

Date: Tuesday 17 March 2020
Time: 2.00pm
Meeting Room: Devonport-Takapuna Local Board boardroom
Venue: Ground Floor Promenade
1 The Strand
Takapuna

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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To: Devonport-Takapuna Local Board
Date: 17 March 2020
In reference to Agenda Item 12 – Auckland Transport

Bus services to Sunnynook – Items 8 to 14 in the report

At the time the new bus network on the North Shore was being planned I submitted on the need to have buses using the platforms on Sunnynook Road to connect with the busway services. As a result we have a bus service, the 907, which uses the stops. The AT report says this service exceeded targeted expectations during all of 2019.

The AT report (Item 12) says that having the 843 bus go to the Sunnynook bus station and turn around at the Link Drive roundabout is not an option they would consider. I am recommending a better option involving the 843 and 906 bus routes so that both service Sunnynook Station in addition to the 907.

At present the 843 stops at the Sunnynook shopping centre 550m from the bus station and the 906 in Totaravale Drive 200m from the southern platform.

A simple swap of the routes for the 843 and 906 between Sunnynook/Totara Vale and Constellation station would mean all three services pass through platforms C and D of Sunnynook bus station.

Changes:

1. 843 go past Sunnynook Station and take over the route of the 906 through Totara Vale to Constellation
2. 906 go past Sunnynook Station and take the route of the 843 up Sycamore/Juniper to Constellation
3. 907 maintain its present route from Campbells Bay to Sunnynook Station, Target Road, Unsworth Heights to Constellation.
4. The rest of the routes for the 843 and 906 would be unchanged and the timetables could remain the same.

Advantages:

- three feeder buses passing through Sunnynook station platforms C and D on Sunnynook Road. (presently only 907)
- direct access to the station for people from Totara Vale instead of 200m walk from Totaravale Drive
- direct access for people from Sunnynook (Sycamore area etc) instead of 550m walk from by supermarket
- service from Sunnynook Station to Link Drive / upper Wairau commercial and shopping area (using 906)
- people from Totara Vale will have bus to Sunnynook Shopping Centre and Wairau Intermediate School (using 843)

Sunnynook Bus Station Improvements

As you know the Sunnynook bus station has proved to be very successful despite having minimal infrastructure. It is the only bus station surrounded by residential area. The annual usage is above most of the railway stations in Auckland and ranks ahead of Akoranga bus station despite the latter having extensive facilities. As a result of this success there are a number of urgent infrastructure improvements required for the bus station.

I submitted to Auckland Transport on their proposals for traffic safety measures on Sunnynook Road, which include a signalised pedestrian crossing by the bus station. I supported all their recommendations and hope that the safety measures will be implemented this year. I also added in the submission about the narrowness of the footpath on the Sunnynook overbridge and the need for a fence/guardrail along the pavement edge on the northern side to prevent pedestrians falling into the road when exiting the northern platform, or crossing elsewhere than the signalised crossing.

The bus station is not user friendly in terms of access to/from the Sunnynook Road overbridge and especially exiting from the northern platform. The stairs are steep and there is no cover meaning patrons get wet in inclement weather and the stairs become very slippery. An immediate measure would be to put a cover over the stairs as has been done at railway stations in the city such as at Ellerslie on the Southern line. This should be achievable before the coming winter.

Medium term solution is to have a lift from the northern platform to road level and a widened path across the Sunnynook bridge towards the southern platform. This is needed now but I realise planning, design and funding take time. My recommendation to you is that this be included in the priorities of the Board for the next three years. At this time the steps down from north of the bridge to the southern facing platform need improvement. They are designed for giants!

You may also be aware that with the continued increase in use of the busway and more buses at rush hours there is often an overspill of buses trying to stop at the platform. There are four different routes on the busway and the busway platforms can only safely handle two buses at once. Hence there is also a priority to have the platforms extended.

Patrick O'Rourke
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Sunnynook
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17/03/2020



Report Name: Board Member Dep. Chair George Wood

Report Period: From 19/Feb/2020 – To 10/Mar/2020

1. **Auckland Council's Local Alcohol Policy:** The Auckland High Court (HC) has now advised that this policy is defective in relation to the fundamental points and it has now been sent back to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority (ARLA). This is obviously a major disappointment and further time is going to be required to get the policy implemented.

The HC decision can be found at: <http://www.nzlii.org/nz/cases/NZHC/2020/293.html>

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17 March 2020



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