

Auckland City Council Election

November 2016

The 2016 Auckland City Council postal ballot elections were held during October to elect the Mayor and 20 Councillors.

Final results were declared on 8 October. Labour-affiliated Phil Goff has been elected Mayor, receiving 47.6 per cent of votes. Goff has also appointed Bill Cashmore as Deputy Mayor.

Goff has also revealed a new streamlined council committee structure.

Previous Mayor of Auckland City Council, Len Brown served in the position from 2010 to 2016. In the lead up to the 2016 election, Brown announced he would not be seeking re-election.

Goff and the newly elected City of Auckland councillors were sworn in on 1 November 2016.

Goff must deliver a draft Budget before the end of the year.

This is the third election for Auckland City Council, following the amalgamations of eight separate Councils in 2010 to create a 'super-city; council.

Into its sixth year of operation, Auckland Council operates on a \$3 billion budget with approximately 8000 staff.

The city has a population of approximately 1.5 million, which accounts for 33.4 per cent of New Zealand's population. It is expected Auckland will grow by more than 700,000 people in the next 30 years.

Phil Goff Election Policies

In launching his campaign for Mayor, Phil Goff released a suite of election policies including:

Transport

- To address transport issues in Auckland, Goff announced his support for:
 - Electric trains, powered by battery, to Pukekohe in order to eliminate transfer at Papakura; and investigating extending battery electric trains to Huapai.
 - The AMETI (Auckland Manukau Eastern Transport Initiative) project from Panmure to Pakuranga and an extension to Botany, and ultimately East Tamaki and Manukau.
 - Auckland City Council signing off of a business case for an isthmus light rail system so that the resulting programme can be included in the 2018 Long Term Plan.
 - An expansion of car share opportunities.

To fund these projects, Goff has indicated his interest in exploring opportunities for public/private partnerships.

Housing

- To address issues of affordable housing in Auckland, Goff announced his support for:
 - The Unitary Plan to allow the city to move up and out with the creation of intensive housing with high-rise in the city centre and key city hubs.

- Collaboration with Central Government to address constraints in the supply of material and skills and explore alternative building methods.

Environment

- In recognition of the need to restore elements of the environment, Goff committed to:
 - An urban forestation programme for Auckland which aims to allocate \$1 million in order to plant a million, predominantly native, trees and shrubs across the region in the next term of Council.

Ports of Auckland

- Goff has suggested the Auckland public have been denied access to much of the Waitemata Harbour due to the commercial activities of the Ports of Auckland Ltd. Goff has committed to stopping the Ports of Auckland claiming any more of the harbour, and to look to move the port and restore public access to the waterfront. There needs to be a collaborative and consultative process with all stakeholders to ensure that the decision about an alternative port site takes full account of community and environmental concerns.

Phil Goff Mayor of Auckland City Council

Phil Goff is the current Labour Member of the New Zealand Parliament for Mount Roskill. Born and raised in Auckland, Goff was first elected to the electorate of Roskill in 1981.

Goff became the youngest member of Cabinet in 1984 serving as Minister of Housing and Minister of Employment. After the 1987 election, Goff dropped the Housing Portfolio and was appointed Minister of Youth Affairs and Minister of Tourism then later Minister of Education.



After Labour was defeated in 1990, Goff had lost his seat. However, he was re-elected in 1993 as MP for Roskill under former leader Helen Clark. From 1999, Goff served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Minister of Justice. Following the 2005 elections, Goff was appointed Minister of Defence and Disarmament and retained the Trade portfolio.

As Trade Negotiations Minister, Goff supported the free trade and deregulation agreement with China, having signed the New Zealand-China Free Trade Agreement in 2008.

From 2008 to 2011, Goff was Leader of the Opposition.

Goff will resign from Parliament causing a by-election in the electorate of Mount Roskill.

Further information

The Declaration of Results of Election for the Auckland Council 2016 elections is available [here](#).

The new Committee Structure is available [here](#).

The new Committee and Panel Membership is available [here](#).

The full suite of Phil Goff's election policies is available [here](#).