

MINO-441 Freedom and Rights Coalition Auckland Demonstration

5 August 2022

Provide an update on planned protest activities by the Freedom and Rights Coalition in Auckland on 6 August 2022

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's response:

- NZ Police is leading the response operation for the planned Freedom and Rights Coalition demonstration and protest march in Auckland on 6 August 2022. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and the Auckland Transport Operations Centre (ATOC) are working closely with Police.
- The Freedom and Rights Coalition has declined to engage or coordinate with Police to confirm a route for the protest march, so further confirmation of planning is likely to take place through negotiations on the morning of the event. However, Police has indicated that it will offer to facilitate a peaceful march through the CBD with lead and tail vehicles.
- The Auckland System Management (ASM) team is developing tactical planning to support Police through the deployment of truck mounted attenuators at interchanges. This will aid Police with ramp closures and safety measures. The ramp closures will be resourced by Police, and Waka Kotahi staff will not be involved in this.
- The ASM team is developing operational plans to close roads should the need arise. Police believe that it is unlikely that protesters will attempt to access the motorway network at this time, but Police will siteharden various access points in the event that an attempt to enter the motorway network is made. ASM will assist Police in deploying staff and vehicles to create a line of defence if needed.
- Police will request a closure of the motorway in both directions should protestors threaten to break through police lines. Police, ASM, Auckland Transport and ATOC will be responding to any incident in real time as per ATOCs standard Incident Management escalation process.
- Waka Kotahi is developing plans in conjunction with Police to ensure an agile and flexible response that accounts for multiple scenarios. Police and ASM will have liaisons within the ATOC control room on the day, while Police will be running the operation from College Hill with a representative from ASM.