



Chair's Report 2019

This past year has been a busy one for the Association. Our major focus arose from the new Unitary Plan, which has not surprisingly resulted in a proposal to redevelop the commercial area in Mission Bay. However, instead of accepting the additional height and other benefits provided in the Unitary Plan and working within the Plan, the developer chose to design an 8 storey 28m high development, well over the allowable 18m height. We felt that this was totally inappropriate for the Mission Bay setting, and would visually dominate and destroy much of the character and visual charm of the area.

We organised a public meeting and found an overwhelming level of concern over the proposal. With generous donations from members and attendees plus our own reserves we were able to engage a planning barrister and a planner to prepare a strong submission objecting to the resource consent application. Thank you for all those who so generously donated.

We are now waiting for notification as to when the resource consent hearings will be held. No specific dates have been advised, but we have some indications that they will be soon, probably in June. Unfortunately, we do not have sufficient funding to keep the barrister and planner engaged through the hearings, and so will be asking for further donations to assist.

Our barrister, Gill Chapel, is a local resident and has been working for us at a heavily discounted rate. We really appreciate her support.

In addition to this major action, we have made a number of submissions on other proposals, including bus stops, freedom camping, speed restrictions, pedestrian crossings amongst others. We are currently in the middle of working with Auckland Transport to try to bring some common sense to their proposals for roading safety changes in Mission Bay.

Working with council organisations can be a frustrating exercise, sometimes not even getting the courtesy of a reply, and often getting no feedback on our suggestions. But at other times it can be very rewarding as our views are listened to and plans are changed as a result. In such cases we can feel that we have made a positive difference to our community, and it makes all the hard work worthwhile.

The Association has continued to grow, with now almost 650 members. This is dramatically up from last year, due primarily to the local community overwhelmingly supporting us on the Mission Bay development proposal. The more members we have, the more influence we are able to exert on behalf of the community, and so we will continue to try to grow our membership numbers.

Our financial position is strong, as you will see from the financial reports. The Mission Bay development proposal has emphasised the importance of maintaining a reserve fund that

allows us to respond to unexpected issues with confidence, and we intend to continue that policy.

We have an active and enthusiastic committee which is key to achieving results. I would like to acknowledge the effort of our Committee over the past year. The Committee comprises:

- Don Stock (Chairman)
- Cherie Cook (Secretary)
- Kathy Davies (Treasurer and Membership)
- Robert Benton
- Alan Minson
- Mike Padfield
- Howard Small
- Lorna Stansfield

They have done a great job. A very big thanks to them all.

In particular, I would like to give special thanks to Cherie Cook who has been our secretary for several years now. Cherie has done a great job in getting us organised. She will be standing down from the committee this year due to other commitments on her time, and I would like to thank her for everything she has done for us.

Alan Minson will also be stepping down this year. He has been a valuable member of the committee, having led several key initiatives such as the rat trap project (now rolled into the Eastern Songbird Project) and has been an unrelenting champion for Madills Farm issues. Thank you Alan for all your good work.

We also get good support from the Orakei Local Board, chaired by Kit Parkinson, with Kit and David Wong attending most of our meetings.

Finally, thanks to you, our members, for your support over the past year. We look forward to working on your behalf over the next year.



Don Stock

Chair
Mission Bay Kohimarama Residents Association