

Auckland Tāmaki Makaurau



Home to a third of New Zealand’s population, Auckland has a nationally significant role in helping drive and support the country’s economic prosperity. Almost 40 percent of the country’s freight moves through Auckland – 95 percent by road – contributing 38 percent to New Zealand’s GDP.

Development of a reliable and efficient state highway and rail network is critical for the economic performance of the country and to support the growing population with access to housing, jobs, education and essential services.

Congestion is a major challenge for Auckland. Development of the roading network to support freight and expansion of the public transport network on key routes is a priority to build greater resilience and reliability into the transport system.

Investment through NLTP 2024-27 will work to reduce and create more reliable travel times, as well as building resilience into the roading network to better withstand significant weather events.

Economic growth and productivity

Roads of National Significance (RoNS)

The GPS proposes 4 RoNS as strategic corridors to support economic growth and productivity in Auckland. The following are included in this NLTP to be progressed as follows:

- **SH1 Warkworth to Wellsford (Te Hana)** – we’ll complete property purchase, design and consenting, and start construction late in this NLTP period. This will continue over future NLTP periods, and combined with 2 RoNS in Northland will provide a continuous 100km upgrade between Auckland and Whangārei.
- **Mill Road** – we’ll progress early construction opportunities within the next 3 years and secure new designations and consents for the work that will continue over several future NLTP periods.
- **East-West Link** – we’ll get project development and property purchase underway.
- **SH16 North-West alternative highway** is outside of this NLTP period.

\$8.4 billion

Forecast total investment

\$941 million

Forecast maintenance operations

\$1.1 billion

Forecast pothole prevention

\$2.5 billion

Forecast improvements

\$3.7 billion

Forecast public transport

When completed and integrated into the region's transport network and growth plans, these roads will:

- reduce congestion
- improve safety
- support housing development
- boost economic growth
- provide a more resilient roading network.

Roads of Regional Significance (RoRS)

- **Penlink O Mahurangi**, between the Northern Motorway and the Whangaparāoa peninsula, will be progressed during this NLTP period.
- We'll start the **Waihoehoe Road (Drury upgrade)**.
- **SH1 Papakura to Drury** motorway upgrade, providing an extra lane in each direction, will be largely completed in this NLTP period.
- **SH22 Drury** will be funded for pre-implementation only during this NLTP period.

Other

We'll progress large infrastructure projects in Auckland to improve economic performance, tackle congestion and support population growth:

- We'll work to further investigate and explore additional options for the **Waitematā Harbour Connections** project.
- We'll start work to get more from the local roads with investment of \$30 million in measures that keep people moving including dynamic lanes, variable messaging and traffic lights.
- We'll start a project supporting housing growth in Auckland, including upgrading corridors and intersections. This will be implemented in 3 phases totalling \$74 million.
- Auckland Transport will continue to investigate improvements on **Lake Road** to improve network

capacity and route resilience, including shared bus and high occupancy lanes, and dynamic lanes.

- Work will continue on safety and capacity improvements on **Glenvar and East Coast Roads** to support development in the Long Bay area.
- **Time of use (ToU) charging** legislation will be introduced to Parliament late this year. It is proposed NZTA will lead the design of these schemes, working in partnership with local authorities, such as Auckland. Schemes aren't expected to be ready to introduce for at least a year or more, once legislation has passed.

Public transport

- Subject to funding availability, we'll look to further progress **Eastern Busway stage 4** (Tī Rākau Drive to Botany) and **Airport to Botany Busway**.
- We'll begin work on the **SH16 Northwest Rapid Transport corridor** between Brigham Creek and the city centre starting with route protection, design and property purchase. A new local bus station at Westgate will be up and running by mid-2026.
- Implementation of the full **National Ticketing Solution** will start in late 2026.

Increased maintenance and resilience

More than a million trips a day are taken on Auckland's state highway network. The Auckland Harbour Bridge and Waterview Tunnel are two of New Zealand's more complex highway assets. We'll increase our investment in the operation and maintenance of the state highway network throughout the region to ensure people and freight can safely and efficiently get where they need to go.

Maintenance

Increased funding to maintain and

operate the state highway and local road networks will enable significant road and drainage renewal work. Maintenance of existing assets ensures roads are safe and accessible for everyone to drive on.

State highways

- \$492 million will be invested this NLTP period maintaining state highway assets.
- \$186 million is ringfenced for state highway pothole prevention.

This \$678 million investment includes 393 lane kilometres of works:

- 25km of chipseal.
- 3km of rehabilitation.
- 19.5km of structural asphalt.
- 345km of asphalt resurfacing.

Local roads

With Auckland Transport we'll invest a total of \$1.34 billion over this NLTP period.

- \$443 million will be invested in local road operations
- \$937 million is ringfenced for local road pothole prevention.

Bridges

- Investment in replacing local road bridges in Auckland including:
 - **Blackwells Bridge** on Great Barrier Island.
 - **Inga Road Bridge**.
 - **Murphys Culvert**.

Rail

Rail network investment in this NLTP will be targeted to parts of the rail network where the most significant economic benefits and opportunities for boosting the productivity of freight movement exist such as the triangle of Auckland, Hamilton and Tauranga.

The Rail Network Investment Programme (RNIP) sets out planned network maintenance, management, renewal and improvement work on the national rail network over a 3-year period. The next RNIP will be approved later in 2024 following further analysis.

Safety

Low-cost interventions at high-risk locations

Over this NLTP period we'll roll out lower cost value for money safety improvements on the state highway network including safety retrofits in high-risk corridors and intersections, and speed limit changes focused on areas of high safety concern.

We'll allocate money for regional reactive safety projects to address community needs.

Commercial Vehicle Regional Safety Centre (CVSC)

We'll construct CVSCs at **Bombay**, **Stanley Street** and **Albany**. These will use the latest technology to check commercial vehicles for compliance with safety regulations. By targeting those who don't comply with restrictions we're protecting the roading network, helping to minimise the risk to key freight routes where damage could disrupt freight supply chains. This helps with maintenance and resilience of the network.

Value for money

Auckland has well-established transport plans and planning processes. We'll continue to work with Auckland Council and Auckland Transport to prioritise the delivery of programmes against the strategic priorities of the GPS.

Value for money isn't always about seeking the lowest initial cost for a project – it must also take into consideration the whole of life costs and benefits of a project.

We're taking steps to make sure that all our work this NLTP provides good value for taxpayers. In Auckland this will include reducing expenditure on temporary traffic management, increased investment in road maintenance and a focus on whole-of life costs.

We'll improve the productivity of maintenance and improvement works, by considering the way works are:

- scoped
- planned
- procured
- undertaken.



Key projects 2024-27

