

## Albert-Eden Local Board

*Chairman: Peter Haynes*

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

The local board model is still very much a work in progress, and the final outcome (strong local democracy or souped-up community boards) hangs in the balance. This year the CEO has made concerted efforts to re-jig the organisation to improve local boards' interface with the bureaucracy, which is welcome progress. However, many Governing Body members and officials, and even the Mayor at times, seem not to understand or appreciate the intended role of local boards. One Governing Body member recently decided to prevent me speaking to her Committee despite standing orders requiring it. How can you operate a "shared governance" model with people like that in charge?

**3/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

A major problem has been the inequities in funding that have been locked in. Some former city councils planned a lot of projects, possibly with amalgamation in mind, which Auckland Council is now committed to delivering. Auckland City Council didn't; so as well as getting socked with higher rates increases, in my area we have to watch while local boards in other areas get new libraries and so on, while ours burst at the seams. And this can't be changed, because Governing body members from the areas that benefit from this aren't about to agree to any change. It sometimes doesn't feel as though, "all in this together." The Long-term Plan decision making process turned into a farce when officials were asked to nominate swingeing budget cuts. Needless to say, local board priorities didn't fare well. We're still waiting to hear what happened to the few things that we were going to get this year in the way of planning, etc, out of the general budget, but we're not hopeful. This was a very poor way to make important decisions with huge implications for local communities.

**2/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

Things are not good between me and those Governing Body members who are willing to sacrifice character heritage, volcanic view shafts and any meaningful role for local boards in favour of intensification. On the other hand, GB members like Sandra Coney have been immensely helpful. She's a saint.

**1/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

We are having increasingly good dealings with many of the CCOs. Auckland Transport is the biggie for us as well as most boards. Our relations are good at the local level, but sometimes AT officials are difficult to deal with at a remove. We have cooperated closely in consulting the Mt Albert community on the train station upgrade, and look forward to doing the same for Dominion Road.

**4/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

A great cheer leader for Auckland as a whole. He brings a rare passion to the job. He's been unfairly blamed by some for the high rates increases that have resulted from property values shifting and the amalgamation of eight rating systems into one. He's instituted severe budget cuts, and is now looking for more, yet some people insinuate that he's profligate. The Herald shouldn't let them get away with it

**3/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

The highlight this year has been the opening of the new skate park in Kingsland. Most of the budget was inherited, thanks to the foresight of Glenda Fryer in particular. A low point was being refused permission to speak to a GB committee. This makes a mockery of the shared governance model that is supposed to underpin the Council's structure.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## **Devonport-Takapuna Local Board**

*Chairman:* Chris Darby

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

Making local government relevant to people's lives and re-enrolling the 60% of voters who are resigned is the challenge before Local Boards. I score this Q at better than average based on the outcomes as I see them for the range of communities we represent. See engagement below.

**3.5/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

\$110m into Takapuna is the highlight. A doubling of the budget to \$50m for Lake Rd improvements (Auckland's worst road – Herald) and allocating a realistic budget of \$8m to rebuild Devonport Library are highlights. A new \$10m for the new Bayswater Ferry Terminal is another win. Two of the three main transport transformation projects from the Auckland Plan and LTP - City Rail Link and Additional Harbour Crossing – will provide major benefits for our people north of the bridge. The CRL connects our people via the northern Busway and three (Devonport, Bayswater and Stanley Bay) to destinations beyond and helps future-proof rail to the Shore.

**4/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

Governing body members still haven't realised that they are elected from wards to represent the whole region and not just the ward. Other than the mayor, deputy mayor and Crs Wood and Hartley other governing body members are invisible to our board. This is not what the Royal Commission or

legislation anticipated. My score of 3.5 primarily reflects the work of the Mayor, e.g. last Tuesday he sat through our board meeting from 6pm until near 10pm and actively and respectfully contributed.

**3.5/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

AT is a standout after a slow start. ACPL, ACIL, RFA, Watercare and ATEED similarly. Waterfront Auckland is less relevant at this stage but has offered assistance when required. The CCO model has allowed for significantly more pace in project delivery. The governance checks imposed by politicians at the former NSCC - which I'm familiar with - put the brakes on outcomes in favour of management meddling.

**4/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

Bloody outstanding - almost. There's no lack of energy, vision and preparedness to engage with Len. For the first time in Auckland's history we have a mayor prepared to take risks and look beyond their political life-cycle. With the Auckland ailment of age old left/right politics in odd disguises pulling at him from the sides he stands tall with dogged determination.

**4/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

a) Pushing for the strategic repositioning of Takapuna as a Metropolitan Centre in support of the City Centre and Devonport as a Town Centre as part of the City Fringe has reset the course and focus of these two centres. Takapuna is now recognised as not just one of ten metro centres but a priority spend centre with \$110m tagged in the LTP. Dealing with disparate sections of council has been superseded by the establishment of the Takapuna Transformation Team. This has added further grunt to realise our ambitions in Takapuna.

b) The board's Local Board Plan gave a clear direction on public transport. This has been responded to with \$800,000 spent on addressing a decade's worth of major maintenance backlog at Devonport Wharf and a \$400,000 spent on a new boarding gangway and berthing pontoon at Stanley Bay Ferry Terminal. Of particular note is that neither project was identified or funded in the legacy council 10 year budget. These are examples of the benefits of whole of city dynamic budgets. Advocacy for future rail to the Shore including Takapuna has been rewarded with on-going studies reflected in the recently reported *Land-use Preconditions for Rapid Transit in the North Shore*.

c) Community engagement was identified by the royal Commission as one of the two systemic problems requiring remedy. That task sits primarily with local boards but the resource to develop meaningful engagement tools are still too few. On the plus our board has attracted significant numbers to engagement sessions to discuss the Local Board Plan, Auckland Plan and LTP. More than 600 individuals and groups form a key stakeholders list. Agendas, minutes, community meetings, weekly resource consent application/notifications and liquor license applications/notifications are communicated. Community representation gaps have been identified resulting in the board's sponsoring of the establishment of the Sunnynook Community Forum.

d) Dealing with the reality of moving to the government legislated capital value rating system coupled with new valuations has hurt most Devonport-Takapuna residents regardless of how low the general rates increase is, has been the low point.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## **Franklin Local Board**

*Chairman: Andrew Baker*

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

**4/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

Some gains, some losses – not entirely happy with lack of recognition of some priorities or process for consideration of LB priorities

**3/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

In general relationship is sound despite some testing times lately. Relationship with our locally elected Councillor is excellent.

**3/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

Probably somewhere between 3 and 4 but closer to 4. Some are better at others at recognising LB relevancy and priorities.

**4/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

Energy and commitment is outstanding, balanced by fixation with committing funding to aspirational projects and a perception of a need for haste

**3/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

Highs: Achieving many of our priorities, increasing awareness of our role in community, strong advocacy, development of good relationships with range of stakeholders, role in securing V8 Supercars, role in affecting lower business differential for ex FDC businesses, local leadership and levels of support from public in general.

Lows: Failure to get GB to commit to getting some things (parks & rec \$) across line for LTP, difficulty getting some information in timely fashion or early from within some areas of Council.

## **Howick Local Board**

*Chairman:* Michael Williams

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

The model is working well as regards local activities and projects. Community feedback on Howicks Local Board Plan has been overwhelmingly positive and the community is glad to have local decisions being made locally.

**4/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

Although Howicks funding per capita is only 80% of the regional average, by focusing on value for money we have been able to reprioritise expenditure within our budget envelope to deliver a number of local projects.

**3/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

The communication at a political level is poor.

**2/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

The relationship with AT is very good. The relationship with ATEED is improving although they have a lack of empathy for local aspirations. ACPL could benefit from board to board involvement to better appreciate the place shaping function of local boards and the value that ACPL could add more broadly than the particular properties they happen to own.

**3/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

Len's vision is fundamentally flawed in that it does not balance livability with affordability. His dictatorial style is out of step with the shared governance model. He needs to spend more time with other elected members and adopt a more collaborative approach in building up draft plans that he has the privilege of being able to present.

**1/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

One of the successes has been the formation of the Local Board Chairs group which has gained significant influence within the organisation.

A highlight for Howick has been the development of engagement mechanisms including a range of forum groups to truly engage with the community and to genuinely reflect the community's preferences in our planning.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

It has been difficult getting staff to align their activities with Local Board plans and preferences but this has improved significantly in recent months due particularly to the hard work of the Local Board Services Team under the leadership of Karen Lyons and the Unity of the Local Boards in continuously challenging and improving the culture of the organisation.

We need to do better at communicating to the public what Local Boards do. People are generally surprised to learn of the significant scope of Local Board decision making and influence in regional matters.

## **Kaipatiki**

*Chairman:* Lindsay Waugh

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

On balance the model is developing well and we are increasingly able to respond more directly to community needs and aspirations. I anticipate this will continue to improve and strengthen as the organization adapts to the new structure and a clearer understanding of the role of Local Boards is developed. We have been able to progress two specific projects that had languished for years previously. We achieved a final solution to provide a dedicated base for the Kaipatiki Community Development Trust after years of

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

Swings and roundabouts. We continue to lobby for equity of funding for our community to deliver on our plans. The long term plan was based on legacy budgets so our Board's budget allocation reflects years of underinvestment by the previous NSCC. While we acknowledge that the budgets had to be based on legacy information we will not accept that this should determine the future investment in our community over the next ten years.

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

The collaboration and willingness to work through issues as they emerge has been positive. Challenges have been thrown at us all during this 2 years but at all times robust debate is focused on achieving the best outcomes for the city.

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

This is variable depending on the level of engagement the Board has with the CCO. Our relationship with Auckland Transport has been particularly well managed and the willingness of AT to respond to my advocacy for the reinstatement of the Beach Haven Ferry terminal was dealt with swiftly and positively. I was warmly received at an AT Board meeting where I was able to put our case directly to the Board members so they were cognizant of the impact of their earlier decision to defer this project. Recent history of the Beach Haven Ferry terminal has seen the project come and go with years of broken promises. In the past it was a lot more difficult to provide the local perspective directly to the decision makers. For me this is an example of the ability for Local Boards to challenge the decisions of the CCOs when those decisions are made without a full understanding of the local impact.

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

Excellent. The challenges are enormous and the poisoned chalice of delivering a single rating system based on capital value could not be delivered without pain for some. The stewardship provided by the Mayor through this demanding period of change has been fair and steady. I cannot imagine how

the organization, both political and bureaucratic, would have survived without the open and fair approach that the Mayor demonstrates

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

The loss and subsequent confirmation of the Beach Haven Ferry terminal project

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

The challenge we continue to face is finding the right balance in procurement policies between the scale and efficiencies of large service delivery contracts versus local responsiveness and community development benefits of a more local service delivery solution. In broad terms Local Boards prefer local solutions for issues such as graffiti management, because local solutions provide the additional benefit of the ownership and pride that is embedded in a local delivery service whereas the Governing Body is focused on establishing city wide standards and efficiencies of scale. This is a work in progress.

## **Maungakiekie-Tamaki Local Board (MTLB)**

*Chairwoman:* Leila Boyle

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

MTLB considers that the new Supercity model is working better for our communities than the legacy Auckland City Council did. The southern parts of the isthmus covered by MTLB and Puketapapa Local Board were treated shamefully by ACC over the majority of the 21 years that we were part of that organisation. Glen Innes fared the worst as it was part of the old Auckland City prior to the 1989 amalgamation but once the Boroughs were wound up, it was very difficult for any of our communities to be heard and they certainly didn't get a fair share of investment over that 21 years.

**4/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

MTLB got an additional capex project in Tamaki – the Glen Innes Music and Arts Centre for young people project – following on from the additional \$250,000 opex we got for the detailed planning work for GIMAC in the 2011/12 Annual Plan. This was new capital funding.

MTLB also got \$4.5 capex for additional projects in Onehunga (\$1m for a dedicated space for young people when the Sir William Jordan Rec Centre gets redeveloped, \$2m for upgrading the upper part of Onehunga Mall and \$1.5m for capital works around the cluster of facilities in Onehunga to make them work together better spatially). This was reprioritised from new capital funding (\$5m was deducted from the Tamaki Innovation Centre's \$30m by a Richard Northey amendment that a majority of the governing body supported following our advocacy that more needed to be done in Onehunga – see answer to question 3 for more on this).

**4/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

MTLB is building a very good relationship with the governing body. We are having very constructive discussions with them about a range of matters, including the issue of growth (we have two of the eight priority growth areas in the Auckland Plan – Onehunga and Tamaki town centres and suburban

areas) and how to accommodate that growth including making sure that physical and community infrastructure is in place as our communities grow (see question 2 for more on this particular issue).

**4/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

Depends on the CCO and who exactly we are dealing with in the CCO! Probably averages out to 3 with the range being from 1 to 5.

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

He's doing a big job really well.

**4/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

See answers to question 2 for the highlights. Also, after 15 or so years, local government finally has a face and public presence in our communities now. We haven't had a local Council office since the mid-1990's, when all of the ward offices got centralised to downtown Auckland.

The low points are a work in progress. We are still struggling to get good quality information and some parts of the organisation (officers) are having difficulty understanding the new structure and MTLB's place in it. It is better than it was but we still have a way to go!

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## **Otara-Papatoetoe Local Board**

*Chairman:* John McCracken

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

The board is working well after bringing what are two very different communities together who have different needs and demands. Community consultation and input has been very pleasing but can always be improved. There has been a need to implement change in a number of areas which has not been easy for some to accept however the benefits are starting to be seen.

**4/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

The real working budget that our board and the majority of other boards were provided with has proved to be is totally inadequate and addresses only a few of the projects and initiatives that were identified by the community and board.

**2/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

We don't always agree on decisions that the Governing Body makes but overall the Otara Papatoetoe Local Board has had excellent support from the vast majority of Councillors on the key issues that the Board has been championing namely the Regulation of Prostitution Bill, Alcohol and Gambling Reform Bills.

**4/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

The lines of communication with the majority of CCO's have been open and the Board has enjoyed timely responses to queries. We are working closely with ACPL and AT in particular on a number of projects and the engagement with the Board has been excellent.

**4/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

Tough job to be leading the City through the start-up phase and setting the scene with the Auckland Plan. He will never please everyone, however he may please a few more if the Rail loop was thought through a bit more. To truly have the world's most liveable city, resources and improvements are need to be funded across all communities. It is not just about the inner city improvements that benefit apartment dwellers and tourists.

**4/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

Highlights –

Opening of the Papatoetoe Sports Centre

Opening of the Otara Bus Interchange

Opening of the Manukau Railway Station

Opening of the Manukau Indoor Tennis Centre

Tupu Library Extension opening

Auckland Council voting to take over the Manukau City Council Regulation of Prostitution in specified places Bill.

Continued resolute commitment of the Otahuhu, Papatoetoe and Manurewa Communities to fight for powers to control of street prostitution.

Boards commitment to leading the fight to try and stop anymore Off Licence Liquor Outlets.

Supporting the yearlong activities of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Papatoetoe.

Setting up the Youth Connections project with great support from Auckland Airport

Community Trust and the Tindall Foundation.

The Southern Initiative which will significantly improve the wellbeing of the wider community.

Working with the Glenn Family Foundation on projects and community programmes in Otara.

Completing the Local Board Agreement and Plan with many very positive and beneficial projects to be rolled out over the coming years.

Being assigned outstanding and committed Council support staff overseen by Local Board Services.

## Low Points –

Losing the appeal to the High Court to prevent another liquor from opening in Papatoetoe.

Total disillusionment with the current Liquor Licencing Laws and of the judiciary to protect the community when they cry out for help.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## Orakei

*Chairman: Desley Simpson*

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

It's been disappointing.

The theory is right and without doubt it's a large step up from Community Board days but the reality is that its taking far longer than it should to deliver the model intended.

Certainly the engagement around forming a Local Board plan has worked well. The document has been well received and people feel listened to and involved in the decision making process around how they think their area of Auckland should look and feel. Our Board engages well with our community and actively meets with every residents association and Business association on a monthly basis. We have encouraged two new residents associations form and are actively working on new business groupings. However overall the organisation is too geared to the Mayor and councillors priorities and not enough to local boards. There has not been enough budget devolved to boards to deliver on key outcomes nor has there been enough ability to influence/control budget towards local priorities. This has created an unrealistic expectation by our community and left the Board with a thankless job of trying to deliver on that expectation.

**1/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

There was no room in the 10 year budget for local board priorities, but plenty of room for the Mayor and councillors priorities which will see debt rise by nearly \$8 billion over this period. Orakei has fared better than most through our strong, relentless advocacy (as you will know from seeing us regularly at GB meetings) but again reality finds our budget still grossly inadequate: \$15M (90% of which we can't influence) versus \$105 million rates revenue provided.

**2/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

Personal relationships are fine, but there is too much "talk" about importance of local boards – and not enough "walk". When the GB has a workshop on issues the Local Boards are not necessarily invited. Think there has only been 3x joint LB/GB workshops in 2 years! Staff struggle to deliver local board objectives when faced with "higher" competing regional objectives and our local objectives- which are not necessarily matched. It took too long for even a local Board input section to be added to GB papers. Still feels very much 'tokenism' by most GB members

**2/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

Variable. Good relationships exist with most, but there is still too little organisational focus and prioritisation on local board issues particularly with Auckland Transport and ATEED. Those who have

designated local Board relationship managers have it easier ( i.e. AT, Watercare) but their reporting to local Boards is definitely variable . There is definite confusion for staff between assisting the CCO's deliver outcomes which may or may not match those of Local Boards.

**2/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

The Mayor is very sincere, works hard and has finally been supportive of Tamaki Drive Master plan – but our community has given a strong message that he is not focussing sufficiently on Orakei ward needs. He was asked at our rates meeting why he uses “I” so much- his answer – because he can! We appreciate that he is legislatively given the mandate to lead, however when this leadership is contrary to ratepayers and officer recommendations we struggle to understand that leadership. A direct example relates to setting the UAGC .When his officers suggested a UAGC of \$450 to give the ratepayers of Auckland the least change- he ignored that advice and went for \$350. Our community feels he doesn't listen- he is very opinionated and whilst he may go through the motions of consulting- delivers HIS vision and not ours and not often with a lot of justification.

**1/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

Without doubt delivering back investment into our ward within an extremely tight fiscal envelope

Top 3 highs –

1) Sports fields: Delivering sports field investment back into our ward (requested by 88% of local Board plan submitters)

2) Tamaki Drive Masterplan: Whilst being turned down at the first round of annual funding by the Mayor and GB, persevering and getting approval to lead the first Local Board/CCO/GB project, supported by the mayor- a new master plan place making approach to Tamaki Drive has been a great achievement for the OLB

3) T3 on Remuera Rd: Advocating strongly to AT for our community, against their regional decision making of HOV lanes on regional roads and achieving a compromise of T3 on Remuera Rd

We understand we are the first Board to complete a half term result of achievements which you can view on our website (but have been releasing achievements reports every 6 months!)

Low:

1) Low investment: Lack of investment back into Orakei (remember we contribute \$105 M )and frustration at the inability of the Mayor and GB to acknowledge that

2) Poor delegations: Not enough organisational focus on local boards. Rather than being largely autonomous as planned under the legislation, local board strategy is effectively determined by Governing Body budget setting. Rather than asking “why should this new policy not be local?” which was the original idea, the current default seems to be “let's try and regionalise first”

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

We feel very concerned that we have been asked to fund FURTHER savings of 3% within our very small budget. My understanding is that the GB have not critiqued each budget line as we know the local Boards have done.

## **Waiheke**

*Chairman: Faye Storer*

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

Reason: Because Board members are working extremely hard to ensure the success of local boards for now and into the future.

**4/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

We didn't get everything we wanted into the LTP, but we have secured discretionary funding, which allows the Board to respond quickly to community needs.

**3-4/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

There is always an inherent tension between the regional and local level while we vie for funding and decision-making. This is no greater than usual. The model set up by the Government is flawed but we are all focussed on making it a success.

**4/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

Once a mutually beneficial relationship has been established with a particular CCO then there is the potential to deliver great results. Communication can be shaky, with some CCOs forging ahead with the work they have been authorised to do, without taking the local boards and communities with them. But generally they are very efficient. The danger lies in CCOs becoming too autonomous and forgetting that they are an arm of Council and funded by ratepayers.

**3-4/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

Mayor Len Brown works hard. He enjoys the job - and it shows.

**4/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

Answer: Highlights - Being able to deliver to the community and being part of the team that makes the local board model work. Low points - That the 'baby was thrown out with the bathwater' and we now spend so much time arguing for the decision-making that most community boards already had.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## **Waitakere Ranges Local Board**

*Chairman:* Denise Yates

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

This is variable. In many instances there are still no clear allocations of responsibility between Local and Regional and we have to find our way through that, or there are "legacy" rules still applying and people get cross because they know of people elsewhere where things are cheaper or done differently and they are confused. Generally though I think we are able to get most things done where it is a day-to-day matter, though longer term things are more challenging. Same with the CCos, though Auckland Transport is the main one we have to deal with.

**3/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

Again variable, there was nowhere near enough money for us to do all the things we wanted to do and many projects have had to be delayed along the timeline when they should be being attended to now. Often things that are being delayed need to be done so that something else can happen.... Same with the CCos - we need Park and Ride facilities so people can use public transport, but that money had to be delayed. Glen Eden is crying out for modernisation, and the community can't thrive in rundown facilities...

**3/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

The allocation of responsibilities holds us back. There is no acknowledgement that decisions made regionally impact locally and it is therefore essential that we work together, but this is not happening as well as it should. Especially with regard to decisions around the Regional Parks.

**3/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

Good with Auckland Transport who deserve a \$, very little with anyone else, so ATEED can have a 2 and the others a 1

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

**3/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

Can't really comment - there has been a lot of tedious routine stuff.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## **Waitemata**

*Chairman: Shale Chambers*

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

The model is still settling after two years. However, much has been achieved in the last year. Within the constraints of local board allocated responsibilities we continue to engage and support our very active residential and business communities in Waitemata. Local Boards have great staff, and increased support. Still, wider council staff remain responsive to local board allocated responsibilities to differing degrees. Regulatory matter input remains problematic, and challenging for active local boards of engaged and active communities. Is the local board role participatory of good whole of council local decision making, or representative of community concerns?

**3.5/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

We have worked within the local board fiscal envelope provided, but received no extraordinary treatment for any additional project, unlike some other boards, other than funding for the previously unplanned and unbudgeted health and safety Pt Resolution Bridge replacement. Budget allocation accuracy and funding ageing asset replacement remains a considerable concern.

**3/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

We've met together twice as a collective. How can you tell? The relationships remain personal. Local board's belatedly were invited to participate on the Unitary Plan process, which may indicate progress.

**3/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

Auckland Transport, Waterfront Auckland and ATEED have varying processes for engagement, and largely succeed to different degrees. The other CCOs are largely invisible to local boards, except on a project engagement basis.

**3/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

Len Brown has the support of the Waitemata Local Board.

Support for public transport and progressing the City Rail Link, retaining ownership of our public assets, and the Auckland Plan.

The Ports dispute remaining unresolved remains a black spot.

**4/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

Highlights

Myers Park upgrade budgeted plans

Completion of historic Tepid Baths upgrade and opening

Weona Westmere Walkway project

Artificial turfs for Seddon Fields

Drinking fountains in parks

Completion of Judges Bay upgrade

Declaration of Smokefree sportsfields and playgorunds in Waitemata

Completion and opening Campbell Free Kindergarten restoration

Leys Gymnasium upgrade and availability

Newmarket Park reopening

The retrun of Three Lamps to Ponsonby

Symonds Cemetery upgrade project

Support for historic charachter and heritage preservation

Paget Street CE review and special circumstances availability

Support of Events through an Events Fund: Parnell Festival of Roses, Art in the Dark, Grey Lynn Park

Festival, Art Week, Franklin Road Lights, Playing the Street

Support of community groups through an enhanced Community Grant Fund

Auckland becoming a Fair Trade City

Local Baord support for increased investment in public transport and walking and cycling infrastructure

Pt Resolution Bridge, walkway and stairway renewal.

Working to become an accessible local board area

Being a strong community voice for Waitemata

Low Points

The many underestimated frustrations of setting up and bedding in a new system of local government from scratch.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## **Whau Local Board**

*Chairman: Derek Battersby*

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

4/5

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

5/5

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

**4/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?.

**4/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

**4/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

High points:

Moving forward in implementing the transformation project in New Lynn.

Progressing the Avondale master planning.

Working with the Whau's Business Assn's

Low points:

Capacity rebuilding re community expectations

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

## **Upper Harbour Local Board**

*Chairwoman: Margaret Miles*

1) After nearly two years, how well is the local board model working for your community?

**3/5**

2) How has your local board fared out of the Long-Term Plan process?

**3/5**

3) How are things going between your local board and the governing body?

This has improved over the last 6 months

**3/5**

4) How are things going between your local board and the CCOs?

**3/5**

5) How would you rate the performance of Mayor Len Brown?

But realise he has a very difficult task combining all previous local authorities information and functions.

**3/5**

6) What have been the highlights/low points for your local board (comments please)?

High Points:

Two of our key projects have been funded.

The first is the extension of the car park extension at the Albany Bus Station which is now almost full again (think today there are about 12 parks empty).

Second key project that is a real high for our Board is that the Governing Body recognised the need to put adequate funding into the Northern Recreation Pool project at Albany. This project was first included in North Shore City Council's annual plan back in the 1990's but due to politics (Andrew Williams – ex Mayor North Shore City Council managed to delay construction for 3 years by calling for yet another review of the site location and also reduced the budget for the project by over \$4million) the pool which should have been completed ready for use by December 2010 has still to be commenced however now with approval in the LTP of the funding hopefully this project will come to fruition.

Low points:

Some roading projects that were identified in the NSCC long term plan are nowhere to be seen! An example is Greenhithe Road upgrades. NSCC had a staged upgrade programme over several years to upgrade the older roads in Greenhithe which lack adequate stormwater control and footpaths.

Please feel free to comment on any questions and any other issues you feel are important.

I am of the personal view that there are benefits of the Super City but that it will take many more years to achieve these.

Currently processes are long winded which just slows down the ability of Local Boards to achieve results.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

## **GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Like all local boards we face challenges in this new governance model with not enough money or delegations to do everything we would like. Although the new structure has its issues, more importantly we have getting on with the job. We have almost completed our Area Plan, we are advocating strongly for our merged communities and working well as a team and doing our best to make this work for the people of Hibiscus and Bays.