

Akoranga to Constellation Drive

NORTHERN PATHWAY

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT


SEPTEMBER 2020



Between 25 May and 14 June 2020, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency asked for your feedback to help determine what route the Akoranga to Constellation Drive section of the Northern Pathway should follow along State Highway 1 on the North Shore.


 **1,743**
unique users viewed our interactive project map


669,203 times adverts seen online  **1,315** people clicking on ads


 **2** submissions received by phone


 **65** surveys completed


 **27** email submissions received


 **392** pinpoint comments were posted on our interactive map

782 up ('like') votes on comments  **151** down ('dislike') votes on comments


 **332** people/stakeholder groups provided feedback. We heard from ...


 Residents and residents' associations


 People who want to use the pathway on foot


 Transport advocacy groups

 Local boards

 People who want to ride on the pathway

 Business and property owners

 Sports clubs and recreation centres

 Environmental groups

 Schools

COVID-19 CHANGED HOW WE ENGAGED WITH YOU AND COLLECTED YOUR FEEDBACK

Government measures to manage COVID-19 meant we couldn't meet in large groups at open days and drop-in sessions, so we moved our engagement online and were contactable via email or phone.

How we told you about our public engagement:

- Online advertising, which received 1,315 click throughs
- *North Shore Times* print advertising
- Over 18,000 brochures delivered to households in the project area
- Media release
- Two e-newsletters to our subscriber list
- Project webpage updates, including new [FAQs](#), and a link to the [brochure](#) and to the online feedback platform
- Facebook post on Waka Kotahi's Auckland page
- Social Pinpoint – a feedback platform with an [interactive project map](#).

Your Feedback

We received strong support for the project, with people telling us how they plan to use the pathway and how they think it should function to make it safe, accessible and user-friendly. Only 3% of respondents expressed opposition to the project. 120 people provided feedback only about potential impacts on Smith's Bush.

Outcome of consultation: Identifying the preferred route

Although the community expressed a strong desire to have the path situated close to key destinations, which are largely on the eastern side of the motorway (for instance, bus stations and schools), there was equally strong recognition of the benefits of the western alignment, including more available space and a more direct route. Taking into consideration feedback from the community, key stakeholders and our partners, as well as undertaking further technical assessments, we have identified a preferred route, which follows the western side of the motorway. This alignment will deliver a community facility that provides the following advantages for users:

- More direct with fewer road crossings
- Less potential impact on property and the environment
- Avoids potential for conflict between path users and buses/traffic at transport hubs
- More cost effective to implement as less space is obstructed by dense residential and commercial areas.

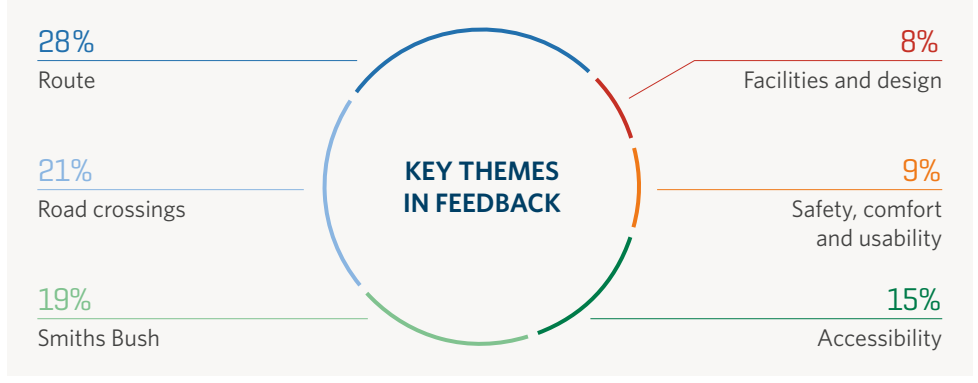
You can find out more about the preferred route, including key features, benefits and considerations that influenced our decision, [here](#).



"This is part of the larger picture of fighting climate change. As the world recovers from COVID-19, it is imperative we capture the pandemic's period of low emissions by making transport alternatives attractive."

Next steps

The preferred route will need to be endorsed by our board and have funding approved before the detailed design can begin. There will be opportunities for you to provide more feedback during the detailed design and consenting phases of the project.



You said, we will

You said, 'Whatever side of the motorway you build the pathway, east-west connections to the pathway at intersections are essential to connect people to key destinations and make the pathway accessible to communities on both sides of the motorway.'

We will look to provide street-level connections as part of the detailed design in the next phase of the project.

You said, 'Ideally, a bridge or an underpass should separate the pathway at road crossings. If this is not possible, then road crossings should favour pathway users, not cars'

We will, as part of the detailed design phase, continue to investigate road-separated options at all road crossings (Esmonde Road, Tristram Ave, Northcote Road, Sunnynook Road and Sunset Road). There will be further opportunities to give feedback as this project progresses.

You said, 'Multiple connections/entries and exits along the pathway from parks and local streets are important to ensure the path is readily accessible to the community, and for safety.'

We will work with Auckland Transport, Auckland Council and local boards to identify opportunities for local connections and proposed greenway plans to deliver a fully integrated active mode network.

You said, 'Please separate users - people commuting (and/or using e-bikes and e-scooters) generally travel faster than people using the path recreationally or travelling on foot.'

We will investigate the path layout, speeds, and operation of the path in the next phase of the project. People will have the opportunity to provide feedback during this phase.

Smiths Bush

We received a great deal of feedback highlighting the special place that Smiths Bush holds in the community as an ancient, ecologically unique urban ngahere (forest).

We have listened to this and are working with relevant community groups, local boards and government agencies to consider options to mitigate any potential environmental impact as we finalise our business case.

There will be further discussion with mana whenua, project partners and key stakeholders as this design detail is developed in the next phase of the project. Through our ongoing public engagement we will also consider how the wider cultural and social elements can be enhanced to deliver a project that benefits the whole community.

"Crossings must be frequent enough to maximise access to areas east and west of the motorway."

"I appreciate the expansion of the travel opportunities and the honest communication of the benefits and considerations of the pathways route."



For more information, visit the project webpage or email the team

E: northernpathway@nzta.govt.nz

W: www.nzta.govt.nz/northern-pathway