei gained mana whenua in its primary area of interest via raupatu and ahi kā – continuous occupation. This is considered to be the strongest evidence of rights in the land.
3. As tāngata whenua for central Auckland we have a key role in developing this city. We look forward to working in partnership with our wider Ngāti Whātua iwi, neighbouring iwi, Government, Auckland Council and our communities. The environmental issues we face are bigger than all of us. As well as tackling a legacy of environmental and cultural neglect, we face new and serious challenges, often global in nature: climate change, resource depletion and population growth. We can only deal with these by co-operation.
4. At the same time, we now face new constraints arising from the global Covid-19 pandemic. In this context, public finances are limited, and prioritisation becomes difficult. We consider that **water**, and especially the legacy issues of **water quality** degradation should be the number one priority for local government in Auckland.
5. This is reflected in our LTP submission to the Governing Body, a copy of which is attached.



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

6. We appreciate that these are also difficult times for the Local Boards, and we commend Albert-Eden Local Board for your work in identifying local priorities.
7. In particular, we support your key priority to: *Protect our natural environment by supporting projects like the Albert-Eden Urban Ngahere (Forest) Project and restoration of the biodiversity of our rock forests, urban streams, and coast.*
8. This priority is in close accordance with our own, we would like to also see water quality improvement as a stated local aim (see attachment for more detail).
9. We look forward to working closely with the Albert-Eden Local Board to further our common goals.

Nāku noa, nā

Attachment: Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan), Consultation Response of, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan)

Maungakiekie Local Board

Consultation Response of

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei (22 March 2021)

Tēnā koutou

1. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are the tāngata whenua and mana whenua in the Central Isthmus of Auckland. This is acknowledged in the 2011 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Deed of Settlement and the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Claims Settlement Act 2012.
2. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei historically exercised mana whenua in the Tāmaki Isthmus from at least the 1700s, and continues to do so. Mana whenua is an aspect of tikanga Māori (Māori customary practices) that broadly aligns with the Pakeha concept of territorial rights and authority over land. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei gained mana whenua in its primary area of interest via raupatu and ahi kā – continuous occupation. This is considered to be the strongest evidence of rights in the land.
3. As tāngata whenua for central Auckland we have a key role in developing this city. We look forward to working in partnership with our wider Ngāti Whātua iwi, neighbouring iwi, Government, Auckland Council and our communities. The environmental issues we face are bigger than all of us. As well as tackling a legacy of environmental and cultural neglect, we face new and serious challenges, often global in nature: climate change, resource depletion and population growth. We can only deal with these by co-operation.
4. At the same time, we now face new constraints arising from the global Covid-19 pandemic. In this context, public finances are limited, and prioritisation becomes difficult. We consider that **water**, and especially the legacy issues of **water quality** degradation should be the number one priority for local government in Auckland.
5. This is reflected in our LTP submission to the Governing Body, a copy of which is attached.



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

6. We appreciate that these are also difficult times for the Local Boards, and we commend Maungakiekie Local Board for your work in identifying local priorities.
7. In general, we would like to see more emphasis on **environmental restoration and enhancement**, and in particular of repairing **water quality** in the Local Board's plans. These are Auckland-wide issues which reflect a long period of neglect. Further detail is given in our submission to the Governing Body (See attachment).
8. We would welcome further discussion the Maungakiekie Local Board with as to how we may work together to achieve these aims.

Nāku noa, nā

Attachment: Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan), Consultation Response of, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan)

Ōrākei Local Board

Consultation Response of

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei (22 March 2021)

Tēnā koutou

1. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are the tāngata whenua and mana whenua in the Central Isthmus of Auckland. This is acknowledged in the 2011 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Deed of Settlement and the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Claims Settlement Act 2012.
2. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei historically exercised mana whenua in the Tāmaki Isthmus from at least the 1700s, and continues to do so. Mana whenua is an aspect of tikanga Māori (Māori customary practices) that broadly aligns with the Pakeha concept of territorial rights and authority over land. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei gained mana whenua in its primary area of interest via raupatu and ahi kā – continuous occupation. This is considered to be the strongest evidence of rights in the land.
3. As tāngata whenua for central Auckland we have a key role in developing this city. We look forward to working in partnership with our wider Ngāti Whātua iwi, neighbouring iwi, Government, Auckland Council and our communities. The environmental issues we face are bigger than all of us. As well as tackling a legacy of environmental and cultural neglect, we face new and serious challenges, often global in nature: climate change, resource depletion and population growth. We can only deal with these by co-operation.
4. At the same time, we now face new constraints arising from the global Covid-19 pandemic. In this context, public finances are limited, and prioritisation becomes difficult. We consider that **water**, and especially the legacy issues of **water quality** degradation should be the number one priority for local government in Auckland.
5. This is reflected in our LTP submission to the Governing Body, a copy of which is attached.
6. We appreciate that these are also difficult times for the Local Boards, and we commend Ōrākei Local Board for your work in identifying local priorities. We find much agreement with the stated aims.



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

7. In particular, we strongly support your key advocacy initiatives for 2021-2031 (although our own priorities would reverse the order of presentation):
 - **Advocate to Auckland Transport for the links to the Glen Innes to Tamaki Drive Shared Path**
 - **Pourewa Valley enhancement**
 - **Hobson Bay catchment wastewater/stormwater separation**
8. We look forward to working closely with the Ōrākei Local Board to further the realisation of these matters.
9. We would also like to discuss further the proposal for an *Ōrākei Arts Plan to guide future enhancement of art, local heritage and culture at our public facilities and places*. We are also undertaking work in this area and expect that, again, there will be much common interest.

Nāku noa, nā

Attachment: Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan), Consultation Response of, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan)

Waitematā Local Board

Consultation Response of

Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei (22 March 2021)

Tēnā koutou

1. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei are the tāngata whenua and mana whenua in the Central Isthmus of Auckland. This is acknowledged in the 2011 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Deed of Settlement and the Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei Claims Settlement Act 2012.
2. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei historically exercised mana whenua in the Tāmaki Isthmus from at least the 1700s, and continues to do so. Mana whenua is an aspect of tikanga Māori (Māori customary practices) that broadly aligns with the Pakeha concept of territorial rights and authority over land. Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei gained mana whenua in its primary area of interest via raupatu and ahi kā – continuous occupation. This is considered to be the strongest evidence of rights in the land.
3. As tāngata whenua for central Auckland we have a key role in developing this city. We look forward to working in partnership with our wider Ngāti Whātua iwi, neighbouring iwi, Government, Auckland Council and our communities. The environmental issues we face are bigger than all of us. As well as tackling a legacy of environmental and cultural neglect, we face new and serious challenges, often global in nature: climate change, resource depletion and population growth. We can only deal with these by co-operation.
4. At the same time, we now face new constraints arising from the global Covid-19 pandemic. In this context, public finances are limited, and prioritisation becomes difficult. We consider that **water**, and especially the legacy issues of **water quality** degradation should be the number one priority for local government in Auckland.
5. This is reflected in our LTP submission to the Governing Body, a copy of which is attached.



NGĀTI WHĀTUA ŌRĀKEI

6. We appreciate that these are also difficult times for the Local Boards, and we commend Waitematā Local Board for your work in identifying local priorities. We find much agreement with the stated aims.
7. In particular, we strongly support your key priorities for 2021-2031 (although our own priorities would reverse the order of presentation):
 - **Improve air and water quality and clean up our waterways.** Encouraging restoration of local streams, such as Waipapa, Waiparuru and Newmarket streams, and supporting programmes that improve biodiversity in the Hauraki Gulf. Pourewa Valley enhancement
 - **To grow our urban ngahere (forest),** we will prioritise planting at sites identified in the 'Planting Opportunities List' that will help deliver the goal of providing 30 per cent of tree canopy cover within our local board area by 2050.
 - **We will continue to work with mana whenua,** and the community groups and across council to identify appropriate sites for regenerative urban farms which will capture carbon, that increase biodiversity, enrich soils, improve watersheds, and enhance ecosystem services, with the aim that they become self-sustaining and create employment.
 - We will continue to provide support to **address homelessness and improve dignity and wellbeing.** This includes initiatives that provide basic amenities, such as drinking fountains, showers, toilets and lockers.
8. These priorities are in close accordance with our own, and we look forward to working closely with the Waitematā Local Board to further their realisations.

Nāku noa, nā

Attachment: Auckland Council 10-year Budget 2021-2031 (long-term plan), Consultation Response of, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Property Council New Zealand

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 16692 for more info

Important privacy information

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22 March 2021

Email: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Auckland Council Draft Long-term Plan 2021-31

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Property Council New Zealand Auckland Branch (“Property Council”) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Auckland Council’s draft Long-term Plan 2021-31 (“the LTP”). While we support the draft LTP, we have made a couple of recommendations to ensure better and fairer outcomes for all.
- 1.2 At a high level we recommend the following:
- Ensure that the ‘double-dipping’ issue does not occur when using special purpose vehicles (“SPVs”) enabled through the Infrastructure Funding and Financing (“IFF”) Act 2020;
 - Consider alternative options for the stated rates increase:
 - increase rates in 2022/23;
 - split the increase over four years and then return post this.
 - Adopt Option 1 (Moderately accelerate climate action) as a climate change response;
 - Adopt Option 1 (Focus Strategy) as the Council’s response to housing and growth;
 - Extend the City Centre Targeted rate to 2030/2031 to coincide with the end date of the LTP with a review taking place every three or six years to align with the LTP.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 Property Council’s purpose is; “Together, shaping cities where communities thrive”. We believe in the creation and retention of well-designed, functional and sustainable built environments which contribute to New Zealand’s overall prosperity. We support policies that provide a framework to enhance economic growth, development, liveability and growing communities.
- 2.2 Our Auckland Branch has 360 businesses as members. The property industry contributed \$22.8 billion in 2016 to the Auckland economy, with a direct impact of \$10.5 billion (13 per cent of the GDP) and indirect flow-on effects of \$12.3 billion. It employs 53,050 directly which equates to eight per cent of the total employment in Auckland. For every \$1.00 spent by the Property Industry it has a flow-on effect of \$1.70 to the Greater Auckland region.

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2.3 This submission responds to the [10-year Budget 2021-31 Consultation Document](#) and [Supporting Information Document](#). In preparing our submission we sought and received feedback from a selection of our Auckland-based members. Comments and recommendations are provided on those issues that are relevant to Property Council and its members.

3. Key issue 1: Proposed investment package

CAPEX Programme

3.1 Auckland Council (“the Council”) is proposing to invest \$31 billion over the next 10 years primarily on transport and water infrastructure (75 per cent of the total CAPEX). We support the proposal as investment in core infrastructure is essential for the city to function. We also support the proactive approach the Council is taking to asset renewal (i.e. replacing network pipes rather than waiting until they fail). Events in Wellington last year are a good reminder (collapsing wastewater pipes in Wellington, necessitating the diversion of 100 litres of waste a second into the harbour).¹

Strategic Infrastructure Funding Direction

3.2 We support the Council’s strategic infrastructure funding direction, particularly around collaboration with the Government to explore alternative funding tools, including user charges, targeted rates, public-private partnerships and special purpose vehicles. In particular, SPVs involve debt sitting off the council’s balance sheet and is helpful for those council that are approaching their debt limits. It has been successfully implemented internationally and was adopted for greenfield development in Milldale. This tool also became a foundation for the IFF Act 2020, which the Property Council strongly supports. Further use of SPVs would help support much needed investment in growth and infrastructure from new developments.

3.3 We have some concerns, however, in relation to local government implementation of the IFF Act as it enables the local authority to collect development contributions to pay for certain infrastructure, while that same piece of infrastructure is paid for from the multi-year levy. It is important to ensure that the ‘double-dipping’ issue does not occur at the implementation stage at local government level. We are happy to provide further advice on that if required.²

Asset recycling

3.4 The Council is aiming to sell or lease surplus properties and reinvest the proceeds to meet Auckland’s critical infrastructure needs. We support the proposal as it provides an opportunity to create funding capacity. It is timely given the pace of the population growth and growing demand for new infrastructure in Auckland.

3.5 As per the Productivity Commission report on local government funding and financing, it is sensible for councils to regularly review their asset portfolio to assess whether their present

¹ Investigation into Wellington’s Olympic-sized wastewater spill. Retrieved from https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12298674

² See Property Council’s submission on the Infrastructure Funding and Financing Bill - https://www.propertynz.co.nz/sites/default/files/uploaded-content/field_f_content_file/200305-pcnz_submission_iff_bill_5_march_2020.pdf



return from assets is better than alternative approaches.³ As part of this assessment, the Council should explore their options for asset recycling, including through the preparation of business cases.

Debt levels

- 3.6 The Council aims to increase borrowing to a temporarily higher debt-to-revenue ratio of up to 290 per cent for the first three years, gradually returning to 270 per cent thereafter. We commend on the Council's proposal to increase borrowing as this will help deliver the CAPEX programme, and keep rates, fees and charges at the reasonable level.

Rates

- 3.7 The Council is proposing to increase the average general rates for 2021/22 by 5 per cent before returning to 3.5 per cent from the following year onwards. This one-off increase would help the Council meet the crisis caused by COVID-19.
- 3.8 We understand the Councils' rationale to lift Auckland up to the level required to allow for the budget and delivery of key projects and services. However, ratepayers are under significant financial pressure due to the ongoing impacts and uncertainties of COVID-19 (especially last two lockdowns in Auckland). Therefore, we recommend Council to consider alternative options for the stated rates increase:
- a delayed rates increase in 2022/23;
 - split the increase over 4 years and then return post this.
- 3.9 These options will ease the funding burden on ratepayers in the post-COVID-19 recovery we now find ourselves in. In particular the increase in cost at a time that businesses are struggling from the lockdowns would be less impactful if this were spread to future years.

4. Key issue 2: Responding to Climate Change

- 4.1 We support additional investment to accelerate climate change actions (Option 1 in the Consultation Document). This option would provide \$152 million of additional financial investment to accelerate Council's contribution to the regional climate change goals.
- 4.2 Significant investments will be required to adapt to climate impacts and make infrastructure across Auckland more resilient to climate change. Given the impact of COVID-19, Auckland's businesses and communities will need significantly more support from the council and central government to become resilient to impacts of climate change. When compared with the two other options, Option 1 is more affordable.

5. Key issue 3: Responding to housing and growth

- 5.1 We support the Council's decision to focus resources on a few key locations (Option 1 in the Consultation Document) to enable an opportunity for a more efficient infrastructure investment. We are also supportive of the Council's intention to make a use of the IFF Act as

³ New Zealand Productivity Commission. (2019). Local government funding and financing: Final report. Retrieved from https://www.productivity.govt.nz/assets/Documents/a40d80048d/Final-report_Local-government-funding-and-financing.pdf



that would enable timelier provision of local infrastructure underpinning housing and urban development. However, as mentioned above in para 3.3, it is critical to ensure that the ‘double-dipping’ issue does not occur.

6. Key issue 5: Protecting and enhancing environment

- 6.1 The Council is proposing to extend and increase the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031, providing an additional \$150 million. The recovery budget is also proposing to extend the Natural Environment Target Rate from 2028 to 2031.
- 6.2 Property Council supports targeted rates as an alternative funding and financing tool. Funding mechanisms such as targeted rates support the principles of transparency and objectivity in legislation (Local Government Act 2002 and Local Governing (Rating) Act 2002). This is a beneficiary pay model, meaning those who benefit or use the service contribute towards it. For example, money collected via targeted rates are ringfenced to a project or geographic area that will benefit from the funding. We support beneficiary pay funding mechanisms, as they are transparent and provide a better understanding and opportunity to engage on where rates are spent.

7. Rates

Business Rates

- 7.1 The Council considers that business rates are too high compared to residential rates. Therefore, the average increase in rates for residential ratepayers will be slightly higher at 5.34 per cent, and the average increase in rates for business ratepayers will be slightly lower at 3.52 per cent.
- 7.2 We strongly support the Council’s position. The rating system should be as fair and equitable as possible to all ratepayers to accurately reflect the costs paid in relation to the benefits received from rates expenditure. However, this is not always the case, with commercial ratepayers often cross-subsidising residential ratepayers by paying a higher proportion of rates, while receiving lower proportion of benefits.⁴

Extending the duration of the City Centre Targeted Rate

- 7.3 We support the extension of the end date of the City Centre Targeted Rate to 2030/2031 financial year to coincide with the end date of the LTP. This would provide more certainty for those who pay the targeted rate and would best align with city centre projects established in the LTP. We recommend this is reviewed every three or six years to align with future LTPs.
- 7.4 We support the city centre targeted rate being extended to fund city centre projects set out within the City Centre Masterplan Refresh. Property Council’s submission on the Masterplan Refresh recommended greater connection between Wynyard Quarter with Britomart and Aotea Square to allow the waterfront to flourish. We also supported the proposed streetscape work and laneway developments (e.g. High Street) and recommended more engagement with city centre users to identify future pedestrian friendly areas within the CBD are developed. We are pleased to see where the City Centre Masterplan Refresh has landed and are particularly

⁴ Urban Economics. (2018). Economic Evaluation of Tauranga City Council Proposed Rates Differential Policy.



supportive of Grafton Gully and Boulevard. We wish to see more public transport connections developed to better access Wynyard Quarter and the waterfront.

8. Development Contribution Policy

8.1 The Development Contribution policy will be further updated separately from the LTP, informed by final decisions on the capital programme. Our members can offer substantial assistance with drafting the policy and we would like to formally request we be consulted.

9. Conclusion

9.1 We support the LTP in principle. To ensure better and fairer outcomes for all, we have made a couple of recommendations, including alternative options to rates increase.

9.2 Property Council members invest, own and develop property across Auckland. We wish to thank Auckland Council for the opportunity to submit on the LTP as this gives our members a chance to have their say in how Auckland is shaped, today and into the future. **We also wish to be heard in support of our submission.**

9.3 For any further queries contact _____ ia email:



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

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Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 16694 for more info

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22 March 2021

AK Have Your Say
Auckland Council
Freepost authority 182382
Private bag 92 300
Auckland 1142

Dear Sir/Madam

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Submission on the Auckland Council Long Term Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Auckland Council Long-term Plan (10-year Budget 2021-2031).

Waka Kotahi, the NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi), is a Crown Entity required by the Land Transport Management Act 2003 to undertake its functions in a way that contributes to an effective, efficient, and safe land transport system in the public interest. Waka Kotahi's functions include:

- to manage the State Highway system, including planning, funding, design, construction, maintenance and operation;
- to assist, advise, and co-operate with approved organisations; and
- to manage funding of the land transport system.

Waka Kotahi is also required to give effect to the Government Policy Statement (GPS) on Land Transport. The 2021 GPS identifies four strategic priorities:

- Better travel options
- Safety
- Climate change
- Improving freight connections

In addition, the Auckland Transport Alignment Project (ATAP) is recognised as a specific Government Commitment in the GPS.

Waka Kotahi acknowledges the importance of the publication of Auckland Council's long-term Plan and the draft Auckland Regional Land Transport Programme (draft ARLTP) that will follow.

Transport Investment

Waka Kotahi highly values its role, alongside Council, as a co-investor in the transport system for Auckland. As Council will be aware, Waka Kotahi continues to work closely with Council, Auckland Transport (AT) and key stakeholders on a range of initiatives to improve transport in Auckland and in ensuring that transport is fully integrated with land use. In particular the collaborative ATAP process is providing certainty and progress on addressing Auckland's transport challenges.

Waka Kotahi supports the level of investment in transport that the LTP enables to give effect to ATAP, which has been updated to reflect shared objectives between Council and Government. Council is a major funding source for transport (as agreed through ATAP), so it is critical for this level of revenue to be provided for the ATAP package to be fully implemented.

We also encourage Council to continue to explore options for additional revenue, especially where this helps deliver more equitable outcomes – for example growth paying for growth. We note that there is a shortfall in Council funding under traditional funding settings to deliver the ATAP package and are keen to work with the council to address this issue in a collaborative way.

Waka Kotahi does not wish to be heard in support of its submission on the LTP.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit on the LTP. Waka Kotahi looks forward to working with Council and AT to advance the 10-year plan for Auckland.

Yours sincerely



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): University Of Auckland

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

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What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

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Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

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See attachment 16697for more info

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10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Auckland Business Chamber

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why: see attachment 16698 for full submission from Auckland Business Chamber -

Capital expenditure

14. It's not clear from the Recovery Budget documentation whether any of the cuts to funding for arts and culture made under the Emergency Budget will be carried over to the Recovery Budget.

15. We urge Council to maintain, as a minimum, pre-Emergency Budget levels of funding in the new Budget to ensure these changes do not have a negative effect on the Auckland arts sector in the medium- and long-term.

16. Regarding additional capital funding of \$50 million to enable the restoration of the Art Gallery Heritage Building, we would welcome this additional spend and tautoko continued investment in the city's key cultural institutions.

17. We support the proposal for increased investment in Q Theatre. Q Theatre plays an integral role in Auckland's arts ecosystem and we are delighted to see additional support for running costs, arts development and venue maintenance be made available.

18. The Council's proposed city centre and local development projects present opportunities for the Council to work with artists, arts groups and organisations to incorporate art/cultural elements into infrastructure projects. This would help the Council to realise its aims of supporting business, strong and inclusive communities and showcasing Auckland's culture and identity, and to incorporating Te Aranga design principles in line with your commitments under Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau.

19. The Mayoral Proposal stated the proposed budget includes reinstatement of the contestable Regional organisation Events Fund, Regional organisation Community Development Grants, and Regional organisation Arts and Culture Grants, which support organisations and communities in arts, culture and event spaces. While there wasn't specific mention of this in the Recovery Budget, we urge you to uphold this commitment. These funds provide crucial support for artists and arts organisations in Auckland.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

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Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or

rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 16698 for more info

Important privacy information

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Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

SUBMISSION BY THE AUCKLAND BUSINESS CHAMBER ON THE AUCKLAND COUNCIL 10-YEAR BUDGET 2021-2031 LONG TERM PLAN CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

INTRODUCTION

1. The Auckland Business Chamber appreciates the opportunity to make a submission on the Auckland Council Emergency Budget Consultation document (Emergency Budget).

Address for service:

- To Chamber Chief Executive,
2. The Auckland Business Chamber has a significant corporate membership, including thousands of small and medium sized businesses that expect their views to be forcefully represented in this Submission.
 3. The Chamber is dedicated to supporting Auckland's development as New Zealand's leading commercial centre, international trade and visitor gateway, investment, technology, education and cultural hub and a desirable place to live, work and play for our 1.7 million citizens.
 4. The Chamber's approach is to establish constructive partnerships and relationships with central and local government as well as other business and growth champions to contribute to shared delivery of these objectives for Auckland.

SUBMISSION

5. The impact of Covid's disruptions on the city and changes in people's work, retail, digital and social behaviours should be a circuit breaker.
6. We have an opportunity to demonstrate courageous leadership and turn old thinking, planning assumptions, service offers, and operational, finance and funding models on their heads.
7. This budget should herald a new mindset by Council to act with urgency and resolve, to be more efficient, agile, and smarter with how it spends, optimises assets, funds infrastructure, attracts capabilities and investment, and works with other councils, central government, the private sector and community to build a world-class city.
8. This 10-year budget should be aspirational and focused on enabling Auckland to be a place where the future starts.
9. The pandemic showed us that to succeed Council must update its planning assumptions and find fit for purpose funding, financing, operating and partnership delivery models to increase value for ratepayers.

10. Calling this the Recovery Budget is a hospital pass to perpetuate the past and languish in mediocrity.
11. Council says the Budget will ensure continued investment in key transport, housing, water, environment infrastructure, services and facilities and work to protect the environment and accelerates actions to address the threats of climate change and zero emissions goals.
12. The \$31 billion spend, supported by \$55 billion operational expenditure, proposes to do what no business would or could do – slams ratepayers with record increases in rates, water charges and public transport fares.
13. Ratepayers will disproportionately be left to fill the billion-dollar fiscal hole, support ongoing investment and suffer slower than desirable replacement or upgrading of ageing infrastructure.
14. We will pay more for less.

Rates Model Unfair and Use by Date has Expired

15. The rates burden is shared by 600,000 business and household property owners who effectively subsidise over one million residents who use Council services, amenities, and facilities.
16. This is unfair.
17. While the urban rating area will net more rural properties and reduce the increase for business properties, Council did not offer ratepayers the choice of a zero-rate increase or a payment deferment option. That would have acknowledged that personal and business incomes have been hard hit by the yo-yoing lockdowns and new ways of operating.
18. Council provides a Clayton's choice of a one-off five per cent rates increase in 2021 followed by 3.5 per cent annual hikes for the period of the Recovery Budget to maintain essential services and "keep the city moving forward".
19. Council claims it cannot contemplate a zero-rates rise as the short and long-term effects on the city would be too devastating.
20. It is galling that Council trivialises the rates increase as equivalent to about 70 cents a week for the average household. If 70 cents a week in extra rates is going to service the status quo why not hike it to \$1.40 if that would solve the problem,
21. No other options but rates increases, along with an unpalatable rise of 7 per cent for our Watercare sewage and water bills for the next eight years, a 4 per cent rise in public transport fares, and a raft of targeted rates, are on the table.

22. In the mix are targeted rates for accommodation providers, the bed tax, city centre, business improvement districts, water quality and increases in waste management rates.
23. Borrowing more, working with central government to fund national asset infrastructure and user charging are tools that would give Council the means to efficiently fund the costs of growth and necessary upgrades to ease the pressure on ratepayers.

Borrowing Mechanisms are Available

24. Levying rates should not be the default funding mechanism.
25. Under Section 15 of the Local Government Borrowing Act 2011, the Crown may lend money to the Local Government Funding Agency under which Council as a member – along with other New Zealand councils – secures its global ‘AA’ rating by agencies such as Standard & Poors and Moodys.
26. The 2011 Act states that the Crown can lend money to the Funding Agency when the Minister considers it necessary to meet an exceptional and temporary liquidity shortfall.
27. Given Council’s reluctance or inability to quickly introduce a user pay culture, the business case should be put forward to Government for a low-interest loan, or indemnity, to cover the income shortfall.
28. The Chamber suggests Council joins forces with other income-strapped councils to seek to use Section 15 of the Borrowing Act to offset some of the loss in revenue because of Covid-19 lockdowns and the change in people’s behaviours to work remotely and not use public transport and other services.
29. Government took steps to increase its debt level from around 20 per cent of GDP to up to 50 per cent of GDP, taking advantage of a strong credit rating and availability of low interest rates. A billion-dollar loan to set councils up for recovery would support jobs, business activity and new investment to enable growth, a reasonable return on the state’s helping hand.
30. Council too lifted its borrowing to revenue ceiling to a temporary higher ratio of 290 per cent for three years before settling back to its maximum of 270 per cent which will not affect our credit ratings and enable debt to finance long-term assets.
31. Aucklanders would like to see what Standard & Poors and Moodys have said, and evidence of why Council favours rates and service fee hikes over borrowing or reinventing its service model to deliver savings and efficiencies.
32. The Chamber acknowledges that Council reduced staff numbers, constrained salaries and deferred spending on lower priority projects, finding \$90 million in savings and \$70 million available to reinvest each year in infrastructure following the sale of surplus properties.
33. Without that first wave of savings, the debt ratio would go higher, we are told.

Old Financing and Funding Model is Broken

34. Critical to offsetting the ratepayers' burden, is bringing central government inside the tent as a full partner to develop national infrastructure assets like POAL, the airport, another north-south harbour crossing.
35. Cooperation is possible and both Council and central government have indicated a desire to work better together.
36. Auckland won a \$500 million share of 'shovel ready' infrastructure fund projects.
37. The Auckland Transport Alignment Plan demonstrates what can be done with central government to get Auckland moving and more productive with billions in funding for improving key transport nodes, axis roads, rail, and electrification of public transport assets. This is on top of Council's budget allocation.
38. Agreement on ownership and management of Watercare under the Three Waters Policy is ripe for consultation to find a fit for purpose ownership and operational model or hybrid.
39. The investment required – and the shock of having to find \$239 million to fund new water supply spending to respond to Auckland's drought – coupled with the additional \$500 million on the City Rail Link, has reduced flexibility to spend in other areas.
40. The Council is no different from a business and rather than snipping at the edges or telling ratepayers what they cannot or will not do, it would be timely to identify what can be done differently and better to make Auckland great again.
41. We need to fill the fiscal hole, make up the loss of dividends from the airport and port but there is urgency to build back better and smarter so Auckland reopens to the world as a digitally capable, productive, competitive economy that attracts international investment and skills.
42. We should learn from the past not replicate it.
43. Council and partners from across the government and private sector can help identify what to do differently, who could do it better, and what ownership and operating models should be employed to deliver superb results.
44. Council has an asset portfolio that would be attractive to private sector investors and operators.
45. Owner-operator is not the only model Council should consider. There are funding, financing and operating models to investigate from borrowing, special purpose bonds, a general tax levy, PPPs or outsourcing services for example. It is having the will to find the way.
46. It is time to review how Council funds, finances and operates services and builds assets.

Optimising Assets

47. Strategic assets and strategic national assets located in Auckland, like our harbour bridge, port and airport, must be optimised – and maintained.
48. Cost cutting and slowdowns in repairing, upgrading and replacing critical infrastructure is unacceptable and repeats successive administrations delaying investment until there is a catastrophe.
49. New Zealand, not just Auckland, is impacted when there is a breakdown as witnessed by the Harbour Bridge lane closures or the slow progress in upgrading key arterial transport routes for the free flow of trade, freight and people.
50. The Chamber is heartened by the contractual commitments in place for large, multi-year projects like the Central Interceptor and Eastern Busway and the 10-year Budget promotes big spends on key road, busway, public transport and cycle and pedestrian mobility to create in the future an integrated transport network across our sprawling city.
51. Transport is a priority sector for the Council but despite the dollar spend there is no evidence that there will be improvement in congestion – the very issue that causes emission pollution, costs time, money, resources and lost productivity.
52. The budget seeks to hold down asset renewal expenditure to keep the condition of our assets within what it defines as “adequate” and “acceptable” parameters, Renewals and upgrades will be deferred. This is unacceptable.
53. Council says it is confident that the \$900 million allocated over the next three years for critical infrastructure will reduce risks. Really?
54. Watercare has a \$2.5 billion-dollar hole that puts Auckland at risk from asset failure, sewage overflows, inability to respond to an emergency, and drastic cuts to overdue infrastructure investment and upgrades.
55. Aucklanders will not tolerate sewage overflows, localised flooding, non-compliant or connected subdivisions or apartment developments and decrepit century-old wastewater and stormwater infrastructure after all the promises.
56. The council-controlled utility needs to be unshackled from the restraints of local government ownership.
57. A new funding and operating model is required. It could serve as the template for other councils to get an efficient, safe, reliable and robust “three waters” service to support the health and wealth of communities.
58. There should be wide consultation and investigation on world-class best practice and best operating and ownership models to identify the solution.

- 59. On another level, the Budget suggests a change in how community services might be delivered and supported, inferring that not all assets will be renewed or offered in the future. For the sake of transparency and accountability Council should identify these.
- 60. Council also has said it will not support all the Unitary Plan growth areas, focusing instead on a few key areas in the central city and North Shore, Drury and the Northwest and along the City Rail Link stops.
- 61. Understandable, and probably prudent, but where is the plan then to manage the increased demands on services from transport to water to community amenities from the construction explosion in Lego-land apartments in the city.
- 62. Intensification also requires intensification of service provision.

Efficiencies

- 63. The Chamber has requested on several occasions a robust and searching review of Council’s internal cost structures, holding the view, like many others, that further savings and efficiencies can be found to offset rate increases.
- 64. The recent independent review on the CCOs showed the way.
- 65. The Chamber believes that after 10 years as a “super city”, a transparent and independent review of core and non-core services would be timely.
- 66. The aim would be to eliminate wastage and duplication, look at optimum staffing, remuneration, capabilities, digital solutions and tools, and strategic planning. The end goal would be a blueprint to accelerate productivity, efficiency, and speed of delivery against clear performance milestones.
- 67. Council should be able to demonstrate to citizens that it is a high performing entity that operates best practice and manages finances and priorities to deliver the best return, satisfaction and fit for performance services for Aucklanders.
- 68. It needs to demonstrate that it has a vision, values and can do will do culture that puts serving people first, cares for the environment and supports growth.

Climate Change Mitigation

- 69. Council has declared a climate emergency and committed to halving emissions by 2030, buying a new electric bus fleet, turning Queen Street into a zero-carbon zone, planting trees and increasing the spend on cycleways while seemingly deciding footpath maintenance can be deferred. There’s also money to mitigate environmental damage from the weather and tidal extremes from global warming.

70. Without dismissing the urgency to act, the Chamber questions whether the \$150 million allocated to climate change plans, half what was mooted, could be spent on other priorities and improvements.
71. We are in the Paris Accord but despite the criticisms, we are not a big polluter, contributing just 0.17% of global emissions versus China, producing 25% of global emissions, the USA 15% India emitting 7%, Russia 5% or Japan 3%.
72. Our emissions are high for our size because of greenhouse gas from animal methane from those ruminant animals that produce the dairy, lamb, wool and beef exports that underpin our GDP and help feed the world.
73. We are one of the world's best, most efficient producers of natural product and we also have the national profile, reputation and leadership to make a difference by exerting influence internationally on the big polluters.
74. Politically that may be unpopular, but Auckland right now needs all the money it can get to put us back together again.

CONCLUSION

75. This is budget looking for a vision, a coordinated strategy and plan that thinks fresh and gets to the root of our deep-seated funding and financial issues so we build a city of opportunities and ideas where the future is lived every day.
76. Status quo thinking, planning and assumptions will not work. No city let alone country can talk about a 10-year recovery budget.
77. Council needs to be more ambitious. Auckland should be a city at the centre of the world, a desirable investment hub, full of opportunities, open to partnerships, a centre of excellence for new technologies and creative thinking, and a great place to live.
78. Change and opportunity came with Covid-19. People quickly learned to adapt, to work from home, use technology, shop online, invent new services, socialise in the suburbs and avoid the CBD. Even Council has given employees choice and runs its city offices at just 50 per cent capacity to the chagrin of struggling hospitality and retail businesses.
79. The CBD will take time, if ever, to hum again with hordes of people, visitors, students, shoppers and commuters, but much of the Budget predicated spending on a return to the past.
80. Council must change for good and set the pace in containing costs, leveraging its huge assets and creating new funding, financing and operating mechanisms that support growth.
81. The Chamber is the voice for a wide constituency and many businesses who have changed to deal with the new world have found it rewarding and would never return to the old ways.

82. We make our suggestions and recommendations in a positive and constructive spirit to support the liveability and viability of our city and its governance.

83. We look forward to our input being included in the final Budget document.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Auckland Business Forum

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Other

Tell us why: see attachment 16703 for full submission from Auckland Business Forum - 1. Introduction and Covid impact on Business.

In addressing a snapshot of our thoughts on the proposed 10 year "recovery" budget, we wanted to highlight that in our view business is not just a segment of society. Business is the heart of a community and what makes a city a city. They

are the places where people spend most of their lives, it's where they receive income to support their families, it's where they go for coffee, food, goods and services and of course, to socialise and build community. They are the heart and rhythm of a city. A healthy businesses community is a healthy community. COVID-19 has proved to be an extremely challenging time for many business sectors. While some sectors are doing well, such as business services and construction, decor and home improvement, many are not. Hardest hit are our tourism operators, beauty and personal care, education, retail and hospitality. The movement of people has also changed and our town centre that relies on office workers has been greatly effected with numerous office workers now working from home, many still a few days a week. We have fewer people in our centre as shown with pedestrian movements and parking usage compared to pre-covid levels, making it very tough for business.

Council have called this 10 year budget a "recovery budget", however we do not feel that it goes far enough in supporting businesses to recover due to the effects of COVID-19.

We would like to see business recovery and economic stimulus as the key focus in this budget. This needs to have the biggest weighting for all council decisions over the next few years. Every council decision should be asking the question "how will this support businesses". Projects that support businesses need to be prioritized over those that don't.

2. Proposed 10 Year Budget

Our overall feedback is that we support the need to continue with Council's capital investment of \$31 billion over the next 10 years and recognise that Council is projected to have its revenue impacted by around \$1 billion as a result of COVID-19.

However, we do not agree with the proposed one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022 rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase.

We note the positive statements made in Council's half year financial results indicating a more optimistic outlook is warranted, so we would ask that Council give due consideration to keeping any rates increase to a minimum for 2021/2022 and using other identified levers such as;

- increasing Council borrowing;
- making deeper cost savings and prioritising spending; and
- selling more surplus property.

We also believe the allocation of funds should have a greater proportion going to Local Board priorities including transport through the Local Board Transport Capital Fund. Local board are in the strongest position to prioritise projects. They are across the unique attributes of each of their communities and areas and are best placed to allocate spending appropriately and wisely.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

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We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

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Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

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The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?**Tell us why:****Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?****6. Local Boards****7. What is important to you?****Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?**

see attachment 16703 SUBMISSION OF THE AUCKLAND BUSINESS FORUM ON AUCKLAND COUNCIL'S 10-YEAR BUDGET, 2021-31 (LONG TERM PLAN) for a business case surrounding Regional organisation transport improvements.

SUMMARY

- The Auckland Business Forum is a lead group of business organisations formed to advocate fast-paced delivery of Auckland's long-planned integrated transport infrastructure network.
- The Forum notes that Council's 10-year Budget agrees that the transport network is 'critical to the people, businesses and economy of Auckland'.
- The proposed one-off five percent increase in average general rates and increased borrowing limits, allows an extra \$550 million for transport but is still not enough to meet demand and there is a lot of uncertainty on detail – it is hard to work out whether the transport investments are aligned with planned urban developments or/and managing congestion.
- The Forum submits that this is because the three key outcomes listed - more people using public transport, more people walking and cycling in the city; and, less people dying or getting injured on our roads[1] - are not outcomes. Better travel times, better access, and lower accident rates are outcomes. More people on buses off a very low base means nothing.
- With Auckland's population projected to increase by more than 300,000 to be above two million by 2031, the Forum submits that increasing population will primarily fuel demand for better transport – not climate change and the degradation of our natural environment.
- We strongly recommend the Budget prioritise transport investment to support urban growth and introduce new thinking to deal with worsening congestion – public transport use is expected to continue to increase but congestion is predicted to get worse.
- As other world cities have done, a congestion charging scheme is needed, coupled with increased attention to provide convenient public transport.
- Auckland's critical transport investments required are not Council's alone, but involve central Government – The big 'value for money' investments to ensure the Budget delivers a well-planned transport network and services are missing. They include the Eastern and Northwestern busways, the East West Link, the next Waitemata Harbour Crossing, a rapid transit network, a road pricing scheme and continued improvement of the State Highway motorway system.
- A single, clear long-term (30-year) plan is required setting out the transport network outcome the city needs to manage congestion and urban growth. With this over-arching transport and urban development plan in place, Council's Budget would be more certain and transparent.

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AUCKLAND BUSINESS FORUM

Outcome: Integrated Transport Network

SUBMISSION OF THE AUCKLAND BUSINESS FORUM ON AUCKLAND COUNCIL'S 10-YEAR BUDGET, 2021-31 (LONG TERM PLAN)

SUMMARY

- The **Auckland Business Forum** is a lead group of business organisations formed to advocate fast-paced delivery of Auckland's long-planned integrated transport infrastructure network.
- The Forum *notes* that Council's 10-year Budget agrees that the transport network is 'critical to the people, businesses and economy of Auckland'.
- The proposed one-off five percent increase in average general rates and increased borrowing limits, *allows* an extra \$550 million for transport but is still not enough to meet demand and there is a lot of uncertainty on detail – it is hard to work out whether the transport investments are aligned with planned urban developments or/and managing congestion.
- The Forum *submits* that this is because the three key outcomes listed - more people using public transport, more people walking and cycling in the city; and, less people dying or getting injured on our roads^[1] - are not outcomes. Better travel times, better access, and lower accident rates are outcomes. More people on buses off a very low base means nothing.
- With Auckland's population projected to increase by more than 300,000 to be above two million by 2031, the Forum *submits* that increasing population will primarily fuel demand for better transport – not climate change and the degradation of our natural environment.
- We *strongly recommend* the Budget prioritise transport investment to support urban growth and introduce new thinking to deal with worsening congestion – public transport use is expected to continue to increase but congestion is predicted to get worse.
- As other world cities have done, a congestion charging scheme is needed, coupled with increased attention to provide convenient public transport.
- Auckland's critical transport investments required are not Council's alone, but involve central Government – The big 'value for money' investments to ensure the Budget delivers a well-planned transport network and services are missing. They include the Eastern and Northwestern busways, the East West Link, the next Waitemata Harbour Crossing, a rapid transit network, a road pricing scheme and continued improvement of the State Highway motorway system.
- A single, clear long-term (30-year) plan is required setting out the transport network outcome the city needs to manage congestion and urban growth. With this over-arching transport and urban development plan in place, Council's Budget would be more certain and transparent.

^[1] Consultation document, page 68

- The Forum *recommends* the Budget be strengthened to spell out the ‘alignment’ of Council-Government investments required to ensure the city continues to be a liveable and efficient centre for undertaking business.

INTRODUCTION

1. This is a submission by the **Auckland Business Forum** in response to the consultation document for Auckland Council’s 2021 – 2031 Long Term Plan.
2. Founded in 1999 by a group of Auckland business organisations concerned at the lack of investment needed to deliver the transport network with options required to meet the demands of a fast-growing city, the Forum advocated fast-paced delivery of the long-planned integrated transport infrastructure network.
3. Members include the Auckland Business Chamber, Employers & Manufacturers Association, Civil Contractors NZ, National Road Carriers, NZ Automobile Association, Infrastructure NZ.
4. *Address for service:* Chairman, Michael Barnett, via Executive Assistant, April Kerr; Email: akerr@chamber.co.nz, Phone: 302 9916.
5. The submission focus is on transport.

SUBMISSION

Key transport outcomes needed to address congestion and urban growth:

6. Transport will use 36% of Council’s \$87,000 million budget over the 10-years; spending \$12,290 million on capital works and \$19,186 on operations.
7. The three key outcomes listed at page 68 - more people using public transport, more people walking and cycling in the city; and, less people dying or getting injured on our roads – are not outcomes. Better travel times, better access, and lower accidents are outcomes. More people on buses in-and-of itself means nothing.
8. Yet slower travel times through worsening traffic congestion is currently having the biggest direct impact on Aucklanders’ lifestyle and the Auckland economy. The document mentions the benefits of decongesting Auckland’s transport at between \$0.9 billion and \$1.3 billion per year (approximately 1-to-1.5 per cent of Auckland’s GDP). A recent business survey found that 33 per cent of respondents now view traffic congestion as the main obstacle to growth and operations, up from just 5 per cent four years ago.^[2]
9. **New thinking is required** to address road congestion and urban growth. As other world cities have done, a congestion charging scheme is needed, coupled with increased attention to provide convenient and rapid public transport.
10. Public transport use in Auckland is growing fast – off a very low base. This is expected to continue but congestion is predicted to continue to get worse despite the huge investment proposed in this plan and recently confirmed in the Auckland Transport Alignment Project programme (ATAP).

^[2] Consultation document, page 11

11. Council's 10-year Budget could/should start the process by targeting better travel times (i.e., reduced congestion) and better access to support growth as key transport outcomes.
12. Doing this would give some measured assurance that the Budget will deliver value for money with the right kind of strategic investments in new infrastructure that benefit the majority of Aucklanders directly.

Lack of transparency - Need for certainty of intentions and a single programme

13. The transport programme for 2021/31 is subject to the decisions taken as part of the ATAP update and the Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP), on which Auckland Transport will undertake a separate consultation.^[3]
14. As well, the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) manages Auckland's State Highway network, which is used as a local road by many Aucklanders and is a key public and freight transport route.
15. Page 21 of the Budget consultation document lists a number of projects that "would" proceed in the next three years, and with the proposed additional funding of \$550 million a further list of projects that "could" proceed, including to accelerate investment to support growth areas.
16. The Forum supports the proposed increase in transport investment, contingent on Council funding projects aligned with where urban development is proposed or underway.
17. The fact that there are no clear outcomes plus the lack of investment detail in the Budget document, and because the ATAP and RLTP are subject to separate consultations, makes us question the value of the stated intention that the Budget will help Aucklanders move around the city with well-planned transport networks, good quality roads and convenient public transport.^[4]
18. The big 'value for money' investments needed to help Aucklanders move around the city on a well-planned transport network and services are clearly missing – they comprise completion of the Eastern and Northwestern bus improvements, the East West Link, the next Waitemata Harbour Crossing, a rapid transit network, a road pricing scheme and continued improvement of the State Highway motorway system.
19. The Forum has previously submitted that ATAP isn't a good enough strategy (it starts with a wish-list, rather than a set of desired objectives). Auckland needs a single, clear long-term (30-year?) transport plan that sets out the transport network the city needs to deliver key outcomes that manage congestion and service its urban growth. The 'single' plan would cover NZTA, RLTP and KiwiRail activities.
20. With this over-arching transport and urban development plan in place, Council's Budget allocation would be more certain and transparent.
21. Given that the transport programme for the 2021/31 period is subject to decisions of the ATAP Update, the yet-to-be-confirmed RLTP (and NZTA programme), the Forum strongly questions the value of the Budget consultation process – for transport it fails to give a complete picture of Auckland's transport network and service needs.

^[3] Consultation document, page 21

^[4] Consultation document, page 21

CONCLUDING COMMENT

22. The worsening congestion reinforces that Auckland clearly has a range of urgent transport infrastructure and service needs.
23. The investments needed are not Council's alone, but involve central government. The Budget could be strengthened to spell out the 'alignment' needed (under an upgraded ATAP) to clearly prioritise the Council-Government investments required to ensure the city continues to be liveable and an efficient centre for undertaking business.



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Northern Region Football

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

Upper Harbour Local Board

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right? Other

Tell us why see the Northern Football Federation (NFF) report attached for the whole submission on the 10 year budget with regards to sport and recreation:

Our Concern:

- Through the Council's reduction of council staff and contractors the quality of current assets may decline due to inability to service our sporting facilities. As evidence in the ACW Auckland City Report, 2018 underspending on facilities leads directly to lower participation levels.
- With the growth of Auckland, it is important there is continued investment in the number of sporting facilities. Many clubs in Auckland have a membership cap, as there is constraint in the number of available assets, which cannot support the growing demand of football in Auckland.
- The Council's signal to not maintain older assets, clubs are impacted by the Council not replacing or maintaining flood lights, which will lead to clubs capping membership to allow access to appropriate assets or shift membership to facilities already at overuse capacity.
- Futsal is the fastest growing sport in New Zealand, however, growth in Auckland is slow due to the limited number of available indoor facilities for the game to be played. Investment into more shared indoor court spaces is key to facilitate the growth of Futsal.
- Some Council Local Boards are advocating for an improvement, or addition of more asset-based sporting facilities. Reduction in staff and contractors presents a real danger that these projects are not completed, impacting access to sport.

To overcome these barriers football and futsal need to be both recognised and prioritised in relevant plans and budgets. The \$120 million Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund is a positive step in the

right direction.

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

see the Northern Football Federation (NFF) report attachment 16705 for the whole submission on the 10 year budget with regards to sport and recreation:

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To overcome these barriers football and futsal need to be both recognised and prioritised in relevant plans and budgets. The \$120 million Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund is a positive step in the right direction.

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.



AK Have Your Say, Auckland Council – 10-Year Budget 2021 - 2031

Overview

With support from New Zealand Football (NZF) and legal input, on 15th November 2019, Auckland Football Federation (AFF) & Northern Football Federation (NFF) signed an agreement “to establish an Unincorporated Joint Venture for the purpose of delivering their objectives in respect of Joint Cooperation Areas, to assist them in the delivery of football to Greater Auckland, Northland and the Far North.” Previous to this, AFF and NFF operated as two separate entities. Under the trading name Northern Region Football (NRF), provide football and futsal opportunities including competitions, development of coaches, referees, clubs and growing stakeholder relationships.

NRF consists of 52 affiliated member clubs across the greater Auckland Area, with representation spread across the 21 Local Council Boards. This accounts for:

	2020*	2019
• Number of total playing members:	29184	31224
• Number of tamariki (junior):	10506	11240
• Number of rangatahi (youth):	7004	7494
• Number of senior:	11674	12490

*Decline in playing numbers in 2020 due to COVID-19.

NRF of holds one of the largest sporting memberships within the Greater Auckland Area, and are key partners in the Sport and Recreational Sector providing the following benefits:

- Physical activity brings \$115.4 million of healthcare cost savings for Auckland, as well as adding 7,100 additional years of healthy life and contributing to 279 fewer deaths.
- Physical activity is delivering \$1.5 million in annual savings through reduced crime rates.

With Thanks

Auckland Council is the major provider of our football fields and futsal courts in the greater Auckland Region. We greatly appreciate your support and investment to football and futsal and without your support our game would not be possible.

The importance of football and futsal to our communities

Investing in sport and recreation is a core role for Auckland Council and provides the health, social, mental, cultural and economic outcomes. Active have found that across Auckland there is:

1. Significantly lower portion of active tamariki and rangatahi (5-18)
2. Chinese, Indian and non-European tamariki and rangataki are significantly less active.
3. Inactivity increases the higher the deprivation.
4. Young female are less active than males.
5. 94% of young people (tamariki and rangataki) do not meet WHO guidelines for activity.
6. 300,000+ Auckland adults are obese.
7. 1/3 of Auckland’s young people are obese.
8. Pacifica and Māori young people in Auckland are more obese than other ethnicities.



NRF are committed to ensuring all Aucklanders have access to the sport in their local community in fit for purpose facilities to enable them to live healthy lives. The world-wide game of football is participated by people of different ethnicities, socio-economic backgrounds and genders giving it an important role in addressing the issues around our inactive population.

Our Concern:

- Through the Council's reduction of council staff and contractors the quality of current assets may decline due to inability to service our sporting facilities. As evidence in the ACW Auckland City Report, 2018 underspending on facilities leads directly to lower participation levels.
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To overcome these barriers football and futsal need to be both recognised and prioritised in relevant plans and budgets. The \$120 million Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund is a positive step in the right direction.

Next Steps

We appreciate that the Auckland Council has difficult decisions to make to best service the growth of the city and each of the local communities that make up our diverse city. However, football and futsal provides Aucklanders with access to an active lifestyle to reap the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity or socioeconomic background. We urge the Auckland Council to continue to provide further investment into Football and Futsal through-out Auckland City in the 10-Year Budget. This is critical to allow for the growth of our game, through access to well-maintained asset-based delivery systems to support our diverse communities.

Ngā mihi nui,



10-year budget 2021/2031

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What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

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What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

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We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: See attachment 16710 for full submission from Creative New Zealand - Community facilities

11. We understand Council's proposal to explore new approaches to community facilities and services, and its emphasis on ensuring these facilities are fit-for-purpose for the needs of their communities. When thinking about options for the future, we would encourage Council to carefully consider:

- the importance of kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face) engagement for delivering specific wellbeing outcomes, such as increased social cohesion, connection and understanding
- the cultural importance that kanohi ki te kanohi engagement has for many communities, particularly Auckland's large Māori and Pasifika populations

- how digital services will impact equity (eg, which communities are without access to the Internet, or rely upon existing community facilities as their point of access?)
- whether the locations of community facilities are accessible to those they're meant to be serving
- whether artists and arts organisations have access to affordable, quality venues and spaces to make and present their work, which is not compromised by the amalgamation of services into multipurpose facilities
- that any leasing or partnership arrangements, which could affect the cost of using community facilities, don't compromise the affordability and accessibility of these facilities for community-based arts groups and organisations
- if the decreased demand for physical community facilities could be a result of decreased levels of investment in community facilities
- the access multipurpose hubs could provide for a wider range of communities to engage with the arts
- that greater focus on delivery of community services over assets could reduce the burden of maintenance and renewal costs, and free up more investment for spending on delivering services such as programming, grants and community partnerships.

12. We urge Council to work closely with Local Boards to engage directly and comprehensively with the communities that would be affected by any proposed changes to the delivery of community facilities and services.

13. Given the range of communities who engage with these facilities and services, targeted engagement with specific communities (including arts communities) would likely be more effective than community-wide engagement, to ensure Council can understand the specific needs of each. We would therefore encourage Council to engage specifically with arts communities in the process of any future consultation. Creative New Zealand would be glad to offer support in this area if useful.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

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The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See full submission attached - 16710: Creative New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on Auckland Council's 10-year Budget. Arts, culture and creativity are an important part of developing strong and prosperous cities, along with cohesive and healthy communities. We encourage Auckland Council to recognise the essential role arts and culture play in the wellbeing of residents as it makes decisions for the future of the city.

Key points

3. We acknowledge the challenging situation Auckland Council is facing as a result of COVID-19, and its need to manage significant revenue loss and competing interests. The Recovery Budget presents a crucial opportunity to consider how Council can invest most effectively, to provide the infrastructure, services and facilities that will enable Auckland to recover and develop into an even more vibrant and attractive place to live and visit.

4. Arts and culture make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of Auckland's communities, and we encourage Council to maintain its investment. Continued investment in arts and culture is of critical importance in the COVID context, given many in the arts sector continue to face disruption and revenue loss due to the cancellation of shows and events during lockdown. Two in three Aucklanders agree that arts and culture have a vital role to play in the future of where they live, and four in 10 say the arts are an important part of their personal wellbeing.

5. We welcome the additional investment into Parks and Community, as well as Economic and Cultural Development. It's great to see the overall budget for the Parks and Community area increasing from \$3.7 billion (2018–2028) to \$4.7 billion (2021–2031). We note this is an important area for Council's investment in arts and culture beyond Council-Controlled Organisations, and encourage you to work with the arts sector to ensure additional investment reaches and supports Auckland's diverse communities.

6. It's excellent to see investment committed to supporting Māori outcomes, in line with Kia Ora Tāmaki Makarau. Continued investment in marae development is an essential part of supporting Māori wellbeing, and providing key cultural and community hubs. The revitalisation of te reo Māori through the Te Reo Action Plan, and making ngā toi Māori a visible part of the urban landscape in line with Te Aranga design principles, are also vital parts of delivering to Te Tiriti and making Tāmaki Makaurau a vibrant and attractive place to live and visit.

7. If Council chooses to explore new approaches to community facilities, we strongly encourage direct engagement with the arts community throughout this process. Many artists and arts organisations rely upon Council facilities as venues and spaces to make and present their work. It's vital they are engaged as key stakeholders when considering future changes.

8. We were proud to support the development of Toi Whītiki and continue to endorse its six goals. We encourage Council to ensure the Recovery Budget shows tangible recognition of its own commitment to arts and culture, and aligns with the vision of Toi Whītiki: that 'all Aucklanders experience arts and culture as part of their everyday lives. It thrives, unites, delights, challenges and entertains as well as drives wealth and prosperity for individuals and for Auckland'.

Objectives and strategic alignment

9. We note the Recovery Budget outlines three recovery objectives to guide the next three years: community, economy and jobs. We encourage Council to recognise the strong contribution investment in arts and culture makes to each of these outcomes.

- Community: Participating in arts and cultural activities builds inclusive and resilient communities and increases social cohesion.
- Economy: Artistic and cultural activity have a strong multiplier effect and attract economic activity to communities and the city as a whole, to accelerate economic activity.
- Jobs: The arts sector provides jobs and equips people with the skills needed to create a more highly skilled workforce.

10. One of the six key challenges outlined by Council in the Recovery Budget is the city's changing needs in light of its increasing diversity. With people from an estimated 180 ethnicities living in Auckland, we encourage you to consider how providing opportunities to engage in arts and cultural activity can deliver social and cultural wellbeing outcomes to diverse communities, and provide a platform for hearing the needs of these communities. For example:

- 69 percent of Aucklanders say they learn about different cultures through the arts

- 57 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts are an important way of connecting with their culture

- 46 percent of Aucklanders agree they learn about Māori culture through ngā toi Māori, and 51 percent say they learn about Pacific culture through Pacific arts²
- Refugees and asylum seekers have reported that engagement with the arts following their displacement supported them to create new support networks and develop practical skills useful in finding work.

Access to arts and cultural services

20. We support the proposal to remove late return fines on library books and items. Despite the loss of revenue, we applaud Council's willingness to put forth a proposal that will ensure access to important library services and is consistent with its objective of equity.

21. It is great to see a continued commitment to delivering arts and culture activities for all Aucklanders as a part of Regional organisation community services. When considering how to deliver these activities, we would encourage Council to keep in mind the following.

- The first two points focus on investing in digital channels and increasing accessibility options. We support increasing the accessibility of arts and culture, and urge you to consider digital expansion with an accessibility lens to ensure that any development of digital channels is both:
 - in line with the needs and desires of the communities it is intended to serve
 - takes into account potential equity issues surrounding access to digital services.
- We tautoko your commitment to supporting Aucklanders to maintain their cultural identities and traditions through opportunities for cultural expression. We encourage you to consider this in relation to the redevelopment of community services and facilities to ensure Council engages with specific communities to ensure the services and facilities provided are fit-for-purpose.

Concluding points

24. Research into New Zealanders' attitudes to, attendance at and participation in the arts show that most Aucklanders see the arts as important. For example:

- 64 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts contribute positively to our economy
- 60 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts should receive public funding, and 53% agree that their local council should give money to support the arts
- 66 percent of Aucklanders agree that major arts facilities are important to create a vibrant place to live
- 61 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts make an important contribution to community resilience and wellbeing.⁴

25. We urge Council to continue supporting and developing ways for Aucklanders to engage with and participate in the arts over the next 10 years. Arts and culture have an essential role to play in the wellbeing of Māori, Pasifika and Auckland's diverse communities, as well as social cohesion between the many communities that call Auckland home.

26. Given the significant cost pressures that Auckland Council will face over the coming months and years, we'd encourage you to consider how artists and creative practitioners can support the Council in addressing unique challenges. Artists and creative practitioners are particularly skilled in designing and delivering innovative, strategic and cost-effective solutions, and we encourage the Council to look at ways to involve artists in the delivery of the Recovery Budget.

Creative New Zealand's interest in the arts in Auckland

27. Creative New Zealand is the arts development agency of Aotearoa, responsible for delivering government support for the arts. We're an autonomous Crown entity, continued under the Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Act 2014. Our legislative purpose is to encourage, promote, and support the arts in New Zealand for the benefit of all New Zealanders.

28. We recognise the importance of Auckland to the arts in New Zealand. A number of our staff are based at Creative New Zealand's Auckland office, and over a quarter of our current total investment in the arts goes into Auckland. We have responded to the COVID-19 crisis by using the reserves at our disposal and additional government investment via the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. For arts that are delivered in Auckland specifically, we provided \$19.8 million of direct financial support in 2019/20, up from \$12.99 million in 2018/19. We will continue to work with the Auckland Arts Investors Forum to coordinate and align our investment in Auckland-based arts.

29. Our overall support includes the funding of individual arts projects as well as over 30 significant Auckland-based arts organisations. These include orchestras, theatre companies, festivals, opera, craft/object and art galleries, dance companies, publishers and residencies.

30. Under the Creative Communities Scheme, we also fund territorial authorities directly to support local arts activities. In 2019/20, funding provided to Auckland Council under the Scheme totalled \$1.03 million.

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

19 March 2021

Auckland Council
Private Bag 92300
Auckland 1142

By email to: akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

E te Koromatua, ngā Kaikaunihera mā, tēnā koutou katoa

Submission to: Auckland Council
Subject: Auckland Council 10-year Budget (Recovery Budget / Long-term Plan)
2021–2031
From: Creative New Zealand

1. Creative New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on Auckland Council's 10-year Budget. Arts, culture and creativity are an important part of developing strong and prosperous cities, along with cohesive and healthy communities. **We encourage Auckland Council to recognise the essential role arts and culture play in the wellbeing of residents as it makes decisions for the future of the city.**
2. We'd be happy to discuss this submission with you further. The key contact person for matters relating to this submission is:

Name:

Position: Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement

Email:

Phone (DDI):

Key points

3. We acknowledge the challenging situation Auckland Council is facing as a result of COVID-19, and its need to manage significant revenue loss and competing interests. **The Recovery Budget presents a crucial opportunity to consider how Council can invest most effectively,** to provide the infrastructure, services and facilities that will enable Auckland to recover and develop into an even more vibrant and attractive place to live and visit.
4. **Arts and culture make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of Auckland's communities, and we encourage Council to maintain its investment.** Continued investment in arts and culture is of critical importance in the COVID context, given many in the arts sector continue to face disruption and revenue loss due to the cancellation of shows and events during lockdown. **Two in three Aucklanders agree that arts and culture have a vital role to**

play in the future of where they live, and four in 10 say the arts are an important part of their personal wellbeing.¹

5. **We welcome the additional investment into Parks and Community, as well as Economic and Cultural Development.** It's great to see the overall budget for the Parks and Community area increasing from \$3.7 billion (2018–2028) to \$4.7 billion (2021–2031). We note this is an important area for Council's investment in arts and culture beyond Council-Controlled Organisations, and **encourage you to work with the arts sector to ensure additional investment reaches and supports Auckland's diverse communities.**
6. **It's excellent to see investment committed to supporting Māori outcomes, in line with Kia Ora Tāmaki Makarau.** Continued investment in marae development is an essential part of supporting Māori wellbeing, and providing key cultural and community hubs. The revitalisation of te reo Māori through the Te Reo Action Plan, and making ngā toi Māori a visible part of the urban landscape in line with Te Aranga design principles, are also vital parts of delivering to Te Tiriti and making Tāmaki Makaurau a vibrant and attractive place to live and visit.
7. **If Council chooses to explore new approaches to community facilities, we strongly encourage direct engagement with the arts community throughout this process.** Many artists and arts organisations rely upon Council facilities as venues and spaces to make and present their work. It's vital they are engaged as key stakeholders when considering future changes.
8. We were proud to support the development of Toi Whītiki and continue to endorse its six goals. **We encourage Council to ensure the Recovery Budget shows tangible recognition of its own commitment to arts and culture, and aligns with the vision of Toi Whītiki:** that 'all Aucklanders experience arts and culture as part of their everyday lives. It thrives, unites, delights, challenges and entertains as well as drives wealth and prosperity for individuals and for Auckland'.

Draft 10-year Budget 2021–2031

Objectives and strategic alignment

9. We note the Recovery Budget outlines three recovery objectives to guide the next three years: **community, economy and jobs.** We encourage Council to recognise the strong contribution investment in arts and culture makes to each of these outcomes.
 - **Community:** Participating in arts and cultural activities builds inclusive and resilient communities and increases social cohesion.
 - **Economy:** Artistic and cultural activity have a strong multiplier effect and attract economic activity to communities and the city as a whole, to accelerate economic activity.
 - **Jobs:** The arts sector provides jobs and equips people with the skills needed to create a more highly skilled workforce.
10. One of the six key challenges outlined by Council in the Recovery Budget is the city's changing needs in light of its increasing diversity. With people from an estimated 180 ethnicities living in Auckland, we encourage you to consider how providing opportunities to engage in arts and

¹ *New Zealanders and the arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2020). Creative New Zealand.

cultural activity can deliver social and cultural wellbeing outcomes to diverse communities, and provide a platform for hearing the needs of these communities. For example:

- 69 percent of Aucklanders say they learn about different cultures through the arts
- 57 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts are an important way of connecting with their culture
- 46 percent of Aucklanders agree they learn about Māori culture through ngā toi Māori, and 51 percent say they learn about Pacific culture through Pacific arts²
- Refugees and asylum seekers have reported that engagement with the arts following their displacement supported them to create new support networks and develop practical skills useful in finding work.³

Community facilities

11. We understand Council's proposal to explore new approaches to community facilities and services, and its emphasis on ensuring these facilities are fit-for-purpose for the needs of their communities. When thinking about options for the future, we would encourage Council to carefully consider:

- the importance of kanohi ki te kanohi (face to face) engagement for delivering specific wellbeing outcomes, such as increased social cohesion, connection and understanding
- the cultural importance that kanohi ki te kanohi engagement has for many communities, particularly Auckland's large Māori and Pasifika populations
- how digital services will impact equity (eg, which communities are without access to the Internet, or rely upon existing community facilities as their point of access?)
- whether the locations of community facilities are accessible to those they're meant to be serving
- whether artists and arts organisations have access to affordable, quality venues and spaces to make and present their work, which is not compromised by the amalgamation of services into multipurpose facilities
- that any leasing or partnership arrangements, which could affect the cost of using community facilities, don't compromise the affordability and accessibility of these facilities for community-based arts groups and organisations
- if the decreased demand for physical community facilities could be a result of decreased levels of investment in community facilities
- the access multipurpose hubs could provide for a wider range of communities to engage with the arts
- that greater focus on delivery of community services over assets could reduce the burden of maintenance and renewal costs, and free up more investment for spending on delivering services such as programming, grants and community partnerships.

² *New Zealanders and the arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2020). Creative New Zealand.

³ *What is the evidence on the role of the arts in improving health and well-being? A scoping review* (2019). World Health Organization.

12. **We urge Council to work closely with Local Boards to engage directly and comprehensively with the communities that would be affected by any proposed changes to the delivery of community facilities and services.**
13. Given the range of communities who engage with these facilities and services, targeted engagement with specific communities (including arts communities) would likely be more effective than community-wide engagement, to ensure Council can understand the specific needs of each. We would therefore encourage Council to engage specifically with arts communities in the process of any future consultation. Creative New Zealand would be glad to offer support in this area if useful.

Capital expenditure

14. It's not clear from the Recovery Budget documentation whether any of the cuts to funding for arts and culture made under the Emergency Budget will be carried over to the Recovery Budget.
15. **We urge Council to maintain, as a minimum, pre-Emergency Budget levels of funding in the new Budget to ensure these changes do not have a negative effect on the Auckland arts sector in the medium- and long-term.**
16. Regarding additional capital funding of \$50 million to enable the restoration of the Art Gallery Heritage Building, we would welcome this additional spend and tautoko continued investment in the city's key cultural institutions.
17. We support the proposal for increased investment in Q Theatre. Q Theatre plays an integral role in Auckland's arts ecosystem and we are delighted to see additional support for running costs, arts development and venue maintenance be made available.
18. The Council's proposed city centre and local development projects present opportunities for the Council to work with artists, arts groups and organisations to incorporate art/cultural elements into infrastructure projects. This would help the Council to realise its aims of supporting business, strong and inclusive communities and showcasing Auckland's culture and identity, and to incorporating Te Aranga design principles in line with your commitments under Kia Ora Tāmaki Makaurau.
19. The Mayoral Proposal stated the proposed budget includes reinstatement of the contestable Regional Events Fund, Regional Community Development Grants, and Regional Arts and Culture Grants, which support organisations and communities in arts, culture and event spaces. While there wasn't specific mention of this in the Recovery Budget, we urge you to uphold this commitment. These funds provide crucial support for artists and arts organisations in Auckland.

Access to arts and cultural services

20. We support the proposal to remove late return fines on library books and items. Despite the loss of revenue, we applaud Council's willingness to put forth a proposal that will ensure access to important library services and is consistent with its objective of equity.

21. It is great to see a continued commitment to delivering arts and culture activities for all Aucklanders as a part of regional community services. When considering how to deliver these activities, we would encourage Council to keep in mind the following.
- The first two points focus on investing in digital channels and increasing accessibility options. We support increasing the accessibility of arts and culture, and urge you to consider digital expansion with an accessibility lens to ensure that any development of digital channels is both:
 - in line with the needs and desires of the communities it is intended to serve
 - takes into account potential equity issues surrounding access to digital services.
 - We tautoko your commitment to supporting Aucklanders to maintain their cultural identities and traditions through opportunities for cultural expression. We encourage you to consider this in relation to the redevelopment of community services and facilities to ensure Council engages with specific communities to ensure the services and facilities provided are fit-for-purpose.

Local Boards

22. We agree with the proposal that no changes be made to the Local Board Funding Policy. It's important that Local Boards continue to be empowered and resourced to make good local level decisions, as those who are closest to their respective communities. Grassroots arts communities in particular benefit from the services and support provided by Local Boards.
23. We were pleased to see more than half of the local boards make specific reference to arts and culture in their priorities for 2021/22. Mention of arts and culture priorities was made by the Devonport-Takapuna, Henderson-Massey, Hibiscus and Bays, Manurewa, Ōrākei, Papakura, Puketāpapa, Waiheke, Waitākere, Waitematā, and Whau local boards.

Concluding points

24. Research into New Zealanders' attitudes to, attendance at and participation in the arts show that most Aucklanders see the arts as important. For example:
- 64 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts contribute positively to our economy
 - 60 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts should receive public funding, and 53% agree that their local council should give money to support the arts
 - 66 percent of Aucklanders agree that major arts facilities are important to create a vibrant place to live
 - 61 percent of Aucklanders agree the arts make an important contribution to community resilience and wellbeing.⁴
25. We urge Council to continue supporting and developing ways for Aucklanders to engage with and participate in the arts over the next 10 years. Arts and culture have an essential role to play in the wellbeing of Māori, Pasifika and Auckland's diverse communities, as well as social cohesion between the many communities that call Auckland home.

⁴ *New Zealanders and the arts: Ko Aotearoa me ōna toi* (2020). Creative New Zealand.

26. Given the significant cost pressures that Auckland Council will face over the coming months and years, we'd encourage you to consider how artists and creative practitioners can support the Council in addressing unique challenges. Artists and creative practitioners are particularly skilled in designing and delivering innovative, strategic and cost-effective solutions, and we encourage the Council to look at ways to involve artists in the delivery of the Recovery Budget.

Creative New Zealand's interest in the arts in Auckland

27. Creative New Zealand is the arts development agency of Aotearoa, responsible for delivering government support for the arts. We're an autonomous Crown entity, continued under the Arts Council of New Zealand Toi Aotearoa Act 2014. Our legislative purpose is to encourage, promote, and support the arts in New Zealand for the benefit of all New Zealanders.
28. We recognise the importance of Auckland to the arts in New Zealand. A number of our staff are based at Creative New Zealand's Auckland office, and over a quarter of our current total investment in the arts goes into Auckland. We have responded to the COVID-19 crisis by using the reserves at our disposal and additional government investment via the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. For arts that are delivered in Auckland specifically, we provided **\$19.8 million** of direct financial support in 2019/20, up from **\$12.99 million** in 2018/19. We will continue to work with the Auckland Arts Investors Forum to coordinate and align our investment in Auckland-based arts.
29. Our overall support includes the funding of individual arts projects as well as over 30 significant Auckland-based arts organisations. These include orchestras, theatre companies, festivals, opera, craft/object and art galleries, dance companies, publishers and residencies.
30. Under the Creative Communities Scheme, we also fund territorial authorities directly to support local arts activities. In 2019/20, funding provided to Auckland Council under the Scheme totalled **\$1.03 million**.
31. Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or if you wish to discuss this submission further (contact details for David Pannett, Senior Manager, Strategy & Engagement are at the start of the submission).

Ngā mihi rārau ki a koutou katoa, nā



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost saving and sell more surplus property.

Note: *this version of the feedback form has been created for the purpose of publishing submissions. As such, contact and demographic information has been removed and handwritten submissions have been transcribed.*

Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Civic Trust Auckland

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

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Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Tell us why:

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Tell us why:

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal?

Tell us why:

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Tell us why:

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service

Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

See attachment 16725 for more info

Important privacy information

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To: Auckland Council

Submission on: Long Term Plan (2021-2031)

Name of submitter: Civic Trust Auckland

Date: 22 March, 2021

Introduction

- 1 Civic Trust Auckland (Civic Trust) is a non-profit public interest group, incorporated in 1968, with membership, activities and interests throughout the greater Auckland region. Its aims include the protection of natural landforms, the preservation of heritage in all its aspects, the encouragement of good planning for the city and region, and the promotion of public interest in the environment.
- 2 Civic Trust has made submissions on a wide range of Council planning documents from the inception of Auckland and since then on an on-going basis. Civic has made submissions on previous Long Term Plans and recently provided feedback at a Regional Stakeholders meeting at Council's Finance and Performance Committee on 10 March 2021.

Planning

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Resource Management Act will soon be replaced by three acts that will each separately deal with development, the environment and climate change. Until the RMA is replaced, Council remains obliged to recognise and provide for various matters of deemed national importance, including the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development. The definition of the environment from the RMA, "includes ecosystems and their constituent parts including people and communities, all natural and *physical resources*, amenity values and the social an economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions which affect the matters stated in those paragraphs."
- 3.2 While Civic Trust supports Council's work in cleaning up the environment and its focus on water and those natural aspects of the natural environment, we have long had a concern that there hasn't been significant enough focus on the physical environment and in particular historic heritage.

- 3.3 Civic Trust believes that historic heritage comprised of both individual places and areas of collective character are an asset to the city worth preserving and we support public expenditure as necessary to ensure 'historic heritage' is both recognised and protected. Part of that protection involves the provision of effective incentives that recognise the collective benefit enjoyed by everyone by retaining of elements of historic heritage.
- 3.4 Sir David Attenborough asked the question: "If you could get the youth to take on board one message, what would it be?" His answer was: "Stop wasting things." There is focus on waste recovery but also in terms of our physical resources, we are really wasteful and we knock down things; we knock down heritage buildings to put up replacement buildings. Council must give weight to the concept of 'embodied energy' and consider the full range of costs associated with building waste. With further analysis, adaptation may be a preferred outcome. For example, in Parnell a beautiful building not scheduled, not recognised but full of kauri, pressed tin ceilings, stained glass windows, not reused but instead just smashed up and put in a skip. That sort of thing needs to stop.

Climate Change

- 4.0 We are also concerned about matters of the natural environment and the Climate Action Framework. We want our city to be super and we want it to be liveable, and a place that people like. Civic Trust supports the Council's recognition of the challenges posed by Climate Change and the need for its future decision-making to be undertaken looking through a climate change lens.

Action

- 5.0 Searching both the consultation document and the supporting information for the Long Term Plan, including the CCO's, the term "historic heritage" does not register. That is because it has been subsumed within the term 'cultural heritage' where insufficient priority and funding is provided for historic heritage.
- 5.1 Council's Heritage Advisory Panel has provided advice on long-term plans in the past. The panel suggested that there be incentive funds for heritage. There are virtually no perceptible heritage incentive funds. This will lead to the inevitable loss of our heritage. As far back as April 2008, the City Development Committee, Auckland City drew up a Heritage Policy Review Incentives under Penny Pirritt. We're years down the track from 2008 and still no effective incentives. If one looks at the Auckland Plan and some of the work streams that were supposed to be given effect to, one was to develop information resources in conjunction with Heritage New Zealand. That hasn't happened. Another one was the development of a comprehensive set of incentives. To our knowledge, that hasn't happened really.

CHAPTER 4: AUCKLAND'S HISTORIC HERITAGE			
STRATEGIC DIRECTION 4		PROTECT AND CONSERVE AUCKLAND'S HISTORIC HERITAGE FOR THE BENEFIT AND ENJOYMENT OF PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS	
PRIORITY 1 – UNDERSTAND, VALUE AND SHARE OUR HERITAGE			
DIRECTIVE 4.1 TO 4.3			
ACTION	DELIVERY LEAD	KEY STAKEHOLDERS	TIMING
3. Provide a comprehensive and coordinated information service for Auckland's historic heritage	NZHPT, Auckland Council	New Zealand Historic Places Trust, Department of Conservation, iwi, community and private sector	2015
PRIORITY 2 – INVEST IN OUR HERITAGE			
DIRECTIVE 4.4 TO 4.6			
ACTION	DELIVERY LEAD	KEY STAKEHOLDERS	TIMING
1. Develop a suite of incentives to conserve heritage, in partnership with private owners and developers	Auckland Council	Central government, New Zealand Historic Places Trust and private sector	2015

- 5.3 We would like funds allocated to both the comprehensive collection and assimilation of information about Auckland's historic heritage, and also the development of and provision of a comprehensive set of incentives, including financial ones.
- 5.4 There is a water quality and natural environment targeted rate. Civic Trust would like to consideration to be given to a targeted rate for the built environment.
- 5.5 In terms of the key issue 1 in the budget, the proposed investment package, we support under 'Parks and Communities' the focus on the **Leys Institute** and we support the expenditure of sufficient public funds to ensure that project is completed.

Yours faithfully,

On behalf of:
Civic Trust Auckland

Dated: 22 March, 2021



10-year budget 2021/2031

Proposed Recovery Budget

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Submitter details

Organisation (if applicable): Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Your local board: Regional organisation

Your feedback

1. Proposed 10-year budget

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support

Tell us why: see attachment 16727 for full submission from Federated Farmers - Federated Farmers considers that the Budget will enable the Council to play its part in leading Auckland's economic recovery from Covid-19.

2. Climate change

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Tell us why: Please see the attachment 16727 for detailed submission from Federated Farmers. The Council's response to climate change properly recognises transport, "heat, industry and power" and buildings, rather than agriculture, as the main drivers of climate change in Auckland.

3. Water quality

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on the above major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your view on this proposal? Support the extension only

Tell us why: Please see the attached detailed submission 16727 for full submission from Federated Farmers. Federated Farmers does not accept the proposal in the Budget to increase the Water Quality Targeted Rate.¹ Federated Farmers supported the introduction of the Water Quality Targeted Rate (and the Natural Environment Targeted Rate) program in the Long Term Plan in 2018, but since then central government funding for some related programs has become available. Further, the circumstances of the additional increase in the general rate do not apply to the Water Quality Targeted Rate, and there appears to be some "slippage" in how the funds are to be applied, in that it appears that some of the additional Water Quality Targeted Rate funding is to be put towards projects that would more appropriately be funded from different programs.

4. Community investment

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal? Other

Tell us why: see attachment 16727 - While generally supporting the proposal, Federated Farmers is concerned that it may result in the closure

of remote rural halls. Often, in rural areas, the local hall is the only community facility, and so forms the hub of the community.

So, while supporting the proposal in principle, Federated Farmers asks that the Council take great care to ensure that any consolidation of community facilities in Auckland's rural areas results in an overall improvement in access to community facilities in those areas.

5. Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	Support
---	---------

Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service

Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties have access to a similar level of service	Other
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Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre

Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	Support
---	---------

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges?

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate.

Which option do you support?

Tell us why:

Do you live in the area affected by the proposed Upper Harbour Local Board transport targeted rate?

6. Local Boards

7. What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets?

Please see the attached detailed submission

Important privacy information

The personal information that you provide in this form will be held and protected by Auckland Council in accordance with our privacy policy (available at aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/privacy and at our libraries and service centres) and with the Privacy Act 1993. The privacy policy explains how we can use and share your personal information in relation to any interaction you have with the council, and how you can access and correct that information. You should familiarise yourself with this policy before submitting this form.

10-year Budget 2021-2031

Feedback form

**AK
HAVE
YOUR
SAY**

We want your feedback on our 10-year Budget 2021-2031

Feedback must be received by 12pm midday Monday 22 March 2021. Please read the Consultation Document available at akhaveyoursay.nz/recoverybudget or at any library, service centre, or by phoning **09 301 0101** before you give feedback. It has more information about the issues and choices that we want your feedback on. Please refer to the online rates guide at akhaveyoursay.nz/ratesguide and Glossary of terms on page 80 of the Consultation Document.

All questions are optional. We encourage you to give feedback online at akhaveyoursay.nz/recoverybudget, or you can complete this form and return it to us using one of these options:



Email

Scan your completed form and email it to akhaveyoursay@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



In person

Drop your completed form off at your local library or service centre.



By post

Place your completed form in an envelope and send it to freepost address:
AK Have Your Say, Auckland Council, Freepost Authority 182382, Private Bag 92 300, Auckland 1142.

Your feedback will be included in public documents.
All other personal details will remain private.

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Email or postal address: _____

Your local board: _____

Is your feedback on behalf of an organisation or business?
(If yes, this confirms you have authority to submit on the organisation's behalf) Yes No

Name of organisation or business: _____

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

The following information is optional but will help us know whether we are hearing from all Aucklanders.

Are you: Female Male Gender diverse

What age group do you belong to?

Under 15 15-24 25-34 35-44
 45-54 55-64 65-74 75+

Which of the following describes your ethnicity?
(Please select as many as apply)

Pākehā/NZ European
 Māori – which iwi/Hapū do you affiliate with? _____

Chinese South East Asian

Samoan Tongan

Indian Korean

Cook Islands Māori

Other (please specify) _____

Proposed Recovery Budget

To answer the following question please refer to pages 17 to 29 of the Consultation Document

Our proposed 10-year budget would see capital investment of \$31 billion in Auckland over the next 10 years. This would allow us to deliver key services Aucklanders rely on, renew our aging assets, have a focused approach to building infrastructure to support population growth, and make progress on addressing the challenges of climate change and environmental sustainability.

As a result of COVID-19, it is projected that our revenue will be impacted by around \$1 billion. In light of this, and to provide the investment outlined above, we are proposing a one-off 5 per cent average general rates increase for 2021/2022, rather than the previously planned 3.5 per cent increase. The increases would return to 3.5 per cent each year thereafter. We are also proposing to increase our borrowing in the short term, continue to make cost savings and sell more surplus property.

Without this greater use of rates and debt, around \$900 million of much needed investment in Auckland would be delayed from the next three years to later in the decade. This would slow Auckland's recovery, put our services and assets at risk, lose hundreds of millions of dollars in matching government subsidies, and limit our response to our climate and environmental challenges.

What is your opinion on the proposed 10-year budget?

Support Do not support Other Don't know

Tell us why: Please see the attached detailed submission

Federated Farmers considers that the Budget will enable the Council to play its part in leading Auckland's economic recovery from Covid-19.

Climate change

To answer this question please refer to pages 30-31 of the Consultation Document

Through Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan, we heard Aucklanders want greater action on climate change. The proposed 10-year budget includes additional investment to respond to the challenges of climate change.

The proposed additional investment will mean we do not need to buy any more diesel buses and it will help us replace our diesel buses with electric and hydrogen buses sooner. It will also help us divert more waste from landfill, plant over 2 million more native trees and other initiatives.

What is your opinion on this proposal to invest more in responding to climate change?

Support the proposed increased investment

Do not support increased investment

Other Don't know

Tell us why: Please see the attached detailed submission

The Council's response to climate change properly recognises transport, "heat, industry and power" and buildings, rather than agriculture, as the main drivers of climate change in Auckland.

Water quality

To answer this question please refer to pages 35-36 of the Consultation Document

Since 2018 the Water Quality Targeted Rate has allowed us to fund initiatives to improve the water quality of our harbours, beaches and streams. This was initially intended to run from 2018 to 2028.

We are proposing to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate until June 2031.

Extending the targeted rate

Extending this targeted rate to June 2031 will help continue to improve water quality in other areas of the city, including coastal water quality from Hobson's Bay to St Heliers, as well as the Manukau Harbour. Extending this targeted rate would enable this additional work to begin in 2028/2029.

Increasing the targeted rate

To start construction on major new water quality projects six years earlier (in 2022/2023), and to increase our

investment in regional water quality programmes across all of Auckland, we are also proposing to increase this targeted rate annually in line with proposed average increases in general rates.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Support the extension and the increase

Support the extension only

Do not support either change

Other Don't know

Tell us why: Please see the attached detailed submission

It appears that some of the additional Water Quality Targeted Rate funding is to be put towards projects that would more appropriately be funded from other programs

Community investment

To answer this question please refer to pages 33-34 of the Consultation Document

We have hundreds of community assets like libraries, halls, community centres, community houses, arts venues and assets in our parks that are getting older and some are in urgent need of repair. The cost of operating, repairing or rebuilding these assets over the next 10 years could leave no money for anything new or upgraded. To maintain our current assets and upgrade or provide new assets, rates would likely need to be increased over time.

We propose a new approach for community services, such as leasing or shared facilities, that does not rely as much on us building and maintaining physical assets. This will reduce our carbon footprint and lower our costs by partnering with others to deliver services and deliver more community services online.

Over time, we propose to consolidate the number of our community facilities and services (which may result in some facilities being closed) and instead focus on multi-use facilities and online services to provide for our diverse communities.

What is your opinion on this proposal?

Support Do not support Other Don't know

Tell us why: _____

~~While generally supporting the proposal, Federated Farmers is concerned that it may result in the closure of remote rural halls. Often, in rural areas, the local hall is the only community facility, and so forms the hub of the community.~~

~~So, while supporting the proposal in principle, Federated Farmers asks that the Council take great care to ensure that any consolidation of community facilities in Auckland's rural areas results in an overall improvement in access to community facilities in those areas.~~

Rating policy

The following are some of our proposed changes to the way we charge rates on properties. These changes affect each property differently. They may, or may not, affect your property.

To see how your rates may change, or for more information on these and other proposals before answering, please read Part Four (pages 38-47) of the Consultation Document or go to our rates guide at akhaveyoursay.nz/ratesguide.

What is your opinion on the following rating policy proposals?

	Support	Do not support	Other	Don't know
Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate until June 2031 to invest further in measures such as addressing the spread of kauri dieback, and predator and weed control	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extending the Urban Rating Area so land that has an operative urban zoning, or which has resource consent to be developed for urban use now (except for Warkworth), pays the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charging farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area residential rates so they pay the same urban rates as nearby properties that have access to a similar level of service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extending the City Centre Targeted Rate until June 2031 to maintain our investment in upgrading the city centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Introducing the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate on the land in Te Arai and Okahukura that benefits from the stormwater services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Upper Harbour Local Board are proposing a new bus service between Paremoremo and Albany, funded by a targeted rate. Which of the following options do you support?

Support option 1 – targeted rate of \$238 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located up to 500m walking distance of a proposed bus stop

Support option 2 – targeted rate of \$153 for each separate dwelling or business on a property for properties located in the wider Paremoremo and Lucas Heights area of the Upper Harbour Local Board

Do not support either option

Don't know

Tell us why:

Do you live in the affected area?

We are proposing other changes to rates and fees, including the introduction of the Electricity Network Resilience Targeted Rate on Vector to fund council's tree management programme around the Vector overhead power lines and options to reinstate the Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate.

Do you have any comments on any of our proposed changes to rates and fees charges (see pages 35, 36, 39-47)? (please be clear which proposal you are talking about).

Local boards

To answer this question please refer to Part Six (pages 55-66) of the Consultation Document.

Which local board area does your feedback relate to?
Franklin & Rodney

Tell us your thoughts on our proposed priorities for the local board area in 2021/2022 and our key advocacy initiatives – have we got it right?

- I support all priorities
- I support most priorities
- I do not support most priorities

- I do not support any priorities
- Other
- Don't know

Tell us why: _____
The priorities are appropriate to the areas they serve

What is important to you?

Do you have feedback on any other issues, including our proposals on housing and growth infrastructure or strategic assets (pages 32, 48-53)?

Please see the attached detailed submission

SUBMISSION

TELEPHONE 0800 327 646 | WEBSITE WWW.FEDFARM.ORG.NZ



To: **AUCKLAND COUNCIL**

On the: **AUCKLAND COUNCIL'S 10-YEAR BUDGET 2021 / 2031**

Date: 22 March 2021

Contact:

SUBMISSION TO AUCKLAND COUNCIL

ON: AUCKLAND COUNCIL'S 10-YEAR BUDGET 2021 / 2031

Federated Farmers of New Zealand ("Federated Farmers" or "the Federation") thanks the Auckland Council for the opportunity to comment on its 10-Year Budget 2021 - 2031: Long-Term Plan ("the Budget").

General Comments

The purpose of councils is stated in the relevant local government legislation as being both "to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities" and "to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future". Prior to a change in 2019, the latter purpose had been stated as being "to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses". Despite the changes, Federated Farmers continues to see the emphasis of these "purpose" provisions as being firmly on councils undertaking whatever activities they undertake efficiently, at low cost and in a fiscally prudent manner, and focussing on core services such as roading, which are the basics of local government.

Federated Farmers is generally supportive of the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Act 2014, which makes it clear that the purpose of the LTP consultation document and the associated consultation process is to provide an effective basis for public participation in local authority decision-making processes relating to the content of a long-term plan, including by providing a fair representation of the matters that are proposed for inclusion in the plan and identifying and explaining significant and other important issues and choices facing the local authority, along with the consequences of those choices. It would seem that there is a requirement for a local authority to consult only in regard to issues that it determines should be included, having had regard to its significance and engagement policy and the importance of matters to the district and its communities, including significant changes that are proposed to the way the local authority funds its operating and capital expenditure requirements, including changes to the rating system.

Federated Farmers recognises the challenges facing the Council that have been created by Covid-19, in particular the reduction of the Council's income of \$450m, likely to reach \$1b by 2024. Nevertheless, it is considered that now is not the time for the Council to slow down its response to the issues it faces, such as growth. Now is the time for the Council to play its part and lead the way in Auckland's economic recovery by stimulating construction and jobs, maintaining and improving infrastructure and community assets, cleaning up waterways and taking on some pest control initiatives. Federated Farmers recognises the part the Budget plays in meeting those challenges. In general terms Federated Farmers considers that the Budget adequately sets out the process by which Council plans its activities in Auckland, and the process by which it makes decisions relating to the funding of those activities.

However, Federated Farmers is disappointed with some aspects of the Budget. As regards the Council's income, it continues to be a matter of regret that the Council has not made more of the opportunity to develop a rating system which: is fair and equitable to all sectors of the community; which properly allocates the cost of council-provided services to those that use

those services; and which ensures that all Aucklanders pay their contribution towards the costs of running Auckland. The high cost of rates on farmland is a major issue for Federated Farmers members all around the country, with property value rates often amongst the highest overheads for a farm business.

For example, the Uniform Annual General Charge continues to be set at a level which is well below the maximum provided for in the rating legislation, and insufficient use is made of the ability that Council has to charge for its services on a per property basis, by way of targeted rates.

Further, Federated Farmers prefers a funding system whereby the use made by each sector of the community for each of the Council's services is established, and sheeted home to that sector of the community. For example, farmers have full access to the Council's roading network, but generally poor access to facilities such as swimming pools and passenger transport, and they receive no benefit at all from such things as stormwater services. But instead, Council has set a single differential of .8 for rural and lifestyle properties, a figure which is considered rather too high.

As regards rating, generally Federated Farmers supports the following principles:

- the use of modifiers such as differentials, to reduce the high general rates on farms;
- the use of the UAGC and Targeted Rates; they are generally fairer for farms than is property value;
- transparent processes, and a robust LTP consultation document that shows who pays for what;
- the funding of expenditure on big new projects being transparent, particularly when they are based on property value rates;
- the promotion of tourism or other businesses not being funded from rates on farm businesses: Farmers pay for their own industry promotion.

With respect to the proposed general rate increase of 5%, Federated Farmers considers that, in general terms, rate increases should be kept in line with inflation. While on the one hand the increase represents a rate rise that is considerably more than the annual rate of inflation (1.4% in the December 2020 quarter) and the Local Government Cost Index (forecast at 2.2% for the 2020 / 2021 year), nevertheless, as will be apparent from Federated Farmers' responses in the "Have Your Say" Feedback Form, Federated Farmers does support the increase in rates of 5% which, although it is well in excess of the rate of inflation, reflects the challenges to Council created by Covid-19.

But Federated Farmers does want the Council to focus more on the basics of local government, the core services, in particular transport. We continue to be concerned about the state of Auckland's rural roads and the quality of some rural road sealing and repairs, and we continue to be concerned at how much is being spent on the nice to haves, such as sports stadiums, compared to spending on the basics such as rural roads. We want to be sure that Auckland's rural areas are getting their fair share of the basics of Council's expenditure, in particular a fair share of the Council's capital spending programs.

As an example of funding gone awry, in its submission on the 2018 Long Term Plan, Federated Farmers supported the then proposed regional fuel tax, provided "a fair proportion of the funds was used for rural purposes", and it appeared subsequently that an appropriate allocation of funds for rural road sealing purposes was made by the Council. In the same 2018 Long Term Plan, the Rodney Local Board proposed a transport targeted rate, which included rural road sealing proposals. However, as a result of the Council allocation, the Rodney Local Board removed the rural road sealing proposals from its own proposed transport targeted rate, but

nevertheless continued with the rate, instead allocating the funds that had been proposed for rural road sealing to bus services and footpath repairs, which benefit the townships rather than the rural areas. Further, in the event, little of the money allocated by the Council was actually spent and it appears that, when Covid-19 came, the allocation disappeared. Now, in this year's Budget, the Council is proposing to allocate a much lower amount towards rural roads.

Turning to the detail of what is proposed in the Budget, Federated Farmers accepts these proposals:

- Increasing the increase in general rates from 3½% to 5%, which includes an additional one-off increase of 1½%;
- Increasing the debt to revenue ratio from 270% to 290%;
- The proposed \$31.4b capital investment program, a 20% increase from the previous \$26.2b;
- Investing an additional \$150m to accelerate climate change actions.

But Federated Farmers does not accept the proposal in the Budget to increase the Water Quality Targeted Rate.¹ Federated Farmers supported the introduction of the Water Quality Targeted Rate (and the Natural Environment Targeted Rate) program in the Long Term Plan in 2018, but since then central government funding for some related programs has become available. Further, the circumstances of the additional increase in the general rate do not apply to the Water Quality Targeted Rate, and there appears to be some "slippage" in how the funds are to be applied, in that it appears that some of the additional Water Quality Targeted Rate funding is to be put towards projects that would more appropriately be funded from different programs. For example, in the Rural Advisory Panel meeting agenda for the 12 February 2021 meeting, in a discussion on the Water Quality Targeted Rate it is stated that:²

Extending and increasing the WQTR will allow new work in the Manukau Harbour and Eastern Isthmus catchments, as well as increasing budget for existing work programmes that will enable more projects to be delivered across the region.

The focus for the Manukau Harbour will be on reducing contamination from roads by working with agencies to include water sensitive design in new projects, such as Mill Road, and upgrades to existing infrastructure.

Federated Farmers considers that projects such as Mill Road should be funded as roading projects, rather than water quality projects. To make up any funding deficit brought about by not increasing the Water Quality Targeted Rate, Council should use its existing funding streams appropriately, and as efficiently and effectively as possible.³

¹ In its presentation to the Finance and Performance Committee as part of the Regional Stakeholder Session on 10 March 2021, Federated Farmers stated that it did not accept the proposal to extend the Water Quality Targeted Rate and the Natural Environment Targeted Rate from 2028 to 2031.

In the light of feedback received, Federated Farmers has reviewed its position on that matter and accepts, for reasons on ongoing certainty about the rate itself and the programs it supports, that extending both the Water Quality Targeted Rate and the Natural Environment Targeted Rate from 2028 to 2031 is appropriate, and Federated Farmers now supports those proposals.

² Page 13.

³ During Federated Farmers presentation to the Finance and Performance Committee as part of the Regional Stakeholder Session on 10 March 2021, a question arose regarding Federated Farmers views on whether some of the Council's reduced income should be made up by the sale of some assets.

As noted in the opening paragraph of these General Comments, Federated Farmers considers that local authorities should focus on the provision of core services such as roading, which are the basics of local government, and they should undertake whatever activities they undertake efficiently, at low cost and in a fiscally prudent manner. Where assets become surplus to requirements they should be disposed of, and the funds put towards the capital requirements of these core services. Funds obtained from the sale of assets should not be put towards meeting operational requirements, even in circumstances such as

Nonetheless, in addition to the matters about which the Council is seeking feedback, Federated Farmers takes the opportunity to comment, in the Specific Comments section below, on some more general aspects of the Budget, with some comment also being provided on other matters that are discussed in the Budget.

On a positive note, Federated Farmers notes that the Council's approach to many of its functions is inclusive and co-operative. Federated Farmers supports Council adopting a "partnership" approach in the performance of its functions. Federated Farmers is pleased to be able to participate in forums such as the Rural Advisory Panel.

Specific Comments

Climate Change

Introduction

This section of the submission expands on the brief response provided to the Council's consultation on climate change, in the Feedback section of Federated Farmers' overall submission.

Federated Farmers generally supports the Council's response to climate change, as set out in Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri: Auckland's Climate Plan and in its submission to the Climate Change Commission on the Commissions Draft Advice to Government. It is considered, as a whole, that the Council's response appropriately recognises the key issues for Auckland as being Transport, "heat, industry and power" and buildings, rather than agriculture. Nevertheless, Federated Farmers is concerned at the focus, in the agricultural section of the Te Tāruke-ā-Tāwhiri document, on "regenerative agriculture", "low carbon food" and "low carbon farming", without explaining what is meant by those terms in an Auckland context, and without recognising the extent to which Auckland's farmers and growers already follow what is generally understood internationally to be meant by those practices. Federated Farmers also considers it important that Council recognise that Auckland's farmers and growers will be contributing through their rates bills to the Council's climate change response, as well as funding the changes that central government will require to their own production systems, themselves.

Federated Farmers and its farming members take climate change very seriously and are keenly aware of the need to meet the challenges posed by the issue, including by mitigating the impacts of primary production on New Zealand's emissions profile. For farmers, this involves balancing a fundamental requirement for food and fibre production, a requirement to reduce the warming from our emissions and the need to prepare for the potential future impacts caused by a more variable and changing climate.

Food production is, however, also an essential process that cannot be sacrificed. For those products it produces, New Zealand is comparatively a low emission producer, with the country's farmers nevertheless confident that they can continue to improve production systems if given the chance.

those prevailing at present, where the Council is facing a reduction in income for reasons which were which were unforeseeable at the time. Federated Farmers considers that, generally, the Council is taking the correct approach by reducing staff numbers, constraining salaries and searching for savings and getting value for money, while increasing expenditure on capital investment.

Federated Farmers supports New Zealand playing its part in addressing climate change by pursuing action consistent with the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement, including recognising the fundamental priority of food production. New Zealand farmers are world leaders in the highly efficient production of safe, protein-dense, and low-emissions food. Per kilogram of product, New Zealand sheep meat is twice as emissions efficient as the global average, our dairy milk is over three times as emissions efficient, and Kiwi beef is over four times as emissions efficient.

Demand for New Zealand livestock-based products (such as red meat and dairy milk) is strong and has remained so throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Any reduction in New Zealand food production will be replaced by production in other countries, which is often subsidised and results in higher emissions per unit of output. The concept of “emissions leakage” (or “carbon leakage”) from New Zealand needs to be avoided, as it will result in increased global greenhouse gas emissions, decreased global food security, and decreased economic growth in New Zealand.

Federated Farmers considers that, when taking action to mitigate emissions in New Zealand, it is important to recognise not only the need for global food production and the impressive emissions efficiency of New Zealand products, but also the fundamental difference between:

- Short-lived biological emissions, which involve the short-term recycling of carbon between various states (such as those produced from growing plants and livestock) and,
- Long-lived fossil emissions, which involve the effectively permanent conversion of solid and liquid forms of carbon (such as coal and oil) into atmospheric carbon dioxide.

Federated Farmers is pleased that the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 implemented a split-gas approach for New Zealand’s emissions reduction targets. This split gas approach recognises the fundamental differences between biogenic methane and other GHG and the inability of the current GWP₁₀₀ metric to account for these differences.

Under current inaccurate GHG accounting methods (which rely on GWP₁₀₀) methane is reported to comprise 78% of the total warming from the agriculture sector.⁴ For this reason, it is critically important that biogenic methane is reported in a manner that accurately reflects the best available science on the GHGs radiative impact, by either using an improved metric (such as GWP* or CO₂-we) or by using a split gas approach (as taken for New Zealand’s domestic emissions reduction targets).

Federated Farmers was closely involved in the development of, and is a signatory to, the historic *He Waka Eke Noa Primary Sector Climate Action Partnership*.⁵ This industry-driven commitment was accepted by Government in late 2019, and Federated Farmers has since been an active member of the co-development process. This partnership is working on ways to equip farmers and growers with the knowledge and tools they need to reduce emissions, while continuing to sustainably produce quality food and fibre products for domestic and international markets.

He Waka Eke Noa includes collaboration on the detailed development of an appropriate farm gate emissions pricing mechanism by 2025. The Climate Change

⁴ The 2018 New Zealand National Greenhouse Gas National Inventory.

⁵ Available at <<https://hewakaekenoa.nz/about/#sec-story>>.

Commission has been asked to assess progress under *He Waka Eke Noa* and provide this no later than July 2022. It is important to Federated Farmers that any pricing mechanism developed through *He Waka Eke Noa*, is consistent with its emissions pricing principals, namely that;

- Pricing occurs at the margin for methane (where additional warming occurs) and not on the inaccurate GWP₁₀₀ value.
- Pricing exclusively occurs to incentivise the use of a cost-effective mitigation tool that is available, with regulatory approval, to farmers.
- New Zealand farmers are not put at a disadvantage to our main international competitors. Any reduction will be replaced with production in countries that have higher emissions per unit of output, and often subsidised. This is known as “emissions leakage” and results in higher greenhouse gas emissions and higher food costs.

The Appropriate Role for Local Government in Climate Change

While Federated Farmers is generally supportive of the Auckland Council’s overall response to climate change, there is concern that the local government sector as a whole may be considering undertaking, or is being encouraged to undertake, actions to manage agricultural emissions, especially methane and nitrous oxide. The concern is that, by doing so, some councils may end up acting inappropriately prior to the completion of work taking place under *He Waka Eke Noa*, which would be at best duplicate and at worst could undermine this work (along with other work underway at a national and international level).

As a general principle, Federated Farmers considers that councils should focus on ensuring their districts and regions can best adapt to the expected impacts of climate change and only seek to mitigate emissions which they themselves are directly responsible for. Without direct agreement with central government, local authorities should not seek to independently manage emissions that are already subject to management at central government level and, in particular as regards agricultural emissions, are the subject of management by central government in partnership with Iwi/Maori and the agricultural sector under the historic *He Waka Eke Noa* partnership approach.

The mitigation of GHG emissions at a national level is being guided by the Climate Change Commission, with central government ministries, industry peak bodies and non-governmental organisations all playing a part. Councils developing regional or district climate plans in isolation from these organisations would risk duplicating or undermining these processes. Federated Farmers consider that those councils wishing to mitigate GHG emissions should only do so in the areas in which they have direct control, including by ensuring that council buildings are appropriately constructed and insulated, by electrifying council vehicles and by providing affordable low emissions public transport.

While there is undoubtedly a need to mitigate GHG in all sectors of the economy in New Zealand (including agriculture), there is also a need to ensure that New Zealand can better adapt to the expected impacts of climate change.

The complex impacts of climate change will vary widely between regions in New Zealand, with some expected to experience hotter drier climatic conditions while others are expected to become colder and wetter. These expected localised impacts of climate change make it appropriate for local government to consider how best to

adapt to the expected impacts of climate change in their region when preparing district or regional plans and other local government regulatory processes.

Mitigation and adaptation policies should not be considered independent of each other. While Federated Farmers supports New Zealand playing its part and transitioning the economy to one that is warming neutral by 2050, this must be done in a manner that enhances the ability of rural communities to adapt to the potential impacts of climate change. Bridging this gap and ensuring regional adaptation factors are adequately considered when national GHG mitigation policies are being designed is an area in which local government is required.

Federated Farmers is concerned that climate change mitigation and adaptation policies are being viewed in a silo to the detriment of rural communities. One prominent example is policies that have incentivised the rapid blanket afforestation of productive sheep and beef farms on the East Coast of the North Island while not adequately factoring the predicted increased fire risk that will result from climate change potentially making the region hotter and drier.

Another example of the siloed nature of climate change policy in New Zealand is a reluctance to support, or even to enable, infrastructure projects that improve community water security and generate renewable hydroelectricity. Water storage infrastructure projects have the potential to mitigate emissions (by producing renewable electricity) and to improve New Zealand's ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change by enabling communities to resiliently store water during times of plenty and draw upon reserves during time

Action Being Taken on Agricultural Emissions

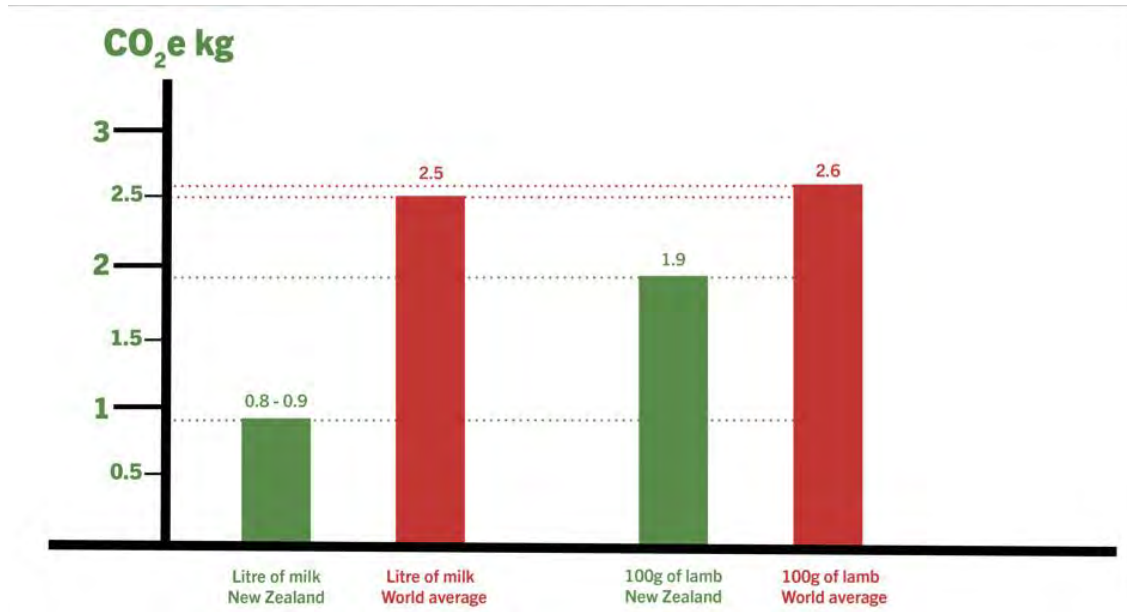
New Zealand farmers want to play their part in tackling greenhouse gas emissions. They are prepared to work hard to do their fair share and Federated Farmers support the agricultural sector achieving the goal of becoming warming neutral by 2050.

New Zealand farmers are proud to be amongst the most efficient producers in the world and, unlike many of their overseas competitors, essentially stand on their own two feet, largely unsubsidised by consumers (by way of inflated prices) or taxpayers, and they have done so for over 30 years. The unsubsidised nature of farming in New Zealand has resulted in farmers becoming economically and emissions efficient. The impressive emissions efficiency of New Zealand milk and lamb meat is demonstrated in the graph below.⁶

⁶ Climate Change and the Global Dairy Cattle Sector: The role of the dairy sector in a low-carbon future, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the Global Dairy Platform Inc, Rome 2019, pp.26.

Clune, Stephen, Enda Crossin, and Karli Verghese. "Systematic review of greenhouse gas emissions for different fresh food categories."

Ledgard, S.F., Chobtang, J., Falconer, S.J. and McLaren, S., 2016. Life cycle assessment of dairy production systems in New Zealand, Integrated nutrient and water management for sustainable farming. (Eds L.D. Currie and R.Singh). <http://flrc.massey.ac.nz/publications.html>. Occasional Report No. 29. Fertilizer and Lime Research Centre, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand. 8 pages. 1 LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT.



Far from being satisfied with this impressive emissions efficiency, since 2003 the Pastoral Greenhouse Gas Research Consortium (PGGRC) has directed about \$75 million of industry and Crown funding to the challenge of lowering New Zealand agricultural emissions, including by attempting to decouple the relationship between the feed consumed by a ruminant animal and methane produced. Much valuable knowledge has been gained, but the program has yet to be successful.

This cutting edge research is also being supported by an ambitious co-development policy framework underway. In October 2019, government agreed to work with the primary sector and iwi/Māori to equip farmers and growers with the knowledge and tools they need to reduce warming from GHG emissions, while continuing to sustainably produce quality food and fibre products for domestic and international markets. This work involves designing a practical and cost-effective system for reducing the warming from GHG emissions at the farm level by 2025. It also includes designing an appropriate farm-level pricing mechanism building on the principles set out in *He Waka Eke Noa*.

Recommendation: That Council take note of this discussion on climate change as it affects the primary production sector.

Rating Policies

Uniform Annual General Charge

Federated Farmers supports the maximum use being made of the facility provided by section 21 of the Local Government (Rating) Act whereby councils can apply rates on a uniform basis. It is considered that Uniform Annual General Charges (UAGC) and the eligible targeted rates should make up the 30% maximum allowable under the Act. It is noted that many of the legacy councils which existed in what is now Auckland utilised the UAGC facility at levels close to the maximum allowable 30%. Federated Farmers considers that the UAGC should be set considerably higher than the \$461 proposed, about 14% of the allowable amount, eventually reaching at a level which is

at, or close to, the maximum allowable, which is understood to be in the order of \$1000.

Recommendation: That Council instigate a policy for the UAGC to reach the maximum level allowable under the law over the next 10 years.

Differential

Federated Farmers considers that the differential proposed for the Farm / Lifestyle sector of 0.8 overstates the level of access to and use of Council services by the rural production sector of the community.

The Federation considers that the starting point in assessing the level of a Farming Sector differential is provided by the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act 2008, which in the case of the former Franklin and Rodney Districts applied a 0.6 differential factor in favour of those areas on the levies as they applied to the other council areas.

Federated Farmers considers that the use of council services by the Farming Sector is different from that of the Lifestyle Sector. Those in the Lifestyle Sector generally travel into an urban centre for work, and as such have greater access to council services than does the Farm Sector. Accordingly, Federated Farmers considers that the Farm Sector and the Lifestyle Sector should be treated separately, with a lower differential applied to the Farming Sector.

The most recent revaluation of November 2017 highlighted the need to separate the farming sector from the lifestyle sector for valuation and rating purposes. Federated Farmers recognises that, for many farms, their individual rate increases were offset by lower than average valuation increases arising from the revaluation, but for others, their valuation increases have been brought about by larger than average increases in the value of nearby lifestyle blocks, and drove much larger rate increases. Thus Federated Farmers considers that the need to separate "farm" from "lifestyle" for valuation and rating purposes in rural Auckland is becoming pressing.

As regards Council spending, there are several of Council's spending areas that provide little if any benefit to the productive farming sector. For example, in the more remote parts of Auckland, there is no public transport available.

Nevertheless, it is acknowledged that there are areas of Council spending that are fully available to the Farm / Lifestyle sector, for example, Council's planning and governance spending.

Recommendation: That Council differentiate between the Farming and Lifestyle Sectors for rating and valuation purposes.

Recommendation: That Council review its assessment of the differentials in rural areas, and develop a set of differentials that are generally in accordance with the methodology described above.

Postponement and Remission of Rates for Farmland

Federated Farmers would like the Council to consider reintroducing a farmland rates postponement and remission scheme.

Generally, Federated Farmers considers that the provisions in Part 10 of the now repealed Rating Powers Act 1988 (Postponement of Rates on Farmland) provided an adequate means whereby inequalities in the value of land, for example land with subdivision potential or land in desirable coastal locations, could be addressed. Federated Farmers has consistently maintained that councils should provide for the postponement of rates in a manner that is aligned with the provisions under the previous legislation.

Federated Farmers considers the concept that lays behind rates postponement policies for farmland is that farms that are of equivalent type should be rated on an equivalent basis, regardless of their location. Thus the landowner of a farm whose value is enhanced because of its coastal location, or its location in an area destined for urban development, should pay rates roughly equivalent to the owner of a farm whose value is not influenced by those types of factors.

Accordingly, a landowner who is able to make use of the rates postponement policy for farmland should not be required to pay any more by way of rates than what is determined on this basis to be a fair and equitable rate.

It is noted that some of the legacy councils that make up what is now Auckland operated such schemes, generally with the rationale that the schemes aimed to encourage owners of farmland to continue productive farming businesses, rather than subdividing or using their land for non-farming purposes.

Federated Farmers considers there is no cost to Council brought about by a landowner using the scheme. With an appropriate rates postponement policy in place, all ratepayers in the District would (at least in theory) be paying a fair rate, so any cost incurred as a result of the policy would equitably be made up from the rates paid by all ratepayers.

Recommendation: That Council reintroduce a rates postponement and remission for farmland policy and ensure that it is applied in a way that is fair and equitable across all of rural Auckland.

Kaipara River Weed Removal Programme

Federated Farmers remains concerned that the program that was put in place to remove weed congestion from the Kaipara River has not been carried forward, and it seems that some of the local farmers are funding the continuation of the program themselves. This is despite the fact that many of the exacerbators of the problem are upstream of where the problem manifests itself, including in urban areas, and that the beneficiaries of the program include roading authorities, which benefit from a reduction in flooding.

Federated Farmers considers that the program should be reinstated and extended to other West Coast rivers that are prone to sedimentation and weed infestation.

Recommendation: That the Kaipara River program for the removal of weed infestation be reinstated, and extended to other West Coast rivers that are prone to sedimentation and weed infestation, with funding provided from the Environment Targeted Rate or the Water Quality Targeted Rate.

The Federation

Federated Farmers of New Zealand is a primary sector organisation that represents the majority of the country's farming businesses. The Federation has a long and proud history of representing the interests of New Zealand's farming communities, primary producers, and agricultural exporters.

The Federation aims to add value to its members' farming business. Our key strategic outcomes include the need for New Zealand to provide an economic and social environment within which:

- Our members may operate their business in a fair and flexible commercial environment
- Our members' families and their staff have access to services essential to the needs of the rural community
- Our members adopt responsible management and environmental practices.

The total agricultural sector is even more important to the economy than it was fifteen years ago. Its contribution to the New Zealand economy has risen from around 14.2 percent of GDP in 1986/87 to around 17 percent today (including downstream processing). Some authorities consider agriculture's current contribution to the New Zealand economy to be about 20 percent of GDP.

Federated Farmers looks forward to further consultation with the Auckland Council on the Annual Plan.



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Auckland Council Finance and Performance Committee 10-year Budget 2021-2031

THE BUDGET

Federated Farmers accepts these proposals in the Budget:

- Increasing the rate increase from 3½% to 5%, which includes an additional one-off increase of 1½%
- Increasing the debt to revenue ratio from 270% to 290%
- The proposed \$31.4b capital investment program, a 20% increase from the previous \$26.2b
- Investing an additional \$150m to accelerate climate change actions

Federated Farmers acknowledges the challenges to Council created by Covid-19, in particular the reduction of income of \$450m, likely to reach \$1b by 2024.

Now is not the time for the Council to slow down its response to the issues it faces, such as growth
Now is the time for the Council to play its part and lead the way in Auckland's economic recovery:

- stimulating construction and jobs
- maintaining and improving infrastructure and community assets
- cleaning up waterways
- pest control initiatives

BUT

Federated Farmers does not accept these proposals in the Budget:

- Extending the Natural Environment Targeted Rate from 2028 to 2031
- Extending and increasing the Water Quality Targeted Rate

Federated Farmers supported the introduction of the programs in 2018
In the meantime additional central government funding for some related programs has become available
Council should use the existing funding streams as efficiently and effectively as possible

Federated Farmers wants the Council to focus more on the basics of local government

The core services, in particular transport
We continue to be concerned about the state of Auckland's rural roads
And the quality of some rural road sealing and repairs
How much is being spent on the basics, compared to the nice to haves, such as sports stadiums

We want to be sure that Auckland's rural areas are getting their fair share of the Council's expenditure, in particular a fair share of the Council's capital spending programs

For example, 3 years ago we supported the regional fuel tax, provided "a fair proportion of the funds was used for rural purposes"

The money appears to have been allocated, particularly towards a road sealing program

The Rodney Local Board continued with its transport targeted rate, but cut out its own rural road sealing proposals, allocating the funds to bus services and footpath repairs in townships
Little of the money allocated was actually spent

And it appears that, when Covid came, the allocation went

And now the Council is proposing to allocate a much lower amount to rural roads

CLIMATE CHANGE

Federated Farmers generally supports the Council's response to climate change

The Council's response appears to appropriately recognise the key issues for Auckland as being Transport, "heat, industry and power" and buildings, rather than agriculture

We have actively contributed to the Council's response to the CCC Report, through the Rural Advisory Panel

But it is important to recognise that Auckland's farmers and growers will be contributing through their rates bills to the Council's climate change response, as well as funding changes central government will require to their own production systems

FARM LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES IN THE URBAN RATING AREA

Federated Farmers does not oppose the proposal to charge farm and lifestyle properties in the Urban Rating Area the urban residential rate, but asks that the Council carefully consider its overall fairness

Much higher values in the Urban Rating Area mean rates will be higher anyway

There are much greater restrictions on rural land use in the Urban Rating Area

RODNEY DRAINAGE TARGETED RATE

Federated Farmers supports the introduction of the Rodney Drainage Targeted Rate

We agree that a community-council joint management model to manage the assets of the Te Arai and Ōkahukura drainage districts is appropriate

We agree the landowners in the Glorit drainage district should fund and manage the Glorit drainage assets themselves