

Pakūranga Road and Rā Hihi – flyover intersection

Engagement Summary

Since its opening, Rā Hihi has improved travel times for users of the flyover but afternoon peak traffic heading east from Panmure sees noticeable congestion along Pakūranga Road. Late last year, the Eastern Busway Alliance heard from the community that changes were needed. We've undertaken a technical review of the intersection with work carried out on a range of possible design options supported by traffic modelling to better understand the complexities, constraints and opportunities at this location.

As part of our engagement process to support decisions on how to improve the intersection, we asked for feedback from elected representatives and neighbouring stakeholders which has helped inform our approach. Given the limited scope to influence the intersection design and need to deliver improvements quickly, public consultation was not undertaken. However, the high level of feedback received on the intersection was considered and elected members shared public views.

Engagement process

October 2025

Rā Hihi – flyover opened. The community experienced traffic delays and the project team monitored travel times through the intersection.

November – December 2025

Initial intersection options were developed and early feedback was gathered from elected Pakūranga and Howick representatives.

February 2026

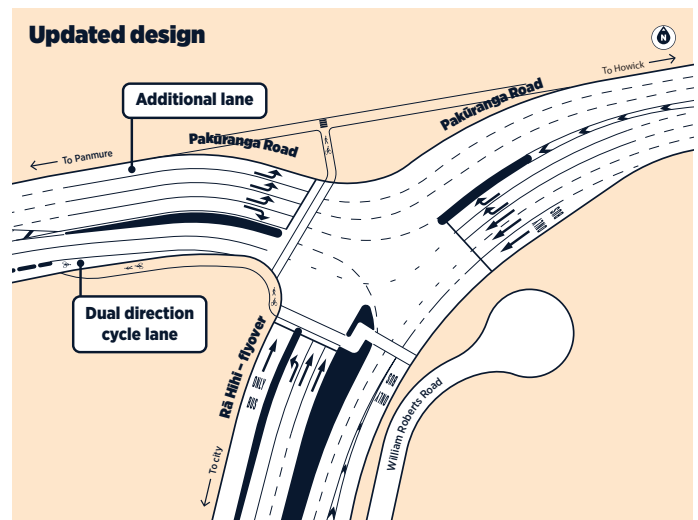
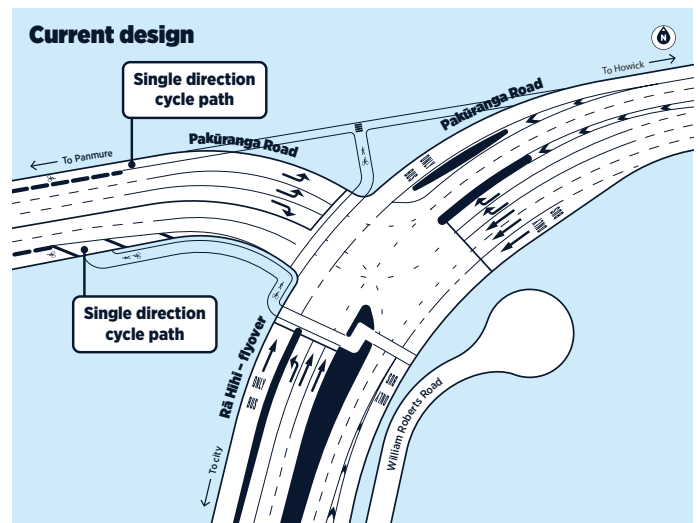
Further options were developed and reviewed by operational subject matter experts from Auckland Transport Operation Centre (ATOC) and Auckland Transport and the project team re-engaged with elected representatives.

March – April 2026

Further engagement was undertaken with elected representatives including Howick Local Board and neighbouring stakeholders representing a range of transport users to capture feedback on the designs and the approach for next steps.

April – May 2026

Stakeholder feedback was considered as part of decision making ahead of public notification on our plan of action.



Our plan of action

An updated design has now been confirmed which includes an additional lane on Pakūranga Road to support the flow of vehicles travelling towards Howick and a bi-directional cycle lane on the southern side of the road.

An intersection designed with three straight-through lanes and no curve was also investigated as an option. It had comparable improved traffic throughput as the new design. The complexity of the technical requirements, the associated cost as well as what would have been a longer and more significant staged construction period for road users means the Alliance has confirmed that this option is no longer being progressed.

More information is available at www.easternbusway.nz/intersection

Summary of feedback



Support for straight-through lanes towards Howick

Our response. Signalised intersection layouts, including an option with straight-through lanes towards Howick, were considered. This option is no longer being progressed due to technical feasibility and cost. Traffic lights would still have been required at this intersection to ensure safe movement of traffic onto Rā Hihi – flyover or towards Howick.



Support for keeping the single direction cycleway on both sides of Pakūranga Road (between Tī Rākau Drive and Rā Hihi)

Our response. Due to the constrained road corridor, there is insufficient space to add a third traffic lane on Pakūranga Road from the intersection with Tī Rākau Drive as well as keep a single-direction cycleway on the northern side of Pakūranga Road heading towards Howick.



Extend the cycleway on the northern side of Pakūranga Road to Saint Kentigern College entrance

Our response. Extension of the cycleway on the northern side of Pakūranga Road to Saint Kentigern College is not within the Eastern Busway Alliance project scope and will be considered by Auckland Transport for future projects.



Suggestion to remove all project cycleways on Pakūranga Road

Our response. Transport choices must meet the varying needs of all road users including drivers, bus passengers, pedestrians and cyclists. Providing travel choices is essential to better manage traffic issues as the region grows.



Comment over public consultation not being included in the engagement undertaken.

Our response. Due to the limited scope to influence the intersection design and need to deliver improvements as soon as possible, public consultation was not undertaken. However, the high level of feedback received on the intersection since it opened was considered and elected members shared public views.



Support for a third lane towards Howick with the curved intersection island reduced in size as the preferred option for safety reasons for cyclists and pedestrians.

Our response. Construction will begin in Early June.



Minimise construction impact on road users

Our response. Work will be planned at night to take advantage of the reduced number of vehicles on the road, minimising disruption for people travelling through the area. We will communicate with impacted residents throughout the construction period.



Concern that changes to the intersection will not alleviate congestion

Our response. Changes to the intersection will not reduce congestion. Shifting how East Aucklanders travel will be a key step in this process. When open in 2027, the Eastern Busway will improve travel choice, meaning more people can choose to travel via bus or active modes like walking and cycling as the city grows.



Concern that the right turn lane from Pakūranga Road onto Rā Hihi – flyover impacts intersection efficiency.

Our response. The right turn lane is part of the original design and is included for several reasons including good design standards to provide a range of vehicle movements at intersections as well as access for residents and businesses located in this section of the road corridor. Restricting right turn movements further along this section would require consultation with individual landowners.



Ensure communication updates are shared via a range of channels

Our response. We are committed to keeping the community updated and will share information via a range of channels including online, letter notifications, and our webpage.



Interest in the other options considered as part of this process.

Our response. All other options considered, along with the reasons they were not progressed, are available on our webpage.

Next steps

Early June 2026→

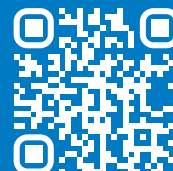
Construction of the updated design starts

Late July 2026●

Construction of the updated design complete

If you have any questions about this information or would like to talk to the team, please contact us by calling **0800 287 929** or emailing **info@easternbusway.nz**

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