

Waitematā Harbour Connections

Minister's Monthly Update

November 2022

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Status

RAG status colour shows status and the arrow direction shows change from the last report.

Overall

The programme is on track to deliver the emerging preferred option by mid 2023 and the final Indicative Business Case (IBC) by Q3 2023. The Alliance setup process is continuing in parallel with progressing business case work to expedite the overall preferred option by mid 2023. Community open days throughout November have been well attended with more than 4000 submissions completed throughout November, and high levels of media interest. The strategic case has been reviewed and the option assessment framework mapped out. The draft short list of crossing options is due prior to January 2023 with the options further north due early January 2023.

Focus areas

Governance		A joint Auckland Light Rail and Waitematā Harbour Connections briefing was provided to the ALR Sponsors Group outlining areas of integration and the need to coordinate strategic decision making across the transport network. Supporting information for the Minister's oral cabinet briefing was also supplied. Waka Kotahi and ALR are discussing joint governance arrangements in response to the Minister's letter of governance related expectations to ensure strategic decisions are made collectively. Monthly Ministerial meetings are now locked in following an initial meeting on the 14 th November.
Auckland Light Rail Integration		Integration managers have been appointed by ALR and WHC (and Northwest Rapid Transit). A joint Integration Management Plan has been drafted and implemented. The integration focus is currently on land use and transport modelling, growth assumptions and technical disciplines.
Mana Whenua		The process of establishing a partnership with mana whenua is progressing. s 9(2)(g)(i)
Communications & Engagement		The community engagement process was successfully launched on 13 November with lots of media coverage (positive to neutral in sentiment). Market day events are ongoing throughout November and December with good integration with ALR. More than 4,000 surveys completed in the first week of engagement which shows high interest in the project. An industry stakeholder breakfast was held on the 30 November with high attendance and good levels of engagement. Media opportunities will continue to supplement this engagement to raise the profile of the programme. Planning is underway for next year's engagement and consultation on short-listed options which will be communicated to the Minister when ready.
People		The Alliance is close to full resourcing and a co-located project office is established. This is in response to expediting work to meet the tight milestone timeframes associated with ALR dependencies and having the preferred programme option by mid 2023. A specialist full time iwi engagement lead has been appointed to support the current iwi engagement team in recognition of the importance and complexity of the cultural aspects of WHC.
Programme		The Alliance is on track to deliver the draft short list of crossing options prior to January 2023 with the final shortlist, including options for the North Shore, to be delivered by March 2023. Advanced IBC activity has ensured that the Alliance remains on programme to deliver the preferred option by mid-2023.

Key upcoming activities

Wins for November

- 1. IBC - the interim Alliance has commenced with cost, scope and programming, also advanced work on the IBC to mitigate programme risk.
- 2. The strategic case has been reviewed and the draft options assessment framework has been prepared for initial review.
- 3. Further progress with mana whenua Chief-to-Chief governance conversations.
- 4. Continue integration with ALR team on technical, engagement and governance aspects.
- 5. Public launch with significant media attention and high level of engagement with over 4,000 surveys completed in the first week. Market day events and stakeholder breakfasts underway. Engagement with local schools ongoing with Newshub to do media piece.

December look ahead

- 1. Continue IBC advanced activity including reaching an initial short list of crossing option, sign the main Alliance contract and agree Key Result Areas and measures
- 2. Work with the Minister's office to provide more detail on the communications and engagement programme for next year (2023).
- 3. Continue focus on mana whenua partnership and issuing of a letter to request nominations for mana whenua governance roles
- 4. Community, stakeholder and media engagement campaigns continue.

Longer-term forecast

- 1. Finalise the short list options in late 2022/ early 2023.
- 2. Work through early business casing and optioneering towards community engagement in 2023 on the shortlisted programme options
- 3. Work collaboratively with partners towards a preferred option by mid-2023 and a final business case for approval by late 2023

Upcoming Minister opportunities

- 1. Ministerial and MP attendance at community markets on the North Shore and Central Auckland **on 3 and 11 December**
- 2. PAA contract signing – date TBC – media and event signing opportunity

Examples of this month's high level of engagement

Government calls on Aucklanders to give feedback on Waitematā Harbour crossing



The Government is calling for feedback on a second Auckland harbour crossing as part of a major transport upgrade.
Credits: Newshub

The Government is calling on Aucklanders to give their views on a second Auckland harbour crossing, which is being called the "most significant



Auckland Harbour crossing: Is this what might be planned for \$15b second Waitematā solution?

By [Anne Gibson](#)
23 Nov, 2022 05:34 AM · 6 mins to read



Grant Robertson wants to speed up second harbour crossing. Video / Mark Mitchell

When Transport Minister Michael Wood this month announced a consultation on New Zealand's biggest long-term planned infrastructure project, experts began to ponder what a feasible \$15 billion could buy



Simon Bridges: It's time to get on with the next Waitemata crossing

ON AIR MIKE HOSKING BREAKFAST

Newstalk ZB, Mon, 14 Nov 2022, 7:37AM



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