To: Waitematā Local Board
Attention: Richard Northey, Sarah Trotman, Graeme Gunthorp
Copied to: Mayor Phil Goff, Councillors Bill Cashmore, Desley Simpson, Chris Darby, Pippa Coom, plus Shane Ellison, (Auckland Transport)

LOCAL BOARD PRIORITIES 2020/2021

SUBMISSION ON THE LOCAL BOARD PRIORITIES AS PART OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET 2020/2021 AND ADVOCACY TOWARDS THE LONG-TERM PLAN

THE CONSULTATION

Over the same time period both the consultation for the Annual Budget 2020/2021 (of which the feedback on Local Board Priorities 2020/2021 is a part), as well as the consultation on the **Local Board Plans 2020** was launched.

1. Firstly, this is extremely confusing! Both refer to the Local Board and 2020, both use the words 'plan' and only on deeper inspection can you distinguish the 2020/2021 'priorities' from the upcoming 3 year plan. Several of my colleagues have been equally confused and many missed the opportunity to speak at the hearing.

https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/local-board-plans
https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/topics-you-can-have-your-say-on/annual-budget-2020-2021/Pages/local-board-priorities.aspx#panelLinks

2. Secondly, we are extremely disappointed in the Local Board Priorities as part of the Annual Budget 2020/2021, that not even one sentence mentioned 'The Parnell Plan' in the message from the chair. This was taken up with the chair at the time I had sight of the draft (before publication) and the response was 'We did not think we needed to highlight the Parnell Plan'.

I understand this is a summary document however:-

The 'supporting information' document, mentions a full paragraph on the potential for an additional targeted rate in Newmarket
https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/topics-you-can-have-your-say-on/annual-budget-2020-2021/Documents/supporting-information.pdf#page=72
which is omitted in the online version
https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/topics-you-can-have-your-say-on/annual-budget-2020-2021/Pages/waitemata-local-board.aspx

In addition to that there is mention of the Parnell Festival of Roses, (to which we have responded several times that while a terrific community event, it does nothing for the businesses in Parnell), plus the Songbird project for Parnell and Newmarket (which I have never ever heard of). In other words there was nothing in the supporting information I could point to in order to solicit business support or interest.

The Parnell Plan was a substantive document that was only published in June last year, and at the very least there should have been a sentence along the lines of 'furthering the objectives of the Parnell Plan' in order to give credibility to all our efforts.

3. Thirdly the map with the caption 'Heard Park development works' is misleading. As I understand to date, the only line item that has confirmed capex is the Plunket Room, that is certainly not 'Heard Park', nor is it the pavers, nor the toilets, nor the surrounding environment.

4. Lastly, on the online consultation, there is no reference link to the 2017 Local Board Plan, which there should have been to contextualise the current information.

So all we have to go on is the Local Board Agreement 2019/2020, a few small lines under Advocacy Position. This is really unsatisfactory given the importance of the lead in to the next Long Term Plan in the next few months.

Parnell Station – Parnell Station opened in early 2017 to limited services. The local board wants to ensure Parnell Train Station is operational to full services and accessible to all users at the earliest opportunity including installation of appropriate wayfinding signs, tenanting the station building and installation of ticket gates.

Parnell Train Station Pedestrian and Cycling Connections - Provide accessible pedestrian and cycling connections to Parnell Station. Open the Greenways route from the Strand through the old Parnell rail tunnel and create accessible pedestrian connections from Parnell Station to the Domain, the Strand and Parnell Town Centre.

Deliver the Parnell Plan Transport Projects– work with Auckland Transport to plan and deliver the transport projects set out on the Parnell Plan such as the Parnell Greenway and streetscape upgrades of St Georges Bay Road.

Wayfinding signs – work with Auckland Transport to plan and deliver wayfinding signage in the City Centre, on No Exit streets with pedestrian accessways, paths leading to reserves and parks and providing direction to cycleways

The stated aspirations of the Parnell Business Association relate to the Local Board Priorities 2020/2021 as well as a lead up to the Long Term Plan and are the following:-

1. STREETSCAPE UPGRADE ST GEORGES BAY ROAD WAREHOUSES AREA

On behalf of the landowners in the area, the Parnell Business Association is asking the Waitematā Local Board to advocate for the Revitalisation of the St Georges Bay Road warehouses area, (as published in the Parnell Plan), to be funded in the next review of the Long Term Plan (LTP), and the Governing Body and Auckland Transport to make provision for this project to be included.

In addition we are asking the Waitematā Local Board to fund the preparation of an Urban Design Framework/Concept Design from the Transport Capital Fund.

We have reached out to the local business community in and around St Georges Bay Rd and are sure you will have received several submissions directly from businesses in the area (attached leaflet).

We have also created a separate full submission on this matter which was document created in consultation with the key landowners in the area.

2. REALISE THE WAIPAPA GREENWAY, CYCLE ROUTE THOUGH THE OLD RAILWAY TUNNEL AND CONNECTIONS TO PARNELL STATION

As published in the Parnell Plan – to realise the Waipapa Greenway as follows:

Investigation, design and implementation, subject to land owner approval, of an integrated greenway link along the historic Waipapa Valley from Grafton Gully through to Newmarket, as in the Waitematā Greenways Plan 2013. The project includes:
• investigating opening up the disused historic rail tunnel to Newmarket for walking and cycling
• new and sensitively designed walking and cycling paths
• passive and active recreation opportunities
• good access and integration with Parnell Station and improved and potentially new access links to the Domain and Auckland Museum

• effective stormwater management, ongoing Waipapa Stream restoration and exploration of partial stream daylighting potential
• extensive landscaping and planting appropriate to the setting and its heritage.

The Parnell Business Association is asking the Waitematā Local Board to advocate to Auckland Transport and the Governing Body for the Waipapa Greenway, cycle route though the old railway tunnel to be included as a priority cycleway and for a new order of costs to be established.

We do understand this project is also contingent upon discussions with the Summerset Group and their subsequent construction plan.

3. FUND OVERDUE & ESSENTIAL WAYFINDING. We would like the WLB to fund 3 x At Style Gateway Plinths from the Transport Capital Fund before America's Cup, in order to facilitate tourist wayfinding for Parnell and Auckland Museum.

4. ADVOCATE FOR AN INTEGRATED AND WELL-PLANNED RESPONSE ON THE STRAND THAT WON'T ALIENATE BUSINESS.

5. FURTHER THE POTENTIAL RELOCATION OF THE TOILETS IN HEARD PARK AS A MATTER OF URGENCY.

Yours sincerely,
Cheryl Adamson
General Manager
Parnell Business Association

HELP IMPROVE THE ST GEORGES BAY RD STREETSCAPE

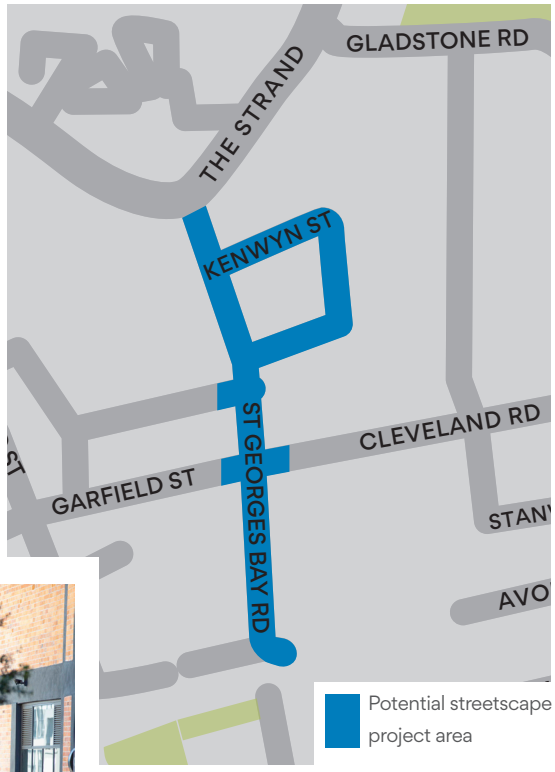
PARNELL

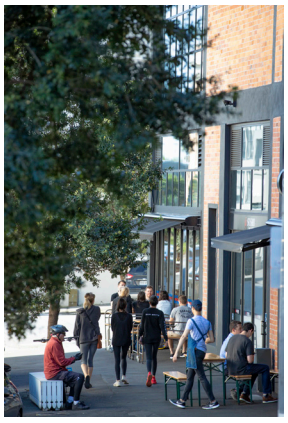
WE NEED YOUR HELP BEFORE THE 22ND MARCH

Over the past 3-4 years the landowners in St Georges Bay Road have invested hundreds of millions of dollars into transformational infrastructure which now supports a working population of around 2,000 people. The Faraday precinct is an award winning space, with former warehouses being repurposed to create a dynamic series of spaces in which to work, shop and eat, thereby providing a generous addition to the public urban infrastructure.

Yet despite significant private investment, Auckland Council and Auckland Transport have neglected the streetscapes and general evirons on this side of the city, choosing to focus on the waterfront and readiness of the city for the likes of America's Cup.

It's Parnell's turn to secure some major investment for a change and we need your assistance before 22nd March.





HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP...

By completing the details below, you are asking the Waitemata Local Board to advocate for the Revitalisation of the St Georges Bay Road warehouses area, (as published in the Parnell Plan), to be funded in the next review of the Long Term Plan (LTP), and the Governing Body and Auckland Transport to make provision for this project to be included.

Name: _____

Company/Employer: _____

Signature: _____

Please scan & email to: waitematalocalboard@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or post to: Private Bag 92300, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142