



Chair's Report 2023

As the Chair of the Association, I am pleased to present this report on our activities and achievements in the past year. It has been a busy and productive year for us, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our committee members and volunteers.

First of all, I would like to express my thanks to the committee members who have served with me this year. They are:

- Don Stock (Chairman)
- Wanda Mountfort (Secretary)
- Ian Benet (Treasurer)
- Kathy Davies (Social Media)
- Lynne Dempsey
- Craig Fraser
- Fiona Hyland
- Abbey Marshall
- Richard Oddy
- Mike Padfield
- Jeff Robertson
- Ian Stenberg

You have all contributed immensely to the success of our Association and I am proud to have worked with you.

This year a number of committee members will be moving on:

- Lynne Dempsey
- Abbey Marshall
- Richard Oddy
- Ian Stenberg
- Don Stock

A special thanks to these committee members who have done a great job. We appreciate everything you have done and we wish you all the best for the future.

This, of course, means that we are very keen to get new committee members. We have two new nominations already and hope to receive more before or at the AGM. It is important to have a good range of skills and backgrounds on the committee as well as sufficient numbers to spread the load, so if you feel you can contribute to our committee, please put your hands up at the AGM.

Over the past year we have continued working on several major projects from earlier years as well as a large number of small projects.

We can finally declare victory on the proposed 8 storey Mission Bay Development. Over the past 5 years we have achieved victories in the Independent Hearing Panel, the Environment Court, and now the High Court. The proposal has now been fully defeated with no more appeals possible. Hopefully this iconic site will now attract a development that actually works for our community.

The AT Mission Bay safety improvements have now been completed. While we have some concerns over the finished product, the outcome is far better than the originally proposed design with its 13 pedestrian crossings.

The ongoing issue of noise and disruptive behaviour on Selwyn Reserve is vastly improved. A wide range of complimentary measures have combined to give local residents more peace and quiet, and improved safety.

The Selwyn Reserve Playground has been completely redesigned and rebuilt. It is now a great playground. The design of the climbing tower evokes Bean Rock lighthouse giving it a real sense of belonging in Mission Bay.

The Mission Bay beach toilets and changing sheds have had a complete makeover. They are now much more pleasant to use and are also much safer.

We have started a “Seats and Trees” project, identifying areas of public land that could benefit from the installation of seats with shade trees to make them attractive places to sit.

The Ryman retirement village planned for the John Rymer Place/Kohimarama Road area was approved under a government fast track process but has been held up by the discovery of endangered species on the site. We saw serious disruption on Kohimarama Rd during the brief period when site access was being built, and have real concerns over congestion once full construction eventually begins.

The project to retain Tagalad Reserve (the old Mission Bay Bowling Club land and facilities) has stalled. The good news is that it has been taken off the list of sites to be sold, but the bad news is that we are making little or no progress towards retaining it as a community centre and gardens. The Council is currently working out how to deal with our objection that the facility was transferred to Panuku in contravention of the Council's own processes, that the transfer is therefore unlawful and that control must therefore be returned to Orakei Local Board.

The raised pedestrian crossing on Kepa Rd near Coates Ave has been causing serious traffic congestion at peak times. We determined that it had not been built to AT's own standards, and as a result AT had the contractor undertake remedial repairs to flatten the bump somewhat. While this has improved the situation, we believe that the design still fails to meet AT standards and are trying to get AT to make further changes.

The Council's Plan Change 78 is intended to modify the Unitary Plan to align it with government requirements on increasing urban intensification. The recent weather events that overwhelmed infrastructure in Auckland illustrated how short-sighted the government's approach is, removing any consideration of infrastructure adequacy from decisions around

development and intensification. We made a submission to the Panel making this point, as did many others, and the concept was well received. The Council is now trying to put Plan Change 78 on hold until they have had a chance to review infrastructure issues. This does not fix the problems with the government's approach, but does buy some time to see whether it could be improved, or time to allow for a change of government and a different approach.

If members or local residents have issues that they would like us to address, we are happy to consider these and do what we can to help improve the community, so please feel free to let us know.

We remind you of our website and social media presence which allows you to see more detail about work we are engaged. Our website is www.MissionBayKohi.co.nz, and we have a Facebook group "[Mission Bay – Kohimarama Residents Association](#)" to provide two-way discussion of issues of interest. Please join this as it is a convenient way to keep up with activities in the area.

Our membership remains in excess of 800, and our Facebook Group membership is over 2,000, allowing us to provide a strong voice for the community. We will be asking members to renew their membership shortly. At that time we will include a request for Affiliate Members to upgrade their memberships to become Full Members if they would like to better support our work. This costs only \$30 per year and would provide us with a stronger financial foundation. Please contribute to our work by renewing your memberships or joining as full members.

Our financial position remains strong as you will see from the financial reports, and we have been able to build up our reserves after the major expenditure on the Mission Bay development. We intend to maintain sufficient reserves to allow us to respond to unexpected issues with confidence.

I would like to acknowledge the good support we receive from the Orakei Local Board, chaired by Scott Milne, with Scott, Penny Tucker and Angus McPhee attending most of our meetings. We have developed an excellent working relationship with this board.

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