



14 FEB 2019

Hon Phil Goff
Mayor
Auckland Council

Dr Lester Levy
Chair
Auckland Transport

Dear Phil and Lester

I am writing to you to update you on the Government's Transport work programme, and to reply to the letter of 1 February 2019 I received regarding increasing public transport patronage via mode shift.

Encouraging mode shift from private vehicles to walking, cycling and public transport is a key Government transport priority. Mode shift contributes to critical outcomes, including:

- a more efficient transport system that requires fewer vehicles and less space in urban areas
- improved travel choices, to reduce costs, better meet travel needs, increase resilience to disruption, as well as reduce social inequality and isolation
- reduced negative impacts on public health and the environment (including reduced greenhouse gas emissions)
- vibrant and liveable urban environments.

Auckland Mode Shift Programme

Over recent months, the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) has begun work on developing a mode shift strategy. A key part of this work is to develop and agree a more detailed programme of initiatives to accelerate mode shift in Auckland.

A wide variety of factors influence mode shift, including both transport and land-use decisions. This means it will be important for Auckland Council, Auckland Transport and the NZTA to work together closely in developing this programme. To ensure collective decision making, the programme could be reported to the ATAP Governance Group, and to the Minister of Transport and the Mayor of Auckland as the ATAP political sponsors.

To progress this work, I would like to arrange a workshop between Auckland Council, Auckland Transport, the NZTA and the Ministry of Transport (both senior officials and political/board representatives) towards the end of March this year. The intention of this workshop would be to discuss an initial version of the Auckland mode shift programme and provide feedback to inform its finalisation by the middle of the year.

Finally, I am also aware that the NZTA is reviewing the existing nationwide farebox recovery policy, with the intention of aligning the policy more closely with regional processes for developing regional public transport plans, including regional fare policies as per the 2013 changes to Land Transport Management Act, which set out the requirements for regional public transport plans.

I have asked the NZTA to begin preparations for a workshop, and I look forward to working with you to accelerate mode shift in Auckland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the letters 'Ph' followed by a long horizontal line and a vertical stroke at the end.

Hon Phil Twyford
Minister of Transport

Copy to: Cr Chris Darby
Chair, Planning Committee

Cr Richard Hills
Deputy Chair, Planning Committee