

# Forum to address transport issues

A new transport forum to provide community input on local transport-related matters is being developed.

Waiheke's pitted, narrow roads paired with a lack of footpaths and pedestrian crossings are significant concerns for residents, and the local board hopes that the establishment of the forum will address such issues.

Free public transport and reduced ferry fares for locals are also a priority.

The forum will meet quarterly to enable community members to provide meaningful input concerning transport matters on the island.

The group will be comprised of an Auckland Transport representative, up to seven community representatives and two members of the board, one of whom will be the chair.

A mana whenua representative and subject matter experts, including Auckland Council Healthy Waters staff, will attend on an as-needed basis.

Friday 19 October.

Local board advisor Mark Inglis said a few applications for community representatives were received and the board will decide on the members by the end of October.

In August 2017, the request to establish the transport forum was made during public submissions in the Waiheke Local Board business meeting, and it's hoped that the panel will enable community members to make proposals to the local board on transport-related issues that affect them.

"The forum will recognise local knowledge and will empower residents to contribute to solutions to local problems," according to the local board. Community members will be able to provide input into a ten-year transport plan, as well as the design and planning of roads, cycle-ways and footpaths.

There isn't an allocated budget for the transport forum, and any financial resources required to support approved recommendations will be provided by the board and from existing budgets.

Meetings will be advertised on the Waiheke local board Facebook page and via other social media sites. • *Sophie Boladeras*



A new forum is being established to encourage residents to discuss solutions to transport-related issues.

Other themes identified by residents in the Auckland Plan 2050 consultation feedback report for the Waiheke Local Board include the promotion of safe cycling and e-bike infrastructure as well as free public transport, smaller, more frequent buses and opening up the Waiheke ferry route to competition.

land Council Healthy Waters staff, will attend on an as-needed basis.


The first meeting is proposed for Thursday 15 November at the local board office, with the agenda closing on Friday 5 November 2018. Applications for community representatives on the forum have been publicly advertised and closed on

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