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**ERA Newsletter - December 2013**

Welcome to the December edition of the Ellerslie Residents’ Association (ERA) newsletter.

**Announcement – Next ERA Public meeting and Unitary Plan workshop will be held on the**

**17 February at 7pm at Leicester Hall, Findlay Street, Ellerslie**

**Report on the last Public meeting 2nd December 2013**

Thanks to all those who attended the ERA quarterly public meeting on December 2nd. There was a very lively and productive discussion around ;

1. traffic and transport especially the Ellerslie - Panmure – Greenlane corridor, the AMETI project, parking, pedestrian crossings and public transport
2. a new Community Centre and Library – there was only one dissenting voice for a new library – there was very strong support for a library from those in attendance
3. a financial support – the ERA needs more members to pay up there subscriptions – there are 102 financial members but 317 in arrears – if you are among those members in arrears please send us your $10 subscription on or before the 17th February, 2014
4. a budget for the next twelve months for the initiatives of the ERA
5. MP Sam Peseta Lotu-Iiga informed the audience about the future electoral boundary changes and most people were of the opinion that the changes would take us back to a more cohesive electoral representation like we had before the last electoral changes with nearly all of Ellerslie being in the Maungakiekie Electorate. Submissions were required to be submitted by the 23rd December, 2014
6. as well as the Auckland Unitary Plan. The discussion about the Unitary Plan included heritage issues in Ellerslie, zoning and heights in the town centre and neighbouring streets, parking, high rise apartments, business and urban housing zones, intensification and resources such as drainage, water, electricity, schools, sports and other social and recreational amenities
7. the effect of the special zoning for the racecourse, section 32 analysis under the RMA and the three year period for the Commissioners to consider submissions, whether the balance of 70/30 between green fields and urban intensification of housing will be achieved as a result of the UP

The Unitary Plan is the most important document produced by the Auckland Council and establishes all the rules and regulations guiding development in the Auckland region. Now is your formal opportunity to have your say and it is very important you do so.

We are conducting **a workshop for residents on 17 February 2014** to help residents finalize their submissions. If you want help with your submission please bring what you have written and our committee members will assist you to ensure it is compatible with the Auckland Council planners’ requirements when they l process your submission. You can have the opportunity to speak to your submission before an Auckland Council Hearings Committee if you choose to do so. ERA Committee member Hamish Glenn has prepared a document on the key issues of the proposed Auckland Unitary Plan (PAUP) and this is available for your reading, guidance and comment on our website under Unitary Plan – ERA notes.

**Thriving Communities**  
ERA Committee member Bryce Bartley gave us all a brief overview of the Auckland Council’s ‘Thriving Communities Project’ and it was agreed that this will be the focus of our May/June AGM and Public meeting because the Unitary Plan discussions are a more pressing issue at this time and at out February public meeting

**Library Survey**Please go to our website at [www.ellerslieresidents.co.nz](http://www.ellerslieresidents.co.nz) and complete the survey. We need as many people as possible to complete this survey so we can know what Ellerslie Residents think about this initiative.

**Photo Library – please help us**

The Ellerslie Residents Association is also looking for images of Ellerslie for both our Facebook page and for use in our various publications. These may be photos of some of our character homes, our main street, our parks or anything else you think demonstrate why Ellerslie is a great place to live. Please contact us if you can help by emailing: [ellerslieresidents@gmail.com](mailto:ellerslieresidents@gmail.com).

**New Committee Member**

The ERA Committee welcomes a young, progressive, real estate agent Rain Daio who has joined the ERA committee and is offering to use his skills to create an active facebook page that will carry up to date news of what is happening in Ellerslie. Please email [ellerslieresidents@gmail.com](mailto:ellerslieresidents@gmail.com) if you have any inspiring ideas for Rain Daio.