



Asian Food Court here for the long haul

Food Alley at 9 Albert St is still going strong after 24 years. Based on the world famous food halls and street vendors of Singapore, Food Alley was the first food court to introduce Auckland to the many tastes and flavours of Asia under the same roof.

“18 kitchens create specialised menus representing either a county, region or signature dish,” says Manager Rose Tickner. “It would take about two months to try everything on the combined menus ranging from Thai, Malaysian, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Korean, Chinese, Thai E Sarn, Japanese, Indian, and Persian meals.”

“The tiny kitchens mean produce is purchased or delivered fresh every morning and bao, claypots, noodles, pho, dumplings and curries to deep fried ice cream and waffles are all prepared on the premises.”

Awarded ‘Best Food Hall’ and ‘Best Cheap Eats’ in Auckland by Metro many times, Food Alley includes a fully licensed bar and a handy 7 eleven outside the door for purchases on the run. Food Alley is open every day between 11am and 10pm.



Japanese
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Russian
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Simplified Chinese
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Korean
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Arabic
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CRL MOU signing seals the deal



On September 14th Auckland Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the NZ Government agreeing terms and 50% funding for the CRL project. The historic milestone clears the way for CRL to embark on a main works tendering process and provides certainty for the country's biggest public infrastructure project.

“Central Government and Auckland Council are now in clear agreement that the CRL is at the heart of dealing with the city's growth, propelling our economy and creating a future Aucklanders deserve,” said Mayor Len Brown, after putting pen to paper with Transport Minister Simon Bridges.

The MOU was signed at the Victoria St underground shaft, where later this year a tunnel-boring machine will begin operating to realign a large stormwater main. A company (City Rail Link Limited) will be established and the Government and Council will oversee the technical and operational delivery of the CRL project by Auckland Transport. KiwiRail will also have a formal role in ensuring the CRL's interoperability with the wider rail network and the services it provides, such as freight.

The Mayor said the CRL had been his number one priority and was the culmination of six years of Auckland negotiating with government.



CRL Infrastructure Sustainability Award

The City Rail Link (CRL) has been awarded a 'Leading' Infrastructure Sustainability (IS) Design rating by the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA), the highest possible achievement. The rating was awarded for the design and construction planning (with Connectus) – Albert Street tunnels and stormwater diversion. In addition, CRL's engagement and partnering with Mana Whenua to embed cultural values into an industry recognised sustainability framework has been acknowledged as a 'world first' innovation.

The CRL package achieved a rating score of 78.7, well above the 50 points required to gain an 'Excellent' rating.

"We are committed to setting the benchmark for sustainable design, construction and

operation of infrastructure in New Zealand," said CRL Project Director Chris Meale. "The sheer scale and significance of the CRL means taking a sustainable approach throughout the project lifecycle, is not an option, it just makes sense. This recognition tells us we're on the right track to achieving our sustainability goals."

Key CRL sustainability initiatives planned over the project lifetime include:

- Switching from diesel generators to grid electricity during construction
- The use of LED street-lighting for the Albert Street reinstatement
- Collaborating with the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) to promote efficient driving and to monitor machinery during construction to reduce fuel use
- Changing excavation methods to reduce diesel and water use
- Installing tree pits to collect and filter stormwater runoff.



CRL Project Director Chris Meale (right) accepts the ISCA rating award from ISCA CEO Anthony Sprigg.

Nine-storey piling giant comes to town

One of the world's biggest piling machines is positioned in lower Albert St ready for final assembly before starting work. 'Gomer', the Soilmec SR 100 was shipped to NZ from Italy and will be used to drill tunnel piles to about 20 metres deep. Gomer is 5.5m wide, 11 metres long and has a mast that is 29 metres (9 storeys) high.





Albert St Traffic Changes

Traffic on Customs Street approaching the Albert Street intersection has been reduced to one lane in each direction. Please consider using Sturdee and Quay Streets or take public transport.

Construction hoardings are being erected on Albert Street to minimize noise and maximize public safety and piling will commence in the Customs Street intersection.

Major stormwater works continue in Wyndham Street.



Britomart Station Area Works

The water fountain to the East of the Britomart Station glasshouse has been removed and construction of temporary buildings continues. Glass louvres have been removed from the southeast and northeast corners so interior art installations, feature stones and benches can be lifted out before interior construction begins. Interior bluestone walls are being removed and the kiosk is also being renovated.

Four concrete slab footprints have been poured to accommodate temporary customer services accommodation buildings and timberwork frames are being constructed.



ABOVE: Small digger being crane lifted to B1.

LEFT: Western slab reinforcing steel work & pre-nailed frame installation on northern side of site.



Outgoing Auckland Mayor Len Brown gets in the driver's seat of the giant piling machine in Albert Street during his last week in office.

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