

#### 20 February 2023

Mark Lambert
Acting CEO
Auckland Transport General
Private Bag 92250
Auckland 1142

#### Dear Mark,

We are the principals of the six major schools along the route of Auckland Transport's inner west street improvements: Newton Central School, Grey Lynn School, Westmere School, Western Springs College, Pasadena Intermediate School and Point Chevalier School.

We have all written separately and are now writing as a group to record our schools' strong support for the projects, and our concern at recent reports that Auckland Transport might seek to pause or descope parts of the projects.

We are calling for Auckland Transport to proceed with the full set of Inner West projects in full, so that our tamariki and their whānau can travel safely to and from school. Across the whole route, our children face busy and dangerous roads. We welcome Auckland Transport's designs, which will provide a safe, connected network of accessible walking and cycling facilities.

We have been consulted, taken part in focus groups and taken time from our schedules since 2016 not out of obligation and duty, but out of a deep commitment to better outcomes for our children, schools and communities. It is incredibly frustrating that we are still in this position.

These projects have been planned for seven years or more. Many children have started and finished at our schools during the time they have been delayed, and it is only a matter of time before we see tragic outcomes for our students.

We ask that you urgently move forward with the projects. It matters to our kids and our communities. As schools we connect and collaborate through te Kāhui Ako o Waitematā which focusses on a seamless learning pathway for our ākonga – it would be great to have a safe physical connection.

Ngā mihi

Stephen Lethbridge

Principal Point Chevalier School | Rangi-mata-rau Co-Lead Principal Te Kāhui Ako o Waitematā

Immediate Past President Auckland Primary Principals' Association



20 February 2023

Interim Auckland Transport CEO Mark Lambert and Acting Auckland Transport Board Chair Wayne Donnelly

cc: Mayor Wayne Brown and others

Tēnā kōrua,

### 38 organisations call for Auckland Transport to urgently deliver the inner west street improvements.

Bike Auckland is one of 38 organisations who are today issuing a public call for Auckland Transport to urgently deliver the long overdue inner west street improvements, being the Great North Road improvements, the Waitematā Safer Routes (also known as the Grey Lynn and Westmere improvements), and the Point Chevalier to Westmere improvements.

Bike Auckland previously wrote to Auckland Transport on 18 November 2022 expressing our strongest support for Auckland Transport to continue with the projects as planned. We are aware that many other organisations and individuals have also written, and that the correspondence has overwhelmingly supported the projects.

#### The organisations joining today's call include (among others):

All six major schools along the routes, being Newton Central School, Grey Lynn School, Westmere School, Western Springs College, Pasadena Intermediate School and Point Chevalier School, who last year had a combined roll of over 3,700 students;

The Grey Lynn Residents Association, the Auckland City Centre Residents' Group and several community groups in the project areas;

The Ponsonby Business Association and the Karangahape Road Business Association, who together represent over 1,000 businesses and property owners;

The Auckland Regional Public Health Service, OraTaiao: the NZ Climate & Health Council and Sport Waitākere; and

A range of advocacy groups, including the Campaign for Better Transport, Living Streets Aotearoa, Brake Aotearoa New Zealand, Generation Zero, the Coalition for More Homes and Bike Auckland.



The Mayor's letter of expectation directs Auckland Transport to "deeply understand and respond to what matters most to Aucklanders in transport". The message from the community has been loud and clear: **the inner west projects have unprecedented community support.** The projects have been delayed far too long, and they must now be urgently delivered. If Auckland Transport does not proceed, it will be acting contrary to the wishes of the community.

We are alarmed at Auckland Transport's recent suggestion that it is now seeking to pause or descope the Waitematā Safer Routes project. The inner west projects form a connected network, and the **Waitematā Safer Routes are a vital link** between the adjoining projects. Dropping the middle project would mean network benefits were lost, and the schools and communities of the inner west would be left disconnected.

The projects are shovel-ready with significant but time-limited co-funding, and there is no good reason for any of them not to proceed. Delaying or descoping them would be utterly irresponsible in the face of overwhelming community support, Auckland Transport's responsibility to reduce transport emissions and improve road safety, and the extraordinary delays the projects have already faced. If Auckland Transport wishes to confirm government co-funding for the Waitematā Safer Routes, it must do so urgently. It cannot exploit its own failure to seek co-funding as an excuse for non-delivery.

We look forward to your urgent confirmation that construction of all three projects will proceed as planned.

Yours sincerely

Tony Mitchell

Chairperson

Bike Auckland



Here is the full list of organisations represented on the attached visual calling for the inner west street improvements to be urgently delivered:

(in addition to the many letters of support Auckland Transport has received from individuals)

Newton Central School – <u>newton.school.nz</u>

Grey Lynn School – <u>greylynn.school.nz</u>

Westmere School – <u>westmere.school.nz</u>

Western Springs College – <u>westernsprings.school.nz</u>

Pasadena Intermediate School – pasadena.school.nz

Point Chevalier School – <a href="ptchev.school.nz">ptchev.school.nz</a>

Ponsonby Business Association – <u>iloveponsonby.co.nz/ponsonby-business-association</u>

Karangahape Road Business Association – <u>karangahaperoad.com</u>

Grey Lynn Residents Association – <u>greylynnresidents.org.nz</u>

Auckland City Centre Residents' Group - ccrg.org.nz

Auckland Regional Public Health Service – <a href="mailto:arphs.health.nz">arphs.health.nz</a>

Sport Waitākere – <u>sportwaitakere.co.nz</u>

Ora Taio: the NZ Climate & Health Council – orataiao.org.nz

Living Streets Aotearoa – <u>livingstreets.org.nz</u>

Campaign for Better Transport – <u>bettertransport.org.nz</u>

Brake Aotearoa New Zealand – brake.org.nz

NZ School Speeds – <u>facebook.com/nzschoolspeeds</u>

Grey Lynn Farmers Market – <u>greylynnfarmersmarket.co.nz</u>

Cohaus - cohaus.nz

Grey Lynn 2030 – greylynn2030.co.nz

Transition Town Point Chevalier - transitiontowns.nz

Bike Grey Lynn – facebook.com/bikegreylynn



Bike Pt Chev - bikeptchev.nz

Cycling Without Age Point Chevalier – <u>facebook.com/cwaptchev</u>

New Zealand Centre for Sustainable Cities – <u>sustainablecities.org.nz</u>

Coalition for More Homes – morehomes.nz

Generation Zero – generationzero.org

Greater Auckland – <u>greaterauckland.org.nz</u>

Women in Urbanism Aotearoa – womeninurban.org.nz

Movement – <u>movement.org.nz</u>

Bike Auckland – bikeauckland.org.nz

All Aboard Aotearoa - allaboard.nz

1Point5 Project – <u>1point5.org.nz</u>

Greenpeace Aotearoa – greenpeace.org/aotearoa

350 Aotearoa – <u>350.org.nz</u>

Citizens' Climate Lobby NZ – <u>citizensclimatelobby.nz</u>

Students of Urban Planning and Architecture – <u>facebook.com/supa.uoa</u>

Big Street Bikers - bigstreetbikers.co.nz

#### This letter has been copied to:

Auckland Council CEO Jim Stabback, Auckland Councillors Mike Lee, Christine Fletcher and Julie Fairey, Cr John Watson Chair Transport and Infrastructure Committee, Chair of Albert-Eden Local Board Margi Watson, Chair of Waitematā Local Board Genevieve Sage, Waitematā Local Board members and Albert-Eden Local Board members, Cr Richard Hills, Chair, Planning, Environment and Parks Committee, Deputy Mayor Desley Simpson.

# We call on Auckland Transport to **urgently deliver the Inner West Street improvement projects,** and then keep going.

Because **all Aucklanders** should be free to safely walk, bike or bus.



















@NZSCHOOLSPEEDS





















Campaign For Better Transport





































#### Letters received since Oct 22

Supportive	Kia ora Grey Lynn Advocates and supporters of safe solutions for our neighbourhood!! would like to share our school's support for the planned future street impr CAS-654627-L4F1W5	Alicia Whata	Grey Lynn School	24/11/2022
Supportive	As a 73 year old living in Pt Chevalier I have appreciated the development of active transport infrastructure in the city. I use an e-bike as my main form of transporCAS-656048-R9H8P3 and CAS-657426-	l Alison Burt		28/11/2022
Non - Supportiv	Many of us who work in great north road, could not be more pleased. This street functions as a made conduit from the western suburbs to the central city. We w CAS-673916-B1Y2K7	Andre Moffat		16/01/2023
Supportive	Kia ora, please find attached a letter from me regarding questions I have as a result of the two public inputs at the Transport and Infrastructure Committee last w CAS-661333-Z7V5V3	Angela Dalton	Councillor	8/12/2022
Supportive	There are two schools in Grey Lynn (Auckland) that I drive past almost everyday and have done so for many years. The vast differences between the road safety n CAS-PR8G6-B753K4	Anonymous Anonymous		2/10/2022
Supportive	PDF letter attached - Cohaus letter to the mayor CAS-652322-S8Q3Z9	Auckland Transport	Cohaus	21/11/2022
Supportive	I am very concerned to hear that there are moves to 'pause' the proposed upgrades of cycle and bus routes on Upper Symonds St and New North Rd and on Gre: CAS-667706-T7K6P4	Avril Bell		23/12/2022
Supportive	Our family are keen cyclists and we make regular use of the fabulous northwestern cycle highway including for travelling to work in Britomart, preschool in Grey I CAS-653624-P8G9R8	Bella Waugh		23/11/2022
	Great North Road Improvements et another joke AT are playing on the people of Auckland This is NOT an "improvement" as you claim, but a very expensive fail CAS-672796-V0Q7T2	Bill Woodman		12/01/2023
Supportive	On behalf of the residents and businesses of Grey Lynn, the users of Great North Road, and as the Grey Lynn Residents Association Inc. committee members resp CAS-645796-WSY978	Brandon Wilcox	Grey Lynn Residents Association Inc.	8/11/2022
Supportive	Dear Wayne and Mark, do hope this email gets to you and isn't filtered out by you EA's. I have lived in Grey Lynn since 1996 and seen a huge change in traffic den: CAS-563710-ZBM608	Bruce Jarvis	Parada Annaha Wasta Gallaga Callaga	23/11/2022
Supportive	Thank you for contacting me. I share your concerns regarding safety and this apparent delay to a crucial project that is well progressed. It is already a funded pro CAS-658060-80L7Z3	Carol Gunn	Board Member Western Springs College	1/12/2022
Supportive	Surrey Crescent / Grey Lynn School WorksThank you for your response, However you clearly haven't looked at the history. I suggest you look at past corresponde CAS-674117-V3L126 Tënā koe Mayor Brown, We're sure you agree that everyone, especially our young people, should have the freedom to travel independently across their communi CAS-667481-28L0Y7	Catherine Townsend Chloe Swarbrick and Julie Ann Genter	Members of Parliament	16/01/2023 22/12/2022
Supportive Supportive	Hello, We would like to herewith vocalise our support for the three inner West Street Improvement projects - Grey Lynn and Westmere, Pt Chev to Westmere and CAS-655934-Y8Y8K1	Colinda Rowe	Wembers of Famament	28/11/2022
	Kia ora koutoujust a quick note to let you know that the Grey Lynn Residents Association (GLRA) supports the completion of the Point Chevalier to Westmere, at CAS-662880-B3H852	Dan Salmon	Grey Lynn Residents Association	12/12/2022
Supportive	I am a seventy year old Point Chevalier resident who cycles as much as possible around Auckland on my e-bike. I am very grateful for the bike paths that are avail CAS-657449-T1X8D9	Diana Greig	Grey Eym Nesidents Association	30/11/2022
Supportive	Dear Mayor Brown, Attached is a letter which seeks clarity from the Mayor's Office and Auckland Transport in regard to planned cycleways and other transport in CAS-652229-W8H9W8	David Hall	Cohaus community	21/11/2022
	Tena koe, Ora Taiao: NZ Climate and Health Council would like to express our concerns about ongoing delays in successfully developing a safe cycling network in A CAS-667695-Y6L8L5 and CAS-672581-		NZ Climate and Health Council	23/12/2022
	Kia ora Mayor Wayne Brown, Congratulations on the results of our election last year! Welcome to office, and I hope 2023 has been off to a marvelous start for y. CAS-678292-P8V0V4	Fiáin d'Leafy	Bike Auckland	26/01/2023
Supportive	I continue to totally advocate for cycling around our city and cannot believe the huge step backwards in pulling the plug on these projects. This is stetting our city CAS-655939-L7R1M9	Fiona Turner		28/11/2022
Supportive	Please receive our attached letter in relation to these important projects. With kind regards Nga mihi nui Tony Mitchell and Gabriel Gati CAS-652531-W5M5C4	Gabriel Gati	Bike Auckland	21/11/2022
Support in Part	Great North Road ImprovementsHi there,Thank you for this email. May I please request some further things to consider: • We are a small female operated busine CAS-672887-TOQOW1	Grace Tauber		12/01/2023
Supportive	Project Point Chevalier CyclewayKia ora Sandy, I have a customer here who has a concern about the cycleway as follows: I have asked several times to be put in t CAS-650744-T25612	Graeme Dennis Easte		17/11/2022
Supportive	On behalf of the Grey Lynn Farmers Market Committee, please see the attached letter. CAS-656959-N7V1S8	Melinda Pilbrow	Grey Lynn Farmers Market Committee	29/11/2022
Supportive	My name is Haydn Marks, I am the property owner of house 1-254 Meola Road. I am writing due to the plans of putting a pedestrian crossing with lights across th CAS-641709-L2N8V8	Haydn Marks		31/10/2022
Supportive	Kia ora kõrua Mark and Waynel am a resident of Grey Lynn. I live on Great North Road, where cycling improvements are proposed. I am a keen cyclist, as are my CAS-655925-M4W1B8	Heather Waugh		28/11/2022
Support in Part	The chatter about Great North Road Will GNR become the long anticipated Boulevard the Community led vision sort or another super highway for public trans CAS-654409-W4T9K9	Irene King		24/11/2022
Supportive	Dear Mark and AdrianI have been in touch with my ward councillor about the inner west street improvements projects. I thought it would be sensible to pass my CAS-656238-V9D5Q2 and CAS-660880	· Jack Cundy		28/11/2022
Supportive	Dear Mark, The Karangahape Road Business Association has passed a Motion to: "Call on all parties to advance as swiftly as possible to connect Karangahape Rd (CAS-664966-P6W5L6	Jamey Holloway	The Karangahape Road Business Association	16/12/2022
	Hi People, I've biked from home, in Grey Lynn while being, a uni student, a worker in central city, a mum transporting kids to local school, and also a worker again i CAS-661121-W9H0C0	Jane Admore		8/12/2022
	Hi both, I implore you both to support these projects to proceed.I was chair of the Grey Lynn Business Association some years back when a few of us met with L CAS-658080-J9Z2M0	Jennifer Dean Northover		1/12/2022
Supportive	Tena Koutoul write as a member of Bike Grey Lynn, a longtime Grey Lynn resident, and as a committed cyclist and environmentalist. Bike Grey Lynn has had a cons CAS-657834-F9K5F6	John Constable	Member Bike Grey Lynn	1/12/2022
Supportive	https://at.govt.nz/projects-roadworks/grey-lynn-arch-hill-westmere-improvements/routes-1-2-surrey-crescent-to-garnet-road-richmond-road/ Local Boarc CAS-640809-Y70,3W1	Joseph McCready		28/10/2022
Supportive	am super disappointed to hear that the work on the Meola Rd cycleway has been halted. As a local cyclist with 3 family members who all cycle to school, footb CAS-656060-V7HIP5	Kathryn Edwards		28/11/2022
Supportive	Kia ora Mike, Mark and Wayne, Thank you for your reply Mike about safety and infrastructure issues on Waiheke and in the city. The Local Board on Waiheke can'CAS-660881-D458K5	Kathryn Voyles	Community Advantage (Antivist (OCD Chair	7/12/2022
Non - Supportiv	Please could the Waitemata Local Board confirm that all road works by Auckland Transport on Great North Rd from Ponsonby Rd, through Grey Lynn Shops, alor CAS-653759-W2F7X5 and CAS-667572 We're concerned with some of Auckland Transport's proposed plans. Whilst we support the overall objective to promote active and public transport, certain det CAS-656706-V7Q5H5	Lisa Prager Marco Creemers	Samson Corporation Limited	29/11/2022
Support in Part	Dear Mr Lambertl'm writing to voice my support for these street improvements. As a Westmere resident I drive, walk and cycle through these streets daily. I've s CAS-656661-F9V7T6 and CAS-657426-		Samson Corporation Limited	29/11/2022
	Dear Mr. Lambert, Re: Pt. Chevalier to Westmere Streetscape Improvements Project Plase find attached a letter from the Community Liaison Group for the above CAs-660868-B6F6D1 and CAs-672565-		Point Chevalier to Westmere Streetscape Improver	7/12/2022
Supportive	Please refer to the letter sent to AT Chair and CEO and forwarded on to the Mayor. Can we please leave this with your team.  CAS-645947-X8L6M8	Mark Johnson	Point Chevalier to Westmere Streetscape Improver	8/11/2022
	Kia oralt's very disappointing to hear that all the work we have put in as a community has been derailed. My understanding of the 'direction' from our new mayo CAS-652681-G4K7Y1	Michael Backhurst	Connected Communities Panel Member	21/11/2022
Non - Supportiv	The Council is currently trying to deal with a more than quarter of a billion dollar budget shortfall. This is a serious crisis for Auckland and its ratenavers. Accordin CAS-661126-08H820	Mike Lee	Councillor	8/12/2022
Supportive	The upgrade to Meola Road, Pt Chevalier (https://at.govt.nz/projects-roadworks/point-chevalier-to-westmere-improvements/) noted in the parking changes that CAS-PF7K3-W0V5J9	Mike Philippe		19/10/2022
Supportive	Letter from All Abbard Aotearoa Inc about Auckland Transport's proposed "change in direction" and Inner West street improvementsPlease see the attached letti CAS-673914-B2Q5V9	Nicholas Lee	All Aboard Aotearoa Inc	16/01/2023
Supportive	Hi Mark, Thanks for the AT are doing to modernise our streets for the future. Our young family of 5 have been super excited to see the Meola road works underwc CAS-657836-Q6T8Q1	Oliver Chapman		1/12/2022
Supportive	Hi there! Just emailing to remind you that people in Westmere and Mt Albert definitely want the cycle projects in central auckland to go ahead!! have grown up i CAS-655933-S0Y0B8	Oscar Ashton Sylvester Mahy		28/11/2022
Supportive	Dear Mark and Wayne, Meola road is currently unpleasant, impractical, and dangerous to use for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists alike. As someone who frequ CAS-653695-R4Y0S7	Paul Roper		23/11/2022
Supportive	I wish to highlight two issues.Firstly, we have lived in Faulder Avenue, Westmere since 2005. During this time AT have continually undertaken to provide cycle lane: CAS-645680-T3Y2L6	Robin Benson / Christina Bengtson		8/11/2022
Supportive	Dear Mark, I am writing to express my disappointment that the Great North Road cycle and pedestrian improvements have apparently been put on hold. I appreci CAS-677096-T1S3D9	Sam Whiting		23/01/2023
Non - Supportiv	However, I felt this is worth contacting you about on behalf of Giltrap Group, as we have major safety concerns about the planned works on Great North Road in CAS-646052-G1M8Q1	Shaun Summerfield	Giltrap Group Holdings Ltd	8/11/2022
	In 2016 I was involved in the consultation for the Point Chevalier Cycleway. This was due to the fact that a significant number of our students cycle and walk to s CAS-657265-ZSP7V5	Stephen Lethbridge	Pt Chev School	30/11/2022
Supportive	Good morning Mark, I recently signed a purchase agreement for an apartment in Ockham Residential's new Grey Lynn development, The Feynman, located at 339 CAS-660171-R6R6T0	Steve Newall		6/12/2022
	On behalf of Bike Grey Lynn we write to express our concerns about anysteps to pause the three street improvement projects that are neededto provide vital loc CAS-645252-H551B2	Suzanne Kendrick		7/11/2022
Non - Supportiv	l write to lodge a formal objection to 'Great North Road Improvements' outlined in the letter. I give every support to improving pedestrian and road safety, but th CAS-639470-PSP2Q6	Tom Ang		25/10/2022
	Dear decision makers, I am a concerned constituent. My concern stems from the potential delay, watering down, or cancellation of the Inner West Street Improv. CAS-661140-C3P414	Tommy de Silva		8/12/2022
	Great North Road improvements Kia ora, Thank you for your letter about GNR improvements, and the invitation to get in touch about this planned work. I'm yer CAS-672908-W3W9D3	Tony O'Brien		12/01/2023
Supportive	I am writing to you to ask when you are going to install Pedestrian Refuges at Richmond Rd, Peel St, Kingsley St intersection Grey Lynn to finish the job of the Rou CAS-642904-ZAV4W7	Valerie Cole		2/11/2022
Supportive Supportive	Dear Auckland Transport, I am a cyclist, a bus-rider, a tax payer and I chose not to have a car — because I want to, not because I can't afford it. I live in Eden Terrac CAS-654445-K1K429  Dear Mark and Wayne, I am a lawyer and a commuting cyclist. I ride to work from my house near Cox's Bay every day (including in indifferent weather). I cycle to CAS-653725-H1G7S8	Veronika Schmidt Vivienne Crawshaw		24/11/2022 23/11/2022
Supportive	Deat mark and warpine, and a lawyer and a communing system. The to work from my mobile mear Cox's bay every day introducing influence waster, in Cycle to C-20-237.25-71.2758 Point Chevalier to Westmere Street Improvement ProjectsKia oraon behalf of the Board Chair and student-elected board member att Western Springs College   N CAS-652727-8795K4	Radha Patel and Carol Gunn	Western Springs College	30/11/2022
Supportive	Just adding my voice in strong support of the Great North Road - Meola road etc roading/cycle improvements that Mike Lee has recently suggested AT pause. Pie CAS-657281-KLB9M9	Will Barnes	Trestern opnings conege	30/11/2022
Supportive	Kia ora, I am sharing here an open letter by Women in Urbanism to encourage the continuation of transport projects under the new governance. Please forward CAS-PY3M6-K9W2N9 and CAS-652586		Women in Urbanism Aotearoa	9/11/2022