

GREEN LIGHT ON THE NEXT STAGE OF TRANSPORT PLANS



The NZ Government has announced the next stage of the Northern Corridor Improvements project on Auckland's North Shore.

When complete, this project will provide a direct motorway to motorway connection between the Northern Motorway (SH1) and an upgraded Upper Harbour Highway (SH18), and is the final piece of the Western Ring Route.

The Northern Corridor Improvements will also improve options for other modes of transport by extending the

Northern Busway from Constellation Bus Station to Albany Bus Station and upgrading a range of local road connections, and walking and cycling routes.

Auckland Transport is currently investigating an additional bus station and Park & Ride options in Rosedale, giving many thousands of employees the opportunity to catch bus services

to work in the industrial area, and providing local school children with a convenient stop for nearby central North Shore schools.

This next stage of the project focuses on a two year planning and consenting programme, and will bring the project one step closer to its anticipated construction start date of 2018.

THE WESTERN RING ROUTE

The Northern Corridor Improvements project will support the significant growth taking place in the Albany area by providing more transport options and improving travel time reliability. It is part of the city's Western Ring Route between Manukau and the North Shore via West Auckland, and includes the 2.4km Waterview Tunnels, which will open in early 2017.



THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR – DRAFT ALIGNMENT PLAN – JUNE 2016

THE APPROVED DRAFT PLAN INCLUDES:

- A new direct motorway to motorway connection between SH18 and SH1, separating motorway traffic from local road traffic.
- Additional motorway lanes in both directions on the Northern Motorway (SH1) between Greville Road and Constellation Drive.
- Extension of the Northern Busway from Constellation Bus Station to Albany Bus Station. Auckland Transport is investigating a new bus station along the extension in the Rosedale area.
- A 5km dedicated shared walking and cycling path on the eastern side of the Northern Motorway (SH1), built alongside the new Busway extension and alongside Upper Harbour Highway (SH18) all the way to Albany Highway. A proposed new walking and cycling bridge across SH1 in Albany will connect Pinehill and East Coast Bays residents with Albany's shopping, employment and university areas.
- Local road improvements through the Constellation Drive and Caribbean Drive intersections, and a new Paul Matthews Road bridge.
- Further investigation of a proposed bridge over SH18 to improve connections for the Unsworth Heights community.

POINTS TO NOTE:

- This scheme is designed to allow for south-west facing motorway ramps to be constructed at a later stage. There is no benefit to constructing these ramps until there is more capacity downstream and this will be timed to fit with future projects on SH1 south of Upper Harbour Highway.

URBAN DESIGN

The project team is currently developing a framework to outline how we can incorporate urban design and landscaping elements into the project. We will look at the history, heritage and cultural significance of the area and work with stakeholders including iwi, to develop ways to enhance the surrounding environment. These initiatives may include improved stormwater treatment options, landscaping and planting, and enhancing structures such as bridges, retaining walls and noise walls.

The North-West Wildlink project aims to connect and enhance natural areas, including open spaces, stream banks, esplanade reserves and backyards along a broad 'green corridor' from the Waitakere Ranges to Whangaparaoa Peninsula, providing safe routes and refuges for native plants and animals.

State Highways 16 and 18 are identified as already providing a strategic habitat along the Wildlink through extensive native roadside planting and it is hoped that the Northern Corridor Improvements project will continue along this 'green corridor'.

HAVE YOUR SAY:

- What urban design opportunities do you think the project provides?



NEW WALKING & CYCLING PATHS

The draft alignment plan also includes a new 5km shared walking and cycling path alongside the Northern Busway and SH1 all the way from Oteha Valley Road down to Constellation Drive and then across and along SH18, joining up to the new cycle path on Albany Highway. It is envisaged the shared path would be similar to the popular Northwestern Cycleway on the Northwestern Motorway (SH16). Auckland Transport is also investigating what other routes could be prioritised in the area to form a comprehensive network. The first proposed connection will be the Spencer Road Bridge – a new pedestrian and cycle bridge across the motorway, connecting Pinehill and East Coast Bays residents with the Albany metro area and offering great views of Auckland City and Rangitoto Island.



HAVE YOUR SAY:

- What features would encourage or discourage you to use the new shared paths and bridges?
- Where would you like to see other connection points to access these new walking and cycling paths?
- Where would you like to see more locals paths?
- What issues or opportunities are associated with the Spencer Road Bridge?

BUSWAY EXTENSION

It's now confirmed that the project will include an extension of the popular Northern Busway from Constellation Bus Station to Albany Bus Station. This means buses will be able to travel on a dedicated busway all the way to Albany, reducing travel times and improving public transport options.

Auckland Transport is also investigating a new bus station and Park & Ride options in Rosedale along the new busway extension. As part of this, Auckland Transport will look at local road improvements and additional feeder services that could help transport people in and out of the station from the East Coast Bays, North Harbour, and Rosedale. Similar to Smales Farm, it is expected that this station will be a destination station for the many people who work, go to schools or attend sporting activities in the area. It will also provide another station to catch the Northern Express service to and from the city.



HAVE YOUR SAY:

- What do you like or dislike about this proposed station?
- If you were going to use this station, where would you be travelling to and from?

LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

A central part of the project involves upgrading Upper Harbour Highway (SH18) to full motorway status and separating local roads from motorway traffic. This will improve journey times, safety and today's congestion issues. Both the Constellation Drive and Caribbean Drive intersections will be improved, including providing additional turning lanes and prioritising traffic light phasing to reduce queuing. A new bridge will connect Paul Matthews Road with on and off-ramps to SH18 and the new Caribbean Drive intersection. A second bridge is being investigated to improve connections for the Unsworth Heights residents. New pedestrian and cycle paths will provide a safe crossing point over these new roads and bridges, with the aim to encourage more people to walk, cycle and take public transport.

FEEDBACK FORM

Refer to the project map on the inside pages of this newsletter to help you respond to these questions.

*More detailed questions can be found in our online survey at www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-corridor

NCI PROJECT

What benefits or issues does this project provide to you?

BUS STATION

What do you like or dislike about Auckland Transport's proposed station in Rosedale?

If you were going to use this station, where would you be travelling to and from?

WALKING AND CYCLING PATHS

What features would encourage or discourage you to use the new shared paths and bridges?

Where would you like to see connection points to access these new shared paths and bridges?

Where would you like to see more local paths?

What issues or opportunities are associated with the Spencer Road Bridge?

URBAN DESIGN

What urban design opportunities do you think the project provides e.g. planting, retaining walls etc?

COMMENTS

Are there any other comments you wish to make on the NCI Project?

DETAILS

Name _____ Organisation (if applicable) _____

Address/Suburb _____

Email _____

If you choose to enter your contact details above, your personal details will not be published. If you enter your email address, we will add you to our future e-newsletter subscriber list. It is anticipated this newsletter would be sent approximately every few months.

To opt out of receiving the e-newsletter updates, please tick this box.

To send in your feedback form: 1. Please answer the above questions. 2. Tear along the perforation 3. Fold into 3 at the designated marks.

4. Adhere this edge with glue or tape. 5. Return completed form by freepost or at a drop-in information session.

NEXT STEPS: WE'D VALUE YOUR INPUT

Community feedback in 2014 and 2015 has helped shape the project's plans to date and we're now keen to hear your specific feedback on the topics outlined within the project map on the inside pages of this newsletter.

You can provide us with your feedback in a number of ways:

- Complete the feedback form attached to this newsletter and post it back to us using the freepost envelope provided
- Complete an online form at www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-corridor
- Phone or email the team on 0800 NCI Project (0800 624 7765) or northerncorridor@nzta.govt.nz
- Come along to our open day session **on Sunday 19 June at Westfield Albany**, centre court location, all day

We will also be hosting a number of business breakfasts in association with Business North Harbour, and you may see the team chatting to Busway users at Constellation and Albany Bus Stations later this month.

Please make sure your feedback gets to us by Friday 8 July 2016.

Your feedback will then be assessed to further refine the alignment plan that will be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) later this year.

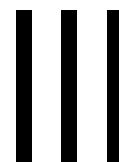
Construction is still scheduled to begin in 2018.



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A QUICK OVERVIEW OF THE CONSENTING PROCESS

Large nationally significant proposals such as the Northern Corridor Improvements project can be lodged with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and directed by the Minister for the Environment to be considered by a Board

of Inquiry (BoI).

This involves a hearing process and a public notification period which gives individuals a formal opportunity to have their say, currently scheduled to take place in 2017.

For the rest of the year, the project team will be completing further design work, and undertaking more detailed environmental and urban design assessments.



WORKING WITH PROPERTY OWNERS

The Transport Agency is committed to engaging with all property owners and tenants who may be affected by the project. If your property is affected, we will be contacting you to explain what might happen and the timelines for this process. If you are a property owner or tenant and have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the project team.

INDICATIVE TIMELINE FOR THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS



To request a translation of this information and feedback form, please email northerncorridor@nzta.govt.nz or call 0800 NCI PROJECT (0800 624 7765).

본 내용에 대한 번역이나 피드백 양식은 이메일 (northerncorridor@nzta.govt.nz) 또는 전화 (0800 NCI PROJECT/0800 624 7765)로 요청하시기 바랍니다.

若需要该信息及《反馈表》中文译本，请发送邮件至 northerncorridor@nzta.govt.nz 或致电 0800 NCI PROJECT (0800 624 7765)

Produced by the Northern Corridor Improvements project team, at the NZ Transport Agency.

Phone 0800 NCI PROJECT, **email** northerncorridor@nzta.govt.nz or visit us at 33A Apollo Drive, Rosedale, by appointment.

Have your say, sign up to our e-newsletter or find out more at www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-corridor

