

Busway Brief

Winter 2021

An update on the Pakuranga to Botany section of the Eastern Busway

Kia ora project neighbours

We hope you are keeping warm, well and looking forward to summer now that we have moved beyond 2021's shortest day and Matariki is signalling a new year.

Auckland Transport (AT) is working in an alliance with Fletcher, Acciona, AECOM and Jacobs to refine the design of the Eastern Busway between Pakuranga and Botany and we will be seeking your feedback later in the year. This update provides information on the design process, the project timeline, important works in your area, and an overview of our approach to sustainability.

AT is committed to providing safe, reliable and efficient transport options for east and south Auckland. When the Eastern Busway is complete, you'll be able to travel between Botany and Britomart by bus and train in less than 40 minutes.

Key facts



Rapid transit link connecting east and south Auckland with the rail network



New and enhanced walking and cycling connections



Botany to Britomart by bus and train in less than 40 minutes



Connecting more than 30,000 people each day to employment, education and recreation services



Reeves Road flyover linking Pakuranga Road and Waipuna Bridge, providing more travel options and reducing traffic congestion in the town centre.

Recent RLTP news

There has been some media coverage about Auckland's Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP), which you may have seen. Here's a summary of the plan and what it means for the Eastern Busway project:

- The RLTP identifies the likely funding and timing of approved transport projects over the next 10 years. It is reviewed every 3 years to ensure funding is available for priority projects.
- The funding is provided by the NZ Government, Auckland Council and the Regional Fuel Tax.
- The latest RLTP confirms funding has increased to \$867 million for the Pakuranga to Botany stage of the busway, spread over a further 2 years to 2027/28.
- Spreading the funding over a longer timeframe than first planned does not affect the Eastern Busway Alliance's commitment to the project. Property and community consultation is due to take place later this year, with consenting and construction to start in 2022.

Upcoming work in your area

During the next six months site investigation work will be taking place at several locations in the Pakuranga and Botany areas. The work will help the alliance to understand the ground conditions and exact locations of underground services including water, electricity and gas pipes.

The information gathered will improve the proposed design of the busway, which will be shared with the community later this year for your consideration and feedback.

A temporary site office will be set up and you may notice some of our team, site investigation equipment, temporary lane layout changes and night works in the area. Thank you for your patience while the site investigation work is in progress.

Proposed timeline



Mid-late 2021

Landowner, stakeholder and community consultation and discussion. This is where you will have an opportunity to understand updated designs and how the project could impact your property or neighbourhood and provide feedback to us.

Site investigation work is also in progress during this time.



Early 2022

Consenting process expected to begin.



Late 2022

Construction due to start.

One of the project's priorities is to give you certainty about the design of the busway and its supporting infrastructure. We will do this through regular communication and engagement with you.



Eastern Busway Alliance



Let's get East Auckland moving

Partnering with Mana Whenua

We are partnering with mana whenua to ensure that Māori cultural values and perspectives are recognised and integrated into the planning of each stage of the project. Close partnership with iwi will continue throughout the project's development and delivery. We're looking forward to sharing more information about our Iwi partners in future issues of the Busway Brief.

Staff Snapshot: Ida Taefu

Climbing Iceland's highest mountain peak is the type of project that professional engineer and accomplished sportswoman Ida Taefu loves to champion in her spare time. It's hardly surprising then that Ida enjoys taking big work challenges in her stride, too.

Ida leads the group responsible for the engineering management and integration of workstreams on the Eastern Busway project and is also a member of the alliance's leadership team.

Ida's enthusiasm for travel before the pandemic led her to work on several complex rail projects over a number of years in the UK, Australia as well as in NZ prior to joining the Eastern Busway Alliance.

When asked about her motivation for working on the Eastern Busway project Ida says, 'I love a good challenge'. Ida is particularly keen to work on projects that make a difference to communities. As a local to Ormiston where she lives with her husband and two children, she says

'it makes this project personal. It's awesome to be able to contribute to something that is so close to home.'



Ida Taefu, Integration Manager

Supporting you through change

The alliance understands that construction of the Eastern Busway will have an impact on the communities of south and east Auckland. We're working on a plan to help support you through the changes created by the project. We'll be keen to hear your ideas as part of our community consultation later this year. We want to ensure that residents and businesses continue to thrive while the project is being built, and that you can look forward to experiencing the benefits of the busway when it's finished.

Helping to protect and restore Auckland

The project team is using the Infrastructure Council Sustainability of Australia (ISCA) tool to help ensure the environment will be protected during construction. We will support local businesses and inspire healthy communities in south and east Auckland by:

- Being a good neighbour, and supporting the community through disruption, impacts and change
- Using resources and materials efficiently
- Encouraging the use of walking, cycling and public transport
- Protecting and enhancing the natural environment, and using innovative urban design so that people feel connected to the local area
- Helping the community to thrive by providing employment and training opportunities
- Supporting the local economy by providing opportunities for local businesses
- Deconstructing (disassembly and reuse or relocation of) buildings that require removal, diverting waste from landfill



More information

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