

## Chairman's Annual Report for 2022/2023

Takapuna Residents Association is pleased to report to members on another year of local involvement. As a voice for the community, we aim to protect and promote the interests and welfare of Takapuna Residents. However, we also encourage you to 'Have Your Say' when the opportunities arise.

**Communications:** A new website has been created which we hope will enable people to find us and sign up as members, where we can upload documentation and share information on issues we have represented on behalf of the community. We have new logo, and have also established a new email process so we will now be able to keep members more directly informed. We have a Facebook page.

**Devonport/Takapuna Local Board:** We are maintaining good communication with the local board and look forward to a positive ongoing relationship.

**Local Issues:** Over the past year, the Association has represented the community in raising awareness and/or made submissions relating to:

- ***Takapuna Safe Speeds implementation by Auckland Transport*** – TRA participated in stakeholder meetings regarding the intention to reduce the legal speed to 30 km limit within central Takapuna, as recently implemented.
- ***Housing Intensification*** – TRA made a submission identifying the main local issues for our unique location, have met with representatives from other Residents Associations, and will 'keep a watchful eye' on this evolving issue. We acknowledge Franco Belgiorno-Nettis for the efforts he made personally in challenging the Council process to get transparency and fairness.
- ***48 Esmonde Road (Amaia) development*** – TRA made a submission in response to the 'upsizing' of the development, as well as speaking to the issue at the Hearing.
- ***Loss of the public park beside Spencer on Byron*** – For the last couple of years this park has been closed and used as a construction yard - fenced off and metaled over - while the Spencer underwent renovations, work which is now finished. However, the Spencer has applied to Auckland Council seeking to change the unit land title for conditions of use from public recreational space to car park. We are not aware of any public notification or consultation on loss of this public asset. TRA communicated with Council representatives, as well as escalating the issue to the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board, and we will continue to follow up.
- ***Northcroft Street Upgrade*** – TRA made a submission in response to the Draft Concept Design, and Steven Salt met with staff of Eke Panuku for further discussions.
- ***Losing Open Spaces in Our Public Places*** – Following the planting of large trees in local parks by Council arborists, without consultation with local interest groups, Takapuna and Milford Residents Associations made a combined presentation to the Local Board noting concerns including:
  - the loss of public view shafts e.g. in Henderson Park, one of the few places that people can sit and enjoy looking at an expansive view Lake Pupuke (particularly those less able)
  - the loss of recreational space and visibility e.g. in Sylvan Park where trees impede views of the boat launching area, finishing line for races, and will reduce the space available for events
  - the loss of open flat grassy areas for group activities e.g. in Killarney Park
 TRA attended the presentation made by Arborists to the Local Board. No progress has been made or resolution achieved, so we would be interested to know the views of residents.

- ***Loss of Pohutukawa in Ander Place, Takapuna*** – It was disappointing to see the destruction of this large and well-established tree from the streetscape, however, Ryman Healthcare were within their rights to do so as part of the development of the Killarney Street site. TRA received a lot of public comment and therefore wrote to Ryman, on behalf of the community, expressing disappointment that greater efforts had not been made to retain the tree.
- ***The number of accidents along Burns Ave/Auburn St*** – Concerned by the numerous accidents at the Auburn/Huron roundabout, and wishing to avoid a fatality, TRA has been involved with the District Commander of Police for Waitemata and the Community Constable with respect to the implementation of the 30km area down Auburn and through to the corner of Bracken and Burns. The NZ Police Traffic Team will be meeting with AT again this week. Takapuna Primary have alerted the school community to the danger of the situation.
- ***The unsafe condition of some footpaths in central Takapuna*** – members of the committee joined members of the Local Board for a ‘walk-around’, highlighting areas of concern.
- ***Takapuna/Hauraki Emergency Preparedness meetings*** – ANCAD (Auckland North Community and Development) has coordinated meetings regarding this issue, which committee members have attended. We do not believe it is the responsibility of the Residents Association to manage ‘disaster’ situations, however, as a community group we are happy to be involved in the process and facilitate communications and support.

For additional details about these issues - we are uploading information to the website as quickly as possible.

**Rules of Takapuna Residents Assn:** The Rules for TRA were written in 2007 so we are recommending some minor changes to bring them up-to-date for our needs. More comprehensive changes will be required within the next couple of years for compliance under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

**Auckland 2040** – we would like to acknowledge Auckland 2040 for passing their funds to us.

**TRA Committee:** The committee usually meets on the fourth Monday of the month, and we are keen to have new committee members join our team. Member’s community links include Takapuna Rotary and the Pupuke Birdsong Project.

We collaborate with Milford Residents Assn, sharing information and ideas, and hope this will provide a degree of consistency over a broader area. We would also like to build closer relationships with other Residents Associations.

Acknowledgement and thanks to all the committee for their work.



**Steven Salt**

Chair

21 June 2023