

MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE

Subject	Old Māngere Bridge Replacement Completion Event
Date	23 August 2022
Briefing number	BRI-2579

Contact(s) for telephone discussion (if required)				
Name	Position	Direct line	Cell phone	1 st contact
Steve Mutton	Director Regional Relationships [Please add the Region here]		s 9(2)(a)	✓

Action taken by Office of the Minister

- ☐ Noted
- ☐ Seen by Minister
- ☐ Agreed
- ☐ Feedback provided
- ☐ Forwarded to
- ☐ Needs change [please specify]
- ☐ Withdrawn
- ☐ Overtaken by events

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23 August 2022

Hon Michael Wood, Minister of Transport

Old Māngere Bridge Replacement Completion Event

Purpose

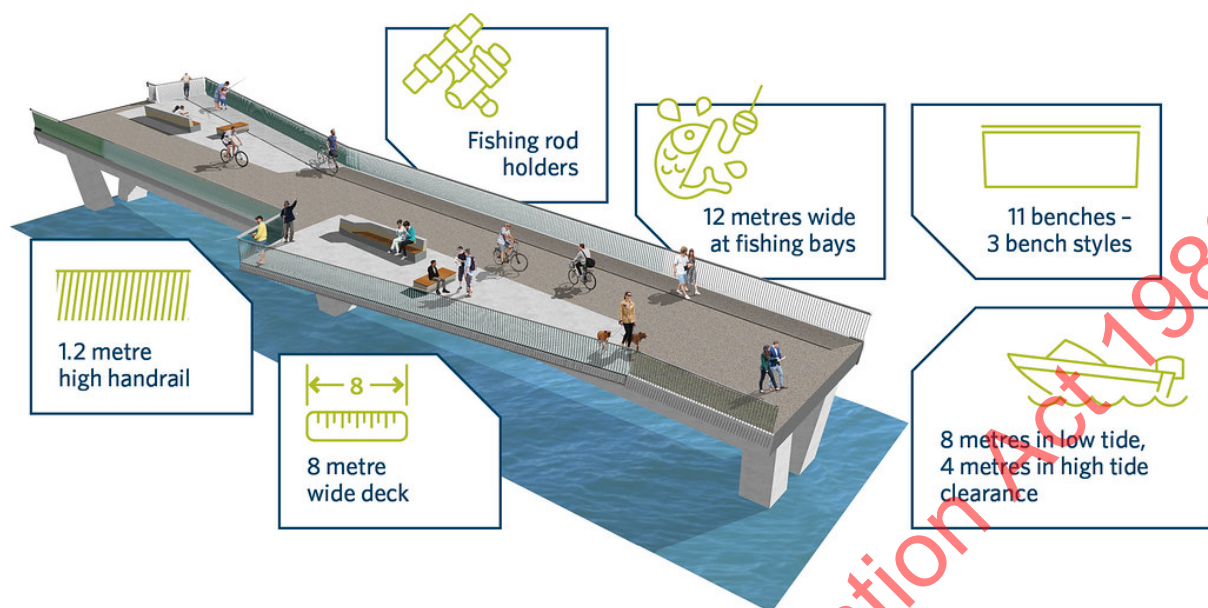
1. This briefing provides you with information about the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement project, prior to the opening event on Saturday, 27 August 2022 from 10am to 11am.

Project funding and costs

2. The cost for the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement project is \$38 million.
3. The Old Māngere Bridge Replacement project is funded by the State Highway Improvements activity class of the National Land Transport Programme.
4. Although a walking and cycling project, the funding source from state highways is due to the consent conditions in place when the State Highway 20 MHX bridge across the Manukau Harbour was built in the 1980s.

Project features

5. Key features of the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement project include:
 - Urban design worked in partnership with mana whenua which focuses on social, cultural and heritage values of the surrounding communities and area.
 - 8 metre wide deck which extends to 12 metres wide at the fishing platforms.
 - Two fishing platforms with rod holders which are placed over the deepest channels of the Manukau Harbour.
 - Bench seating across the length of the bridge to provides places to sit, relax and enjoy the views.
 - 4 metre clearance underneath in high tide which increases to 8 metres in low tide, opening up access to the Upper Māngere Inlet.
 - Lighting on the arch and piers to create an architectural feature within the Manukau Harbour and on the balustrade to extend the hours of safe use after sunset.
 - Shared space on the deck with a gentle slope to provide access for everyone – people travelling on foot, e scooter, riding bikes, pushing prams or travelling in a mobility scooter.
 - Heritage garden which incorporates elements of the old bridge to help keep the memory of the bridge which stood before and was well loved by community for over 100 years.



Project benefits

6. Key benefits of the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement include:

- Provides travel options to help support people to leave their car at home and get around via a low carbon transport mode on foot or by bike.
- Features which cater to the wide range of needs of the community – not only as a way to get from A to B but as a community asset which will provide social benefits.
- Create a welcoming and appealing community space for those who live and travel through with an urban design created in partnership with mana whenua.

Project context

7. The Old Māngere Bridge closed in late 2018 due to safety concerns and had stood in the Manukau Harbour for over 100 years since its opening in 1915. The Old Māngere Bridge was originally the road used by vehicles to cross the Manukau Harbour until the SH20 Manukau

Harbour Crossing was built in the 1980s and at that time, the Old Māngere Bridge became a connection across the harbour for people on foot as well as a popular fishing spot.

8. Providing not only an important strategic connection as part of the wider walking and cycling network in Auckland, the new bridge will also be a place for whānau and friends to gather, sit and enjoy their surroundings. Creating spaces and places which recognise and acknowledge how locals enjoy their neighbourhood is important to ensure that we're creating liveable places for future generations.
9. The Old Māngere Bridge Replacement is a key part of the strategic walking and cycling network across Auckland and links up with cycle paths on both sides of the harbour – creating a link for journeys between the isthmus and Auckland Airport.
10. Map below shows the location of the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement (within blue oval)



Key messages

11. Key messages of the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement include:
 - Waka Kotahi has replaced the Old Māngere Bridge with a new and improved walking and cycling bridge that will reflect what made the old bridge a much-loved and long-standing community asset, while creating an iconic new landmark for the area.

- The project will provide an important walking and cycling connection across the Manukau Harbour enabling people living in the communities of Māngere Bridge, Onehunga and wider areas to have a choice for how they travel.
- Part of the work on this project includes salvaging elements of the Old Māngere Bridge. We are aware that the old bridge was cherished by community and have worked with Heritage NZ to develop a heritage garden on the northern abutment to create a link between the past and present.
- The Old Māngere Bridge Replacement project has a strong cultural and historical narrative which is shown through the design and artwork features, and we have continued to work in partnership with mana whenua during the construction phase.
- Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency has worked closely with community to hear what they loved about the operational use of the old bridge and have included elements such as dedicated fishing bays and seating into the design to reflect feedback received.
- The new bridge will be an incredible community asset for generations.

Mana whenua partner update

12. Mana whenua have recently gifted the replacement bridge a Te Reo Māori name Ngā Hau Māngere. Work with our iwi partners to understand the cultural narrative of this name so it can be shared with the wider community and the timeframe for communication is underway.
13. A karakia with mana whenua will be held on the morning of Friday 19 August 2022.
14. Iwi artworks will be installed after the opening of the bridge once these have been completed by their appointed artist. A karakia will be held at their unveiling – date to be confirmed.

Other matters

15. The project has experienced minimal impact from COVID-19 with a delay in completion only reflecting the time Auckland spent in national and regional lockdowns. However, this has meant that construction has been pushed further into winter. Due to the requirement of favourable weather for the anti-slip deck coating to be applied, a temporary application will be used with the permanent solution applied later in the summer season. While this work is carried out, there will be a temporary closure of the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement later in the year.
16. Since the Old Māngere Bridge closed in late 2018 and while the new bridge has been under construction, people have been able to cross the Manukau Harbour on foot or wheels using the SH20 underpass. Once the Old Māngere Bridge closed and the underpass was the only route across the harbour, we made changes to ensure that it was safe for the community. This included removing graffiti, installing monitored CCTV cameras, putting in higher railings along the outer edge for the protection of people travelling on bikes as well as a continuous presence of security guards. With the new bridge opening we have decided to close the underpass in late 2022. There is no funding to continue to provide a high level of service required on the route to keep it open which has cost approximately \$500,000 annually. This decision has met a mix of support for the rationale as well as those wanting the underpass to remain open for time of bad weather as it offers more protection.
17. Due to resource consents, the new bridge will not cater to people travelling on mopeds as mopeds are considered a motor vehicle under the Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004.

Historically, moped users travelled across the Manukau Harbour on the Old Māngere Bridge as this used to be designated a road and enforcement was not undertaken once it became a shared path. We have raised this issue with Auckland Council who will look after the new bridge once open for them to determine the next steps and if any changes to the resource consents are required.

Ministerial opening event

18. The event will be located at the project office on the corner of Coronation Road and Waterfront Road.
19. Speeches and a ribbon cutting ceremony will take place.
20. A small community celebration will occur following the ministerial opening event. This will include information boards of the project's construction, opportunity to meet the team and ask questions as well as attendance from Auckland Transport to share information on the surrounding walking and cycling network.

Key attendees to acknowledge

21. The key attendees invited for the opening ceremony include the following:
 - Phil Goff, Mayor of Auckland
 - Cllr Alf Filipaina, Manukau Ward Councillor
 - Local Board members from Māngere-Otahuhu and Maungakiekie-Tāmaki
 - Waka Kotahi board members
 - Nicole Rosie, Waka Kotahi Chief Executive
 - Auckland Transport Chief Executive

Media

22. The Old Māngere Bridge was a well-loved community asset and community have been following construction of the Old Māngere Bridge Replacement closely, we expect local and national media interest in the opening.
23. The Old Māngere Bridge Replacement is a great media opportunity to show the social benefits which infrastructure projects can deliver to communities which are above and beyond just a transport outcome.

It is recommended that you:

1. **Note** the contents of this briefing.



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Steve Mutton,

Director Regional Relationships, Te Tai Tokerau me Tāmaki Makaurau

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Hon Michael Wood, Minister of Transport

Date:

2022

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