



Appendix D

Media



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Auckland's Northern Motorway project underway

Monday, 20 June 2016, 11:39 am

Press Release: [New Zealand Government](#)

Hon Simon Bridges

Minister of Transport

20 June 2016 Media Statement

Auckland's Northern Motorway project underway

The next stage of planning for \$700 million worth of improvements to the Northern Motorway are now underway, Transport Minister Simon Bridges says.

Preliminary designs and preparations for consenting have begun with construction scheduled to start in 2018.

"The Northern Motorway is one of the Government's Accelerated Auckland Roding projects and the northern-most link in the Western Ring Route, one of our Roads of National Significance," Mr Bridges says.

"It will provide a direct motorway to motorway connection between State Highway 1 and 18 and an alternative travel route between Northland and Auckland's North Shore."

Mr Bridges says it will also improve public transport and walking and cycling options.

"Once complete it will improve travel choices by extending the Northern Busway from the Constellation Bus Station to Albany Bus Station. The New Zealand Transport Agency is also working with Auckland Transport on plans for an additional bus station.

"New walking and cycle paths similar to those being built on the Northwestern Motorway (SH16) are planned. There will also be several local road improvements, including changes that will relieve pressure on the Upper Harbour Highway."

Mr Bridges says the project is part of the Government's strong focus on meeting Auckland's transport needs.

Scoop Media Cartel DFP Tag

"Reducing congestion in Auckland is a Government priority. That's why we're investing more than \$1 billion each year in Auckland's transport, delivering new and improved roading motorways, strengthening public transport services and accelerating the urban cycling network."

Further information is available at: www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-motorway

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Michelle Melis

The team at Saint Cycles will soon establish shop rides which will be at various times during weekdays.

"Bike stores are generally very male-orientated so it has been nice hearing that other women riders enjoy dealing with a woman who also rides."

The Saints store caters for everyone, from cruiser style bikes for riding the estuary cycle trail, race bikes, mountain bikes, children's bikes and E-bikes (pedal assisted).

"Taz, our mechanic, is currently customising a mountain bike for a young racer who is only six years old. We can build and customise any bikes," Michelle says.

The store also has a full workshop for repairs and servicing.

"This summer we will be providing a bike hire service for locals and tourists. We have such a great asset in Orewa with the estuary bike path and cycling is a fun and healthy way of experiencing the outdoors".

Motorway improvements benefit Hibiscus Coast

Auckland Councillor John Watson says that planned improvements by the NZ Transport Agency to the Northern Motorway will benefit all those Hibiscus Coast residents who travel south each day.

He says the improvements will also provide the Coast with a faster, less congested route to the airport (via the Western Ring route and the new Waterview Tunnel that will open next year).

Planning and community feedback is well advanced by the Transport Agency for major motorway and public transport improvements in and around the Northern Motorway.

Early this month the Council voted to potentially speed up the delivery of these improvements through referral of the project to a Board of Inquiry process as well as confirming Auckland Council's capacity to process the matter if required. Next year detailed designed and construction planning is to begin. Construction on the project is being staged. The Transport Agency aims to have the Northern Corridor fully complete by 2021.

The changes include additional motorway lanes in both directions on the Northern Motorway between Greville Road and Constellation Drive.

"Anyone travelling south from the Coast, especially in rush hour, knows that the biggest hold up occurs from Greville Road through to Constellation Drive when the traffic comes to a grinding halt," Cr Watson



says. "The improvements planned by the NZ Transport Agency will deal to this gridlock."

Cr Watson says there's also good news for locals travelling on the bus – an extension of the Northern Busway from Constellation Bus Station to Albany Bus Station, will speed up travelling times. Auckland Transport is also investigating the possibility of building a new bus station and Park and Ride close to Rosedale Road (similar to Smales Farm).

Cr Watson says that the planned motorway link to the Western Ring Route will provide the Hibiscus Coast with a faster route to the airport via the new Waterview tunnel, as well as direct access for anyone travelling west.

"Coast residents will benefit directly from this major project which begins construction in 2018," Cr Watson says.

Info: www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-corridor



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Northern Busway extension

North Shore Times 19 Jul 2016 +1 more TOM DILLANE



Construction of the Northern Busway Extension will be complete by 2021.

The Northern Busway is set to be extended from its existing end point at Constellation bus station up to Albany station. The extension will be delivered as part of the \$700 million Northern Corridor Improvements project...

The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) who will fund the project say community feedback has shown a high commuter demand for a busway extension to Albany. 'The Northern Busway has been a hugely successful investment...

North Shore," NZTA Auckland highway manager, Brett Gliddon, says. The extension will see an additional Rosedale road bus station in between Constellation and Albany, and a five kilometre walking and cycling path along its eastern side. While positive about the busway extension announcement, transportblog spokesperson, Matt Lowrie, calls for prudent scheduling relative to the construction of the connecting highway between the Northern Motorway and Upper Harbor Highway: 'I'd like to see the busway built first as it would have an added benefit of giving people options during the inevitable disruption that will occur during the construction of the motorway.'

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Bump it Dump it



NEW TRAVEL PLANS ARE TAKING SHAPE FOR THE NORTH SHORE – HAVE YOUR SAY

The NZ Transport Agency is progressing with plans for the Northern Corridor Improvements project.

We'll be sharing these plans over the coming weeks and would appreciate your feedback on some key themes. The incredible amount of feedback received to date has helped us to shape the plans so far.

Find out more and have your say:

Online: www.nzta.govt.nz/Auckland-Northern-Corridor

Open day: **Westfield Albany, Centre Court, Sunday 19 June**

Business Breakfasts: **7.30am – 9.30am**

Cafe Drina, 16 June | Café Noir, 29 June | Euro Deli, 5 July

Alternatively, call, email or visit us:

Phone: **0800 NCI PROJECT (0800 624 7765)**

Email: northerncorridor@nzta.govt.nz

Make an appointment to visit us:

33A Apollo Drive, Rosedale



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:
www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-corridor

As well as widening the Northern Motorway (SH1) between Upper Harbour Highway and Greville Road, the project will provide a new direct motorway to motorway connection between the Northern Motorway and Upper Harbour Highway (SH18).

The popular Northern Busway will also be extended to Albany, and over 5km of shared walking and cycling paths will be constructed alongside the Busway and SH18. Construction is still on track to begin in 2018.



NEW TRAVEL PLANS ARE TAKING SHAPE FOR THE NORTH SHORE

NORTHERN CORRIDOR
IMPROVEMENTS

 **NZTRANSPORT**
AGENCY
WAIKA KOTAHĪ

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NZTA Update: Next stages of motorway and busway planning underway in 2016

The beginning of the new calendar year signals the start of the next planning stages for several key NZ Transport Agency projects on the North Shore – including the Northern Corridor Improvements project.

NZTA reports that this mammoth project is gearing up to begin a new two year programme of work focused on legal and resource consenting processes, bringing the project one step closer to its planned construction start date of 2018.

The Northern Corridor Improvements project will build a new strategic motorway connection from the shore out to the Western Ring Route, as well as extend the Northern Busway to Albany and undertake a series of local road, pedestrian and cycling improvements around the wider Albany area.

Its project team will continue to be based at its community InfoHub office in Apollo Drive, with experts in these specialist fields joining the team over the next few months.

As part of the 2016-17 programme of legal and consenting processes, the project team will carry on contacting and supporting potentially affected property owners.

They will also prepare evidence for consent hearings and move on to develop more detailed design plans, including assessing environmental aspects and investigating urban design elements.

This next stage of design work will build on the recommended overall design the community was consulted on in 2015, and incorporate the feedback received then.

The community, including Business North Harbour members and property owners, will

also get a chance to provide more feedback on the next version of the design plans in another round of public consultation this year.

As reported in the October issue of *FYI* magazine, the consultation last year found there was strong support for the aims of the project, and growing understanding of the Transport Agency's aim of encouraging drivers to use the new Western Ring Route as an alternative route to SH1.

The other main projects that make up the ring route are already under construction, including the Waterview Connection tunnels which will link the upgraded Northwestern Motorway (SH16) to the Southwestern Motorway (SH20), providing the 'missing link' that will allow travellers to circle the city centre and reconnect back to SH1 at Manukau – or access the airport.

The massive tunnel boring machine has completed its work underground at Waterview, and construction teams are focused now on building the roading, services and on and off-ramps.

There was also strong support for the extension of the Northern Busway, and the agency will continue to develop plans with Auckland Transport for an additional bus station on the new extension.

While the main construction start date for the Northern Corridor project is still 2018, several smaller, early projects will be actioned over the next two years ahead of the major

Projects Summary

- Northern Corridor project begins legal and consenting phase, construction still planned for 2018.
- 'North' growth areas consultation (Silverdale, Dairy Flat, Wainui) begins this month.
- Additional Waitemata Harbour Crossing team begins long term route protection phase.

works.

These projects will help provide some relief for current frustrations in the meantime, and include the instigation of a clearway on Tawa Drive (between the Greville Road offramp and Rosedale Road roundabout) to help keep traffic moving on this important route in the morning peak traffic times; and a project to investigate how to resolve the delays for express buses trying to merge with traffic on the southbound onramp at Greville Road. More information on these projects will be notified to Business North Harbour members soon.

Find out more or sign up to updates on the Northern Corridor and these projects here: www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-corridor

Urban growth and a second harbour crossing

Two more major transport planning projects on the North Shore will kick off this year, writes NZTA.

In March and April all Aucklanders will be invited to have their say on what transport infrastructure they would like to see built over the next 10-30 years to support the four new urban growth areas approved by council in November 2015.

These four areas are outside the city's current boundaries and are mostly rural, but will be developed into new communities including new town centres.

Planning for consenting and building of bulk infrastructure including water, waste and transport needs to start now to make sure these areas are ready for when people move in.

One of the four growth areas is called 'north Auckland' and covers the currently mostly rural areas around Silverdale (west), Wainui and Dairy Flat.

The transport infrastructure ideas being proposed by Auckland Transport, Auckland Council and the NZ Transport Agency include

state highway widening proposals from Albany – Silverdale and further extensions of the Northern Busway beyond Albany further north.

Community consultation events begin in the first week of March, and a second round of consultation is planned for April. Find out more at www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-urban-growth.

This year the NZ Transport Agency is also beginning a route protection exercise to protect the intended route of an additional Waitemata Harbour Crossing and provide long term planning certainty.

The city's Auckland Plan identifies a second major transport crossing as being required sometime around 2030, both to help mitigate the increasing need to restrict heavy traffic as the iconic Harbour Bridge structure continues to age, and because of Auckland's continuing population growth.

The route protection move by the Transport Agency aims to secure long term designation rights by approximately 2017. If

designation is approved, the Transport Agency will then prepare a detailed business case, which will determine when the crossing is needed, and what other improvements or changes would need to be made to SH1 to increase traffic capacity and allow for entry and exit points.

Development of a business case could take several years, and it is anticipated construction of the crossing could take five to seven years after that.

Previous decisions over the past 20 years have already decided the second crossing will be a tunnel that surfaces in a different location to the current bridge, somewhere closer to Wynyard Quarter to provide heavy freight with access to the port and to bring the location closer to the central motorway junction (known as spaghetti junction).

To find out more and see concept drawings visit www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/awhc/



Bus schedules to be reviewed by AT

Many Business North Harbour members are finding the current bus schedules in and out from the Constellation Park and Ride unsuitable for themselves and their employees to use on a regular basis.

Business North Harbour relationship manager, Sarah de Zwart, says the current and planned bus schedules linking the Park and Ride with the surrounding area (Paul Matthews Drive, William Pickering Drive or Bush Road) are infrequent within peak times of 6am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm. She says the first buses leave the Constellation Park and Ride in the mornings and in the evenings within five to seven minutes of each other. However it is then a half hour wait for the next bus.

"We believe the maximum time our members should wait at peak hours is 15 minutes and that there should also be additional stops around the surrounding area.

"In light of this, Business North Harbour worked to confirm free parking for commuters coming into our business region at QBE Stadium and also investigated hiring three shuttle buses. We also requested permission from local businesses to use their driveways as stops for the shuttle.

"However Auckland Transport is unable to implement our suggestions because of issues around current service and supplier relationships."

But, de Zwart says, the positive outcome is that Auckland Transport has agreed to review the services within the area. Business North Harbour will keep members posted on any developments and continue to lobby Auckland Transport.

Consultation Closes on Major Motorway and Busway Extension Project



More than 1500 people had their say in the most recent consultation round for the Northern Corridor Improvements project, including at four public breakfast meetings co-hosted by Business North Harbour.

Thank you to everyone who came along to the events to view the plans, provide feedback, and learn what changes this \$700 million transport project will make in and around North Harbour, Rosedale and Albany.

The events were held to show the project's draft alignment plan, which has now been approved by the NZ Transport Agency's Board. This plan indicates the overall alignment for the new direct motorway-to-motorway connection between Upper Harbour Highway (SH18) and the Northern Motorway (SH1); lane increases on SH1 in both directions between Constellation and Oteha Valley interchanges; extension of the Busway to Albany Bus Station, and major new walking and cycling paths, similar to the popular Northwestern Cycleway.

The approved draft alignment plan also showed how the current road connections to SH18 at Unsworth Drive, Paul Matthews Road and Caribbean Drive will be separated from the new motorway and redesigned into a new layout.

For Paul Matthews Road this means the construction of a new bridge extending the current busy industrial road over top of SH18, and joining it up to a more efficient intersection on the other side – with direct on and offramps to SH18 and through-access to SH1 and

Constellation Drive.

Maintaining full access to Paul Matthews Rd has always been a design priority for the Northern Corridor project, and several different layout options were looked at. The idea for the bridge option was suggested by local business owners and taken further into the design process by the team as a result.

The plans also highlight how the operation of the Constellation interchange will be improved by the design changes, because thousands of SH18–SH1 bound cars a day will be removed from the intersection to travel on the new separated motorway connection.

To view the plans visit www.nzta.govt.nz/auckland-northern-corridor.

Over the next few months the results of the community's feedback will be analysed and fed into the final decisions being made ahead of the project's consenting documentation and Notices of Requirement (NoR) being lodged with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) late this year. The project team will also continue to meet with affected property owners and commercial tenants, explaining timeframes in the purchase or compensation process, and types of entitlements. If the EPA approves the project following the Independent Board of Inquiry next year, construction is planned to begin from 2018.

To find out more, contact the project team on 0800 NCI PROJECT or at northerncorridor@nzta.govt.nz.

THANK YOU

For having your say on the new travel plans taking place for the North Shore in June-July.

The Northern Corridor team will spend the next few months analysing your feedback alongside geotechnical, environmental and traffic reports, and finalise the design before resource consent lodgement at the end of the year.



NCI16-7



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