

17 March 2019

Whau Local Board
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SUBMISSION TO THE WHAU LOCAL BOARD PRIORITIES 2019/2020

The Rosebank Business Association ('Association') - 'Rosebank – Gateway to the West' - welcomes the opportunity to make this submission to the Whau Local Board Priorities.

The Rosebank Business Improvement District is a commercial and industrial hub of 575-600 businesses located on the Rosebank Peninsula in the West Auckland. It has direct access to the SH16 North-Western Motorway and once the Waterview tunnel is completed, will link to the SH20 Airport Motorway. Businesses in the area generate an estimated \$1 billion in revenue, pay rates of \$4.5 million and employ about 9,000 FTEs. The predictions are that this workforce will increase to 20,000 by 2025.

Whau Local Board Priorities

In the Consultation Material, the Whau Local Board has said that the Whau Pool and Recreation Centre is the number one priority which should be delivered as soon as possible. Work is underway to find a suitable location. You say you will be working with neighbouring local boards to progress the project.

The Board has also prioritised supporting the Whau Coastal Walkway Trust to progress Te Whau Pathway boardwalk connections as well as continuing to work closely with Auckland Transport to progress the shared pathway, New Lynn Train Station to Avondale Train Station and the town centre streetscapes.

You also say that other projects for the Board this year include: Archibald Park Playground – advance to detailed design; Memorial Drive and Memorial Square upgrade; New Lynn Transit Lane repair and improvement, including a public art component; and Te Rewarewa Pathways – improve the stream environment.

The Avondale town centre redevelopment as part of the Panuku Unlock programme will also be an important focus in 2019/2020.

While the Association is generally supportive of the Whau Local Board Priorities 2019/2020, it would have liked the Local Board to have placed more of a priority on resolving transport issues in the Rosebank area and local economic development.

In particular, the Association asks the Whau Local Board to consider the following:

- the Association believes that rates (whether they be targeted, residential, business differentiated, or otherwise need to always carry an overall objective which simply asks: **“Do these rates represent value for money”** – especially for small-medium enterprises (SMEs)
- bearing this in mind, the Association is concerned that our public transport modes are not sufficiently able to transport 9000 people to and from work each day in the Rosebank area, especially without encountering even moderate traffic congestion

- the Association is also concerned with unmanaged (or 'out of control') pest plants on both the Council reserve to the east and the west of the Rosebank Peninsula (with the west side adjoining the Whau River and Kurt Bremer Walkway). Surveys undertaken as part of the Auckland Regional Pest Strategy from 2007/12 clearly illustrate this problem.
- the Association is also concerned that businesses are continued to be asked to pay for the berm grass to be cut when berms are owned by Auckland Council and managed by Auckland Transport.
- finally, the Association is concerned that plans are only just being progressed on how to fund maintenance and development of waste-water/sewage infrastructure and the rehabilitation of all aging underground piping.

The Association wishes to be heard at any hearings of the Whau Local Board to consider these and other submissions.

Yours sincerely,



Mike Gibson
CEO
Rosebank Business Association