

# Low priority Oue Street footpath goes ahead

Auckland Council will go ahead and build a footpath down Oue Street in Oneroa, even though it does not meet the Waiheke Local Board's current priority for new footpaths on Waiheke.

At the board's meeting last Thursday, Auckland Transport spokesperson Melanie Dale said she had discussed the board's lack of support with the Auckland team.

"I asked if the budget could be moved to a more significant area, or an area with higher priority," Ms Dale said.

"But the Oue Street pathway was planned and budgeted three years ago, and if it doesn't go ahead, the money will otherwise be lost."

AT media manager Mark

Hannan later said that the budget allocated to the footpath is \$25,000, and the next footpath on the board's priority - from Wharf Road to the school along Causeway Road - is \$250,000.

No detailed design has yet been completed and it would not be possible to plan and build it in the budget year, he said.

A new footpath on Oue Street was proposed by AT as part of an ongoing commitment to improve footpath facilities on the island but failed to receive support from the local board which believed that there were other roads that would

provide more benefit.

At the meeting, chair Cath Handley asked that the board gets an opportunity to talk to the agency about future work on footpaths.

Mr Hannan said AT will work more closely with the board for future footpath projects, starting with a board workshop on 30 August.

• Emma Haas

