

Hon Phil Twyford
Minister for Transport, Minister for Housing and Urban Development
By email: Phil.Twyford@parliament.govt.nz

CC: Planning Committee members

14 December 2018

Dear Hon ^{Phil} Phil Twyford,

RE: AUCKLAND COUNCIL ELECTED MEMBER ENGAGEMENT WITH CITY CENTRE TO MĀNGERE LIGHT RAIL PROJECT

At the 27 November 2018 meeting of my Planning Committee, councillors received a staff update report on the 'City Centre to Mangere Light Rail' project. Presenting staff were limited in the information that they could provide, given the current stage of the project and the fact that the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) Board had not considered the business case at the time of the Planning Committee meeting.

The resolutions of the committee were as follows:

That the Planning Committee:

- a) *note that the New Zealand Transport Agency has been confirmed as the lead delivery agency for the City Centre to Māngere Light Rail project.*
- b) *support Auckland Council's ongoing involvement in the project, including strategic input, urban planning, streetscape design, regulatory advice, and supporting engagement with relevant local boards and ward councillors, mana whenua/mataawaka and the community.*
- c) *request regular updates during the project development, either via reports, workshops or memos.*
- d) *communicate to the Minister of Transport that Auckland Council elected members expect to have early and meaningful engagement with relevant Ministers on the City Centre to Māngere Light Rail project, given the impact and disruption it will have on Auckland and its communities.*

[Resolution number PLA/2018/132]

For the full report, see item 14 at:

http://infocouncil.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/Open/2018/11/PLA_20181127_AGN_6740_AT_WE_B.htm

Through the resolutions above, you can see that councillors are very supportive of staff involvement in the project, whether that be at a technical or governance level. However, it was clear from the feedback from councillors and local boards, the elected representatives of Auckland Council are seeking deeper engagement and information sharing from central government, NZTA and the relevant government agencies.

Through the Auckland Transport Alignment Project (ATAP), the Crown and council worked in partnership to identify and fund Auckland's future transport needs. In the 2018 ATAP refresh, the City Centre to Māngere was identified for completion within the first decade and the Crown has made provision for \$1.8 billion of seed funding.

The project is not just about transport outcomes – it has significant implications for land use and communities and will fundamentally change the nature of the areas along the route. Due to the transformative nature of the project, it is vital that ministers and elected members from Auckland Council have meaningful and regular engagement, as it is local communities that will be directly affected, both positively and negatively. As people working most closely with the communities that are going to be affected, Auckland Council staff and elected representatives are best placed to advise on strategies for community engagement.

I would welcome the opportunity to work with you on an engagement plan in the New Year. As an initial thought, we could agree to regular workshops over the coming years, coinciding with your availability in Auckland, and key project milestones/decisions.

I look forward to hearing from you in the New Year, and wish you a restful summer break.

My best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris". The signature is stylized with a long horizontal line underneath the name.

Chris Darby

Chair | Planning Committee

Councillor | North Shore ward

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