

Dear Carmel,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Ellerslie Residents Association to express our support for the proposed extension of Ballarat Street in Ellerslie.

We believe that extending Ballarat Street to connect with Abbotts Way is a critical missing link in the accessibility and ease of transport around the suburb of Ellerslie. Currently, it is not possible to drive from Marua Road to Abbotts Way/Lunn Avenue (a short distance as the tui flies) all the way from Ladies Mile to the eastern end of Lunn Avenue, a distance of some 2.5 km. There is a lack of East/West connections this could help redress that.

Among other issues, this severance causes severe localised traffic congestion, as evident at the Ladies Mile/Marua Road intersection, and in rat running through the Mitre 10 Mega carpark.

The severance also extends to walking and cycling, with short local trips such as from the Ballarat Street area through to Lunn Ave, White Cross Medical, New World Stonefields, Farro and the eating establishments facing a detour. It is logical that making walking and cycling in the area less attractive contributes to more vehicle movements and more congestion.

We therefore strongly support and urge Auckland Transport to complete the missing link from the existing end of Ballarat Street through to Abbotts Way.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance in any way.

Best regards,

Edgar Henson JP

Chair

Ellerslie Residents Association