



Planning southern Auckland's transport future

September 2020

What we heard from you and what's happening next

Between 18 May and 19 June 2020, in partnership with Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, we asked for your feedback across a range of transport projects in southern Auckland:

- Mill Road – Takaanini, Papakura and Drury sections
- Pukekohe Expressway and connections to State Highway 22
- Pukekohe urban arterial (north-east section)
- Rail upgrades and new train stations at Drury Central, Drury West and Paerata
- Drury local road upgrades including safe, separated walking and cycling paths.

We wanted to know what you thought about the proposed route options for new roads and their connections with local roads. We asked you to tell us about how you'd prefer to travel to new train stations and the type of facilities you will need, as well as your preferences for using the new walking and cycling paths.



1,115
pieces of feedback received



940
reactions to social media posts



1,655
information packs mailed to property owners



117
radio ads in English, Te Reo and Hindi



5,000
flyers distributed to the local community



552,668
number of times people saw our online ads



3,793
website visits



420
people registered for our online community conversations

Thank you for taking the time to have your say.



COVID-19 changed how we could engage with you

We usually give people the chance to talk to us face-to-face at meetings and community information days. But with COVID-19 restrictions in place in May and June, we added zero-contact ways to engage with the community. We know many people prefer to meet face-to-face, we will arrange meetings when it is safe to do so and will continue to adapt to COVID-19 restrictions and find ways to make it easy to engage with us.

We heard from...

- Manawhenua
- Residents and residents' associations
- Walking and cycling groups
- Property owners and major landholders
- Local Boards
- Schools
- Community groups
- Transport advocacy groups
- Professional associations
- Local businesses

What we heard - key themes...



Support for new train stations and Park and Ride facilities



Desire for more opportunities to engage face-to-face about the proposals



Positive response to new, safe walking and cycling paths



Less support for the proposed route through the Drury section of Mill Road



Strong support for creating new and improved public transport options



More information needed on the impact to homes and businesses



Concerns about new roads cutting through countryside



Concern for any impact on the environment and areas of cultural and ecological importance

Drury – Ōpāheke road upgrades:

You supported the Ōpāheke north-south connection and the upgrading of local roads (Ōpāheke, Ponga, Bremner, Jesmond, Waihoehoe Road) and State Highway 22 (SH22) to make travel within the area easier and support frequent and efficient public transport. Some people asked about the need for both the new Ōpāheke north-south connection and the proposed Mill Road corridor. We consider both projects (along with other projects across the transport network) are needed to support the planned urban growth of this area.

There was support for the proposed widening of roads to accommodate new, safe walking and cycling paths.

Pukekohe Expressway and Pukekohe Urban Arterial:

The community raised their concern about the impact of roads cutting through greenfields and asked about alternative options for the Pukekohe Expressway such as widening SH22 and moving the route closer to the rail line.

We consider the new expressway and the other projects proposed in the southern transport network (eg rail upgrades, new stations and upgrades to SH22 and Bombay to Mill Road via Pukekohe East Road) will all be needed to meet the future growth for Pukekohe.

People are keen to see more detail about how the planned Pukekohe Urban Arterial, which will encircle the township, will work. Property owners in the area want to understand how the potential designation boundary may impact their property so they can plan for the future.

Rail upgrades:

There was support for the new train stations and upgrades to the passenger rail network. Many people requested Park and Ride facilities at all stations and asked about car park capacity. Creating other public transport options to access the rail network for commuting to / from work was also important. Lots of people wanted to know when the new train stations, additional rail tracks and rail electrification to Pukekohe will be completed.

Mill Road corridor

As part of the Government's **NZ Upgrade Programme**, Mill Road is being delivered by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency and plans for construction are being finalised.

You said...



“What is the impact to my property?”

We will: Continue speaking with landowners as work progresses on confirming the preferred options so that we can discuss any potential impacts to your property with you directly. At this stage, we're analysing recent public feedback and this, along with technical investigations, will help refine our route selection.



“How are you prioritising public transport?”

We are: Investigating ‘managed lanes’ for Mill Road which could include one lane in each direction being prioritised for public transport. We're protecting the land needed to build new train stations at Drury Central, Drury West and Paerata. We're widening Bremner Road, Jesmond Road and Waihoehoe Road to provide bus lanes. To help connect people to public transport services, new walking and cycling paths are proposed for Mill Road, Ōpāheke Road, Ponga Road and Waihoehoe Road.



“How are you protecting the environment and sites of cultural significance?”

We have: Assessed each project against a range of criteria to help us understand and mitigate the impact on the environment and the cultural, ecological and historical features of local communities. Cultural, social, environmental and economic criteria are key considerations in our planning and all assessments are carried out by experts including ecologists, archaeologists, transport planners and engineers.



“We hope that there will be further opportunities for engagement and feedback as these projects develop.”

We will: Continue to share project information as well as opportunities for you to let us know what you think. We'll talk to landowners before we lodge Notices of Requirement and will continue to engage with the wider community as we progress with all projects.

Next steps

Our next step is to refine the proposed project footprints before we can confirm which properties will be within the proposed designations. Upgrades to local roads in and around Drury are now progressing to lodging Notices of Requirement in late 2020.

Preliminary site investigations for the Mill Road project and rail and road upgrades in and around Drury will start from September. These will help us build a better understanding of the environment around the project areas. We'll share more information on these investigations and what you can expect to see if you live or travel in the area.

In early to mid-2021, we plan to apply for the approvals needed to construct Mill Road.

We aim to lodge the Notices of Requirement (NoR) with Auckland Council for these southern projects:

- late 2020 for Drury local road upgrades
- late 2020 to early 2021 for Drury Central station
- early to mid-2021 for Drury West and Paerata stations.

We'll talk to landowners before these lodgements and will continue to engage with the wider community as we progress with all projects.

Keeping you informed

Find out more and subscribe to e-updates at supportinggrowth.govt.nz



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