



## Media Release

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### **ANZ Auckland Series launches with discussion on future of waterfront**

New Zealand's largest financial institution, ANZ Bank, today launched a series to create debate about the issues facing the country's new Super City, Auckland.

The ANZ Auckland Series will start on 28 and 29 March with Sea Edge 2012, an international symposium looking at the future of Auckland's waterfront.

ANZ General Manager Auckland Mark Hiddleston said delegations from the Asia-Pacific would share their city's experiences in waterfront redevelopment with Auckland planners and decision makers.

"The recent amalgamation of local authorities in Auckland into one Super City creates a huge opportunity to deal with the major issues that have plagued the region for many years," Mr Hiddleston said.

"Issues such as the waterfront, housing and public transport are critical to the environmental, social and economic well-being of Auckland. As the country's largest city, a well functioning Auckland helps create a well functioning New Zealand."

He said the ANZ Auckland Series planned to work with other interested parties to create debate about these sorts of issues and, hopefully, help provide some answers for the city.

"Over the next couple of years the ANZ Auckland Series will look to bring together experts from outside the usual debates on these issues to bring a fresh perspective.

"A diverse city like Auckland requires diverse solutions and the ANZ Auckland Series will provide a forum for a wide range of the city's thought leaders to exchange ideas - and to draw on inspiration and insights from overseas experts.

"Auckland is New Zealand's biggest, fastest growing and most diverse city. In just a few years this collection of boroughs and beaches has transformed into a fast-paced and forward-looking metropolis that will take on the world for New Zealand.

"In the decades ahead Auckland will reach out and compete against some of the most dynamic cities in the world for talent, trade and ideas."

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**For more information, please contact Pete Barnao, Corporate Affairs, ANZ New Zealand, ph 09 252 6623 or 027 277 3139.**

ANZ New Zealand is the country's largest financial institution and one of the nation's largest companies. Its brands include ANZ Bank, National Bank, UDC Finance, OnePath, EFTPOS, Bonus Bonds and Direct Broking. Around one in two New Zealanders has a financial relationship with ANZ New Zealand.