# Waitematā Harbour Connections
## Minister's Monthly Update

**28 September 2022**

Embarking on a crucial phase in the planning and delivery of Aotearoa New Zealand's most significant city shaping programme in coming decades.

The work is set to explore multi-modal cross-harbour options and consider the needs of future generations as people move around a more sustainable and well connected Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.

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# Status

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

## Overall

The Indicative Business Case (IBC) is ready to commence following successful outcomes of the joint procurement with Auckland Light Rail (ALR). Early collaborative work completed on the draft strategic case will provide a 'head start' to the team also preparing to engage with the community to raise awareness and set the scene for the upcoming work. Joint Waka Kotahi and ALR media announcements are planned for the commencement of the IBC. A Partner Steering Group has been established to oversee the IBC phase with a newly appointed Project Director now reporting to them.

## Focus areas

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| Governance | A Partner Steering Group (PSG) has been established to provide programme oversight and reflect the shared outcomes between Auckland Council, Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi. This month the PSG provided feedback on the draft Investment Logic Map (ILM) and endorsed a draft Steering Group terms of reference agreement. A project briefing for the Ministry of Transport is planned in early October. The draft updated ILM and investment objectives will be provided for Ministerial review, feedback and endorsement during October 2022. |
| Mana Whenua | The process of establishing a partnership with mana whenua is progressing including how they are represented through the IBC phase on governance groups. Due to the significance of the Waitematā Harbour, there is considerable interest from iwi requiring the partnership to be effective early in the IBC process. Lessons from engagements on recent projects and integration with ALR iwi engagement are being uplifted to support the process. |
| Community Support | Work to build community support is on track, with the overarching strategy underway to educate and raise awareness ahead of consultation on options in 2023. This includes stakeholder management, media relations and community engagement campaigns, with opportunities for Minister involvement. There is strong integration with the ALR project, to share opportunities and develop a shared narrative on Auckland's rapid transit network. |
| People | A newly appointed Waka Kotahi Project Director is now leading the programme. Preferred suppliers to deliver the urban, engineering and planning work have been appointed. |
| Programme | The IBC alliance will commence in early October 2022 with a focus on capturing inputs and developing a consenting strategy to inform an options long list early in 2023. Key milestone dates including option selection and public engagement will be finalised as part of setting up the alliance. |

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# Key upcoming activities

## Wins for September

- 1. Procurement - selection workshops, and proponent selection for IBC Alliance team
- 2. Updated Draft Investment Logic Map and draft strategic case in readiness to meet IBC timeframes.
- 3. Progress with Chief-to-Chief conversations with mana whenua
- 4. Continue integration with ALR team on technical, engagement and governance aspects
- 5. Comms and engagement workstream progressing with stakeholder conversations ongoing. Opportunity for Minister involvement in media release for Alliance announcement at end September.

## October look ahead

- 1. Interim Alliance onboarding and IBC technical work begins
- 2. Work with Minister's office to provide advice on draft ILM outcomes and investment objectives.
- 3. Continue focus on mana whenua partnership and agreeing governance structure
- 4. Stakeholder engagement and media relations campaign continues. Preparing for community engagement start in late October.

## Longer-term forecast

- 1. Support the Ministry of Transport in the s 9(2)(f)(iv)
- 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. Joint Waitematā Harbour Connections/ Auckland Light Rail media announcement on preferred Alliance team selection in late September.
- 2. Endorsement of ILM and objectives - October
- 3. Opportunities to attend community engagement sessions and market days from late October (some events will be in collaboration with Auckland Light Rail).

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s 9(2)(g)(i)

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