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View of Inga Rd and Wairau Estuary, 1963.  
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## Council 10-year budget & our local board 3-year plan

It never rains but it pours with requests from Auckland Council to submit our opinions on what intend doing and spending over the next three or ten years. At the moment, residents are being asked to submit their views on:

- The Auckland Council 10-year Budget and Auckland Plan 2050
- The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board 3-year Plan
- Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan 2018
- Draft Auckland Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018

We are all busy people and need to make a call between the time and effort needed to make a meaningful submission and the unlikelihood of what we say having the tiniest effect on the decisionmakers. With that in mind, we will and we suggest you submit on just two documents: The Council 10-year Plan and the Devonport-Takapuna Local Board 3-year Plan.

### The Council 10-year Budget proposals – summary

**Improve Auckland's transport system:** Council proposes to introduce a regional fuel tax of 10% plus GST per litre. *MRA comment: A fuel tax seems to us to involve far less infrastructure and ongoing running cost than the previously proposed motorway tolls. Auckland's transport issues are only going to be improved by a mix of public and private transport and we accept that transport infrastructure needs improvement and has to be paid for.*

**Improve polluted harbours, beaches and streams:** Speed up the infrastructure improvement timeline from 30 years to 10 years through a targeted residential rate at an average of \$66 per year (\$1.30 per week). Note, this will be based on property value. *MRA says: People should make clear that Council's proposed special sewerage rate is only supported if there is equity in its distribution. Milford and Castor Bay beaches have major issues with regular contamination in heavy rain and generally. Wairau Creek now has a permanent no swim notice and affects Milford Beach and Castor Bay to the extent that these are now known as 'dirty beaches'. Under Auckland Council, our suburb's water quality has declined substantially, an unacceptable situation that needs to be addressed urgently.*

**Threat of pests, weeds and diseases on local native flora and fauna:** Two options for targeted rates of an average of either \$21 or \$47 per year per residential ratepayer. *Read the plan at the link below.*

**Average rates increases:** Propose a 2.5 per cent increase for the first two years and 3.5 per cent for years three to 10. Required in order to fund currently planned projects. *MRA: our concern here is that these percentage increases are before the fuel tax and special rates above. We want to be assured that the additional tax and rates will bring projects into effect much earlier than if we relied on rates alone.*

**Accommodation Provider Targeted Rate:** Those who let out their whole property (not just a room) through online accommodation (e.g. Airbnb) will be charged business rates.

You can submit on-line at: <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/topics-you-can-have-your-say-on/Pages/default.aspx>. Submissions close at 8pm, Wednesday, 28 March 2018.

MRA has agreed to collaborate with Castor Bay R&R Association as we share so many of the same views and concerns.

## The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board has listed its key priorities for the next two years as:

- Determining a suitable location for a dog park in our area.
- Developing a pest-free strategy for our area, and understand which pests should we focus on eliminating first.
- Focusing our transport budget on cycle and walkway projects along Lake Road.
- Continuing to advocate for the budget to deliver the Lake Road Improvements project, and consider whether the community would support a targeted rate to fund part of the project budget, or a particular component of it.

### We ask Milford people to submit on this plan and insist the local board lift its eyes north of Lake Pupuke.

In its key priorities, the Board has confirmed its lack of vision for its northern suburbs. That Lake Road can so dominate their key priorities while excluding Milford and Castor Bay is of great concern. We accept that Lake Road needs to be improved but for it to dominate two out of just four key priorities and take over walkway and cycleway budgets is unacceptable from our point of view.

We encourage our members to submit and insist that (1) an additional major local board priority needs to be the stormwater issues in the Wairau Creek and Estuary and Milford and Castor Bay Beaches and (2) that the third key priority should be changed to focus the transport budget on cycle and walkway projects *throughout the area*.

### The Draft Auckland Plan 2050, February 2018 – Worth reading FYI

The Auckland Plan was the aspirational vision for Auckland, drawn up in the heady first days of the super city in 2011. The original was soft focus and promised (prayed?) for heaven on earth. You'll remember 'the world's most liveable city'. The current review document is a much more prosaic view of the future and we suggest you read it to see how the planners intend Auckland to develop over the next 30 years.

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/plans-projects-policies-reports-bylaws/our-plans-strategies/auckland-plan/Pages/default.aspx>

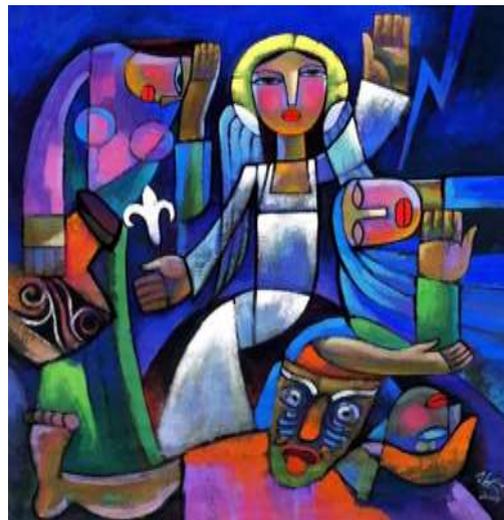
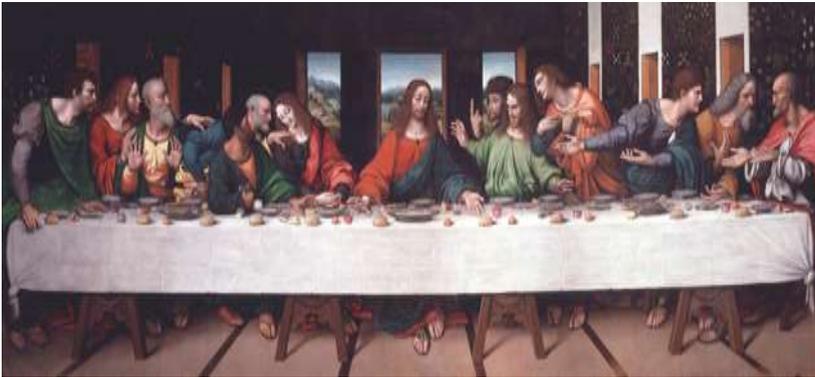
*15 March, 15 foodtrucks  
Thursday, 15 March from 5.00pm  
Kitchener Road car park*

The Milford Business Assn's February Urban FoodTruck festival was a great success and will be repeated on 15 March. Car access will be limited to the New World side of the car park from 1pm as the trucks set up. There will be local craft beers and wine by Brothers Beer PLUS gourmet street food trucks including Double Dutch Fries, The Rolling Pin, Judge Bao, Temaki Truck NZ, The Brulee Bike, Play Dough Pizza, Lalele Organic Gelato, NomNom, Wise Boys Burgers, and more.



## Milford's Easter Walk 26 March to 3 April

Kitchener Road from Shakespeare Rd to Dodson Ave



The 11 paintings, ancient and modern, tell the story of Easter.

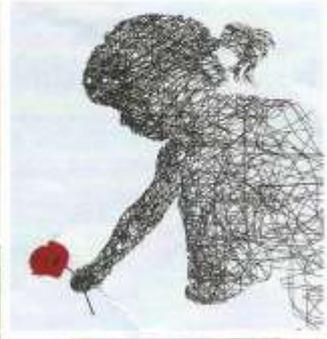
You are invited to take the walk

Sponsored by Milford Baptist Church and Milford Business Association

### Movies in Parks returns to Milford Reserve, Craig Rd, in 2018 **Beauty and the Beast (2017) PG**

Thursday, 29 March 5.20pm (Movie 7.20pm) This is the Thursday before Good Friday, Easter (30 March).

The Devonport-Takapuna Local Board funds this event. Members and staff will be present on the night to encourage us all to submit our views on the Council's Ten Year Budget and the Local Board's Three Year Plan.



# ART AT THE MARINA

## ART EXHIBITION AND SALE

### 06-08 APRIL 2018

#### A FUNDRAISING EVENT BY THE MILFORD CRUISING CLUB

Funds raised go towards improvements to our facility for the benefit of the growing Milford community and all the clubs and associations that come here. The expansion project includes provision of a disabled lift and toilets, providing an additional meeting room and increased boat storage for our junior and youth sailing programmes.

Well-known and emerging NZ artists exhibiting

Indoor, outdoor, ceramic, glass, plus an on-site café

VIP Preview tickets for Friday, 06 Apr on SALE now!

#### OPEN TIMES:

FRI, 06 Apr – 6.30pm-10pm | SAT, 07 Apr – 10am-6pm | SUN, 08 Apr – 10am-3pm

**ART**  
AT THE MARINA



For tickets and more information please visit  
[www.artatthemarina.co.nz](http://www.artatthemarina.co.nz)

MILFORD CRUISING CLUB  
24 CRAIG ROAD, MILFORD BEACH | TEL: 09 489 4637

