

2018 FEEDBACK SUMMARY

June 2019

During 2018 we asked for feedback on potential options to improve connections to, from and between State Highway 16 (SH16) and State Highway 18 (SH18), together with the North West Supporting Growth Programme. This combined approach enabled people to see and comment on the full picture of proposed transport networks needed to support future growth in the area over the next 30 years.

People recognised the strategic need for the proposed improvements this project would provide and requested clear coordination and integration with other infrastructure projects (not just transport), provision of safe walking and cycling facilities and careful management of any potential environmental and social opportunities and effects. Here's a snapshot of what we heard.

COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION



There was clear acknowledgement that population growth in Auckland's North West will require new and upgraded infrastructure. A significant number of projects is planned in response to growth and people requested a coordinated and integrated approach to planning and delivery and to minimise disruption where possible.

OUR RESPONSE: Collaboration is critical to deliver seamless infrastructure in the right place, at the right time. To ensure complete integration it is our intention the SH16/SH18 Connections project will be incorporated within the wider North West Supporting Growth Programme, a partnership between Auckland Council, Auckland Transport and the NZ Transport Agency.

WALKING AND CYCLING



People let us know they would like safe, separated walking and cycling facilities provided along SH18, connecting with the existing Northwestern (SH16) cycleway with access to key destinations like the North West Shopping Centre, Hobsonville Marina and consideration of local businesses and school cycle routes.

OUR RESPONSE: Feedback received has shaped the proposed location of the walking and cycling facilities on the south side of SH18 (between Squadron Drive and Westgate footbridge) and the east side of SH16 (between Westgate footbridge and Brigham Creek Road/SH16 interchange). The exact width of the path will be determined in detailed design phases to enable a safe and attractive facility.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND EFFECTS



People emphasised the need to protect and enhance important local environmental features and to minimise any effects to existing and future neighbours. Wallace and Waiarohia Inlets, Totara Creek, Kopupaka Reserve, the natural landscape and biodiversity corridors were all specifically highlighted as requiring careful attention and management.

OUR RESPONSE: Specialists in ecology, coastal processes, landscape and visual and heritage, amongst others, have been engaged to provide expert advice on the concept design for the project. In addition, a Preliminary Corridor Strategy will be prepared to gain deeper understanding of the environmental context and how the improvements can work together with other projects in the area.

NEXT STEPS

The NZ Transport Agency Board will review the final business case for the SH16/18 Connections Project which will then progress to detailed design and consenting and be integrated with the wider Supporting Growth programme.

While some aspects may be prioritised for construction, the overall intention is to seek long term route protection and plan ahead to deliver these improvements over the next few decades in line with growth.

