

Auckland Transport Media Releases in November 2017 Relevant to Howick Local Board Area

Auckland Transport media release

22 November 2017



Plan ahead for Santa's arrival on Sunday

Santa's coming to Auckland this Sunday and we're counting the sleeps. Since his last visit there have been changes in town so there are a few things to remember.

Driving into central Auckland isn't a great idea so Santa is suggesting you jump on a bus, train or ferry to get to the Farmers Santa Parade. Or, if you can, walk or bike into the city.

Public transport will be busier than usual so Auckland Transport is putting on some extra services to make sure everyone is in town in time for the parade at 1pm.

Bus

Enjoy the ride by bus to the parade, buses will operate to a Sunday timetable with some extra services, normal fares/passes will apply.

Due to road closures a number of city centre bus stops will be relocated and there will be some route diversions. Visit [Stop closures due to Farmers Santa Parade](#). Auckland Transport Ambassadors will be around to help.

To plan your journey use the [Journey Planner](#). Or try our new app <https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/more-services/mobile-services/>

Additional bus services

We will have some extra buses running to and from the city centre, normal fares/passes apply.

Check out extra services from Botany, Cockle Bay, Bayview, Beach Haven, Rosebank Rd, New Lynn/Blockhouse Bay, Blockhouse Bay/Lynfield, Waikowhai/Three Kings, Onehunga, Panmure, Glendowie/St Heliers, Long Bay, Browns Bay and Torbay.

Northern Express

Albany to City Centre via all Busway Stations

Additional Northern Express buses will travel to Lower Albert St near Quay St (Stop 7071) between around 10.45am and 12.30pm, they'll run every 7-8 minutes. Outside these times, the frequency from Albany is every 15 minutes.

Hibiscus Coast Station to City Centre

The frequency from Hibiscus Coast station to Lower Albert St near Quay St (Stop 7071) is every 30 minutes all day.

City Centre to Albany via all Busway Stations

Additional Northern Express buses will depart from Lower Albert St near Quay St (Stop 7071) and travel to Albany via all Busway Stations between around 2.15pm and 3.30pm.

City Centre to Hibiscus Coast Station

Additional Northern Express buses will depart from Lower Albert St near Quay St (Stop 7071) and travel to Hibiscus Coast Station between around 2.15pm and 3.30pm, they'll run every 20 minutes.

Train

Try out the trains, they'll be operating approximately every 20-30 minutes on most lines into the city. Normal fares/passes will apply.

Some bad news though, balloons cannot be carried on trains or in stations as we'd hate them to fly away and touch the overhead power lines.

Britomart Train Station will be busy so if you're travelling on the Western Line use the eastern entrance in Takutai Square.

For timetables

- [View the train timetable for the Southern \(include Onehunga and Eastern\) line for Sunday 26 November 2017 \(PDF 434 KB\).](#)
- [View the train timetable for the Western line for line for Sunday 26 November 2017 \(PDF 410KB\).](#)

Ferry

The Downtown Ferry Terminal is located on Quay St in Downtown Auckland. Normal fares/passes apply for ferry services.

Fullers will have additional ferry services to get you to the parade, normal fares/passes apply. Check the website: <https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/events/farmers-santa-parade/>

There are currently temporary departure points at the Downtown Ferry Terminal while seawall repair works are in place. [Find out more about Downtown ferry departure changes.](#)

Walking or cycling

Walking into the city or riding your bike or scooter is a great option. There are a number of cycle routes to get you into town <https://at.govt.nz/media/1973249/auckland-central-city-cycle-map-a4.pdf>

Taking your own vehicle to the parade?

If you are planning to drive in, please be aware that there will be road closures and parking restrictions <https://at.govt.nz/about-us/news-events/events-causing-delays/christmas-event-road-closures/>

Fares for children

It's much easier and cheaper for children to get around Auckland at the weekend. Auckland Transport has 99 cent weekend fares for children aged 5 to 15 travelling on an AT HOP card.

The 99 cent fare covers travel on buses and trains (not ferries) on weekends and during public holidays. To qualify for this fare, a parent or caregiver needs to load a child concession on the AT HOP card and it needs to be registered.

The cardholder can make up to five bus or train trips over a four hour period with up to 30 minutes between each trip. <https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/at-hop-card/card-concessions-discount-fares/child-student-discount/child-weekend-fares/>

For more on the parade and where to see Santa head to his website: <http://www.santaparade.co.nz/>

Auckland Transport media release

8 November 2017



70 Travelwise Schools earn gold awards

95 Auckland schools accepted Travelwise awards today at Auckland Transport's annual Travelwise celebration.

179 schools across the region have qualified for a Travelwise award this year.

Of those that attended today's celebration, 50 were awarded gold for their work to encourage active transport to school and work with their local communities to reduce congestion.

“The Travelwise celebration event rewards student leaders, lead teachers and school management for all the work they do in their schools during the year to promote road safety and sustainable transport,” says Kathryn King, Manager Walking, Cycling and Road Safety.

“All of the schools involved should be very proud of their achievements and their great work in making active transport journeys to school safer.”

Councillor Cathy Casey, Chair of the Community Development and Safety Committee, presented the awards at the celebration.

“It is so encouraging to see our young people and their families leaving their cars at home to walk or cycle to school.

“Every school that makes active transport a part of their school ethos has made a real commitment to not only their students, but also the wider community.

“As well as the health benefits, these schools are committed to reducing congestion in their neighbourhoods and making streets safe for all ages.”

The Travelwise programme works with primary, intermediate and secondary schools to:

- encourage and increase use of active travel modes and public transport.
- provide safer facilities for all road users.
- reduce congestion around schools.

With Travelwise, schools create individualised Safe School Travel Plans with visions and practical actions to create a safer and less congested environment outside the school.

Edendale Primary School earned a gold award for its *Slow Down Around Schools* campaign and working with students to promote a new zebra crossing to safely get to class.

Lead teacher Annaliese Van Dam says Travelwise is an important part of the school culture.

“We fully support the Travelwise programme through an amazing student group that work to promote road safety and active transport to their school community.

“The students have really earned their gold award today.”

The celebration included 648 students from 95 of the participating schools.

Auckland Transport media release

7 November 2017

More trains mean more services for Aucklanders

More trains are on the way for Auckland meaning more frequent services and more seats for passengers.

Auckland Transport has signed a contract for another 15 three-car electric trains.

AT chairman Dr Lester Levy says the trains are needed to meet the huge public demand. “We need to put on bigger trains to meet the demand and we need to be ready for when the tracks are electrified between Papakura and Pukekohe.”

In the past year more than 20 million trips have been taken on Auckland’s trains, an increase of 16 percent on the previous year.

The trains will be built in Spain by Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles (CAF) and the first of them will be in service from 2019.

Auckland Transport Chief Executive David Warburton says CAF is the Spanish company that built the 57 three-car electric units which currently operate in Auckland.

Mr Warburton says, “With 15 more trains we will be able to operate six-car trains on most services on the Southern, Eastern and Western Lines. This will give passengers the confidence that they will have a comfortable trip and they won’t have to worry about not getting a seat.”

He says Auckland Transport is also planning to increase weekend frequency to every 20 minutes on the Southern, Eastern and Western Lines and weekend trains will operate every 30 minutes between Papakura and Pukekohe.

“We need to plan well in advance, we need to make sure that as more and more Aucklanders embrace trains, we have the infrastructure to give them the service they have become used to.”

Mayor Phil Goff says, “Delivering a reliable and efficient public transport system is a priority. It will help relieve congestion, which is costing our city billions of dollars in lost productivity, lower our city’s emissions profile and make Auckland a great place to live.”

Dr Levy says buying these extra trains is also a big step in getting ready for the City Rail Link. “Once the CRL is open it will allow for train frequency to increase, and for that to happen we need more trains.”

Inaki Mendizabal, CAF Area Director says the company is pleased to continue its relationship with AT. “We signed our first contract with Auckland Transport in 2011, we are proud of the on-going relationship and look forward to providing Aucklanders with 15 more great trains.”

The \$133 million contract is funded by NZ Transport Agency and Auckland Council, the contract has a provision for further trains in the future.

For more on Auckland’s electric trains: <https://at.govt.nz/>

New routes, timetables, and buses for East Auckland

A simpler, more frequent, and more connected bus network for East Auckland will begin on 10 December.

With services that are designed to connect through easy transfers to bus, train or ferry, passengers will have access to a far wider range of destinations than ever before.

Auckland Transport's Network Development Manager Anthony Cross says, "The New Network is all about increasing connectivity. For East Auckland this means three key routes will have buses arriving every 10 to 15 minutes, three local buses timed to connect with the Half Moon Bay Ferry, and increased bus-to-train connections at key interchanges, especially Panmure.

"Only a few months after we delivered the South and West New Networks, there was an increase in public transport use for both these areas. Although change is never easy, we're confident that this will benefit more people than the current network, and provide a strong alternative to cars.

"Our main message to East Aucklanders is, make sure you've planned your new journey and are prepared for day one. This is the biggest change to bus services in Auckland, ever. A settling in period is expected for the first few weeks following implementation. We encourage customers to allow more travel time than usual in the first week."

With new routes, new route numbers, new timetables, and new buses, AT will be supporting customers through this significant change.

Full details about the new services, including a new timetable, are being mailed to every East Auckland resident next week.

"You can also use our website, come along to an information event, or ask any one of our Ambassadors out on the street in the first week of implementation. A Chinese version of the brochure is available online and is being distributed to key community groups. We want everyone to receive the support they need," says Mr Cross.

AT's online journey planner (AT.govt.nz/journeyplanner) will be updated with the new services from 17 November. Customers simply need to enter a travel date after 10 December to plan their new trip. After the launch of the New Network, passengers can track their bus or train in real time with the AT Mobile app.

Full details about the new services are available online at AT.govt.nz/newnetworkeast. Some of the highlights include:

- Three new frequent bus routes**, all day, every day:
- every 10 minutes from Botany to the City Centre (70)
 - every 15 minutes from Howick to Panmure (72C, 72M)
 - every 15 minutes from Botany to Manukau (35)

Improved local buses to Half Moon Bay, which are timed to meet with the ferry timetable.

New bus connections to local destinations:

- New services to connect Union Rd, Bradbury Rd, Cascades Rd and Reeves Rd to Panmure (711)
- A new service to connect Otahuhu with Highbrook and Botany (351)
- Improved bus services to Ormiston Town Centre and surrounding suburbs (35, 355)

More direct bus routes for Bucklands Beach, to Panmure (712) and Botany (733), and better connections to Half Moon Bay (714)

A new service for Beachlands and Maraetai, with buses running hourly, 7 days a week.

Changes to Auckland Transport school bus services are also planned, and come into effect from Term 1, 2018. Detailed information is being provided to each school before the end of the 2017 school year.

Mr Cross says, “The new East Auckland bus network was created with the help of hundreds of residents through the 2015 public consultation, but the final decisions were based on many factors. Our aim is to deliver the most beneficial outcome for the widest number of people, with the resources available.”

Public information events:

Date	Time	Event	Address
Sat 18 Nov	08:00 – 12:30	Howick Village Market	Picton St, Howick
Tue 21 Nov	12:00 – 18:30	Panmure Interchange	Panmure Train Station
Wed 22 Nov	12:00 – 18:30	Botany Town Centre	AT Customer Service Centre, Town Centre Dr (near bus stops)
Sat 25 Nov	17:30 – 00:00	Pakuranga Night Market	Pakuranga Shopping Centre, Reeves Rd (under The Warehouse)
Tue 28 Nov	06:30 – 12:00	Botany Town Centre	AT Customer Service Centre, Town Centre Dr (near bus stops)
Wed 29 Nov	06:30 – 12:00	Panmure Interchange	Ellerslie Panmure Highway
Thur 30 Nov	06:30 – 12:00	City Centre	50 Customs St East (bus stop for Eastern services)
Sat 2 Dec	08:00 – 12:00	Beachlands & Maraetai	Pine Harbour Fresh Market, 190 Jack Lachlan Dr
Sat 2 Dec	14:00 – 17:00	Beachlands & Maraetai	Pohutukawa Coast Shopping Centre (Countdown), 129 Beachlands Rd
Tue 5 Dec	12:00 – 18:30	Howick Information Centre	Picton St, Howick
Wed 6 Dec	12:00 – 18:30	City Centre	50 Customs St East (bus stop for Eastern services)

