

Newsletter

September 2019

Welcome back to the Karangahape Road Enhancements project newsletter. In this issue we'll update you on the project, talk about some of the specific changes people will see and let you in on a few things that are happening to the road's trees and artworks.

Work gets underway on Karangahape Road

Work has started on the Karangahape Road Enhancements project in two locations. On 29 July 2019, work began between Symonds Street and Upper Queen Street. Then, on 12 August, work started between Ponsonby Road and Howe Street.

The project recognises the importance of Karangahape Road to the success of the Auckland Plan 2050 and the City Centre Master Plan. As well as being an iconic location within the city, thousands of people walk along Karangahape Road every day, it is one of the busiest cycle routes in the city and an important bus route. Delivery of the Karangahape Road Enhancements project is in advance of the arrival of the City Rail Link (completion 2024) to the area.

The main benefits of the project will be:

- A safer, more appealing pedestrian environment
- More space for outdoor dining and street activities
- A safer route for people on bikes
- Improved transport choices
- Improved bus efficiency and reliability
- A greener environment
- An environment that reflects Māori cultural values



New stormwater pipes waiting for installation.

More than just a cycleway

The result of the work that is underway on Karangahape Road will be a more attractive streetscape with more plantings and better amenity, extended bus lane operating hours and a cycleway providing people with more transport choice.

During the work, while the road and footpath are open, we will be working, often with utility providers, to futureproof the work.

This will include:

- Giving utility providers the opportunity to resolve issues where they know they exist
- Digging pits for trees and raingardens
- Establishing foundations for new and better street lighting and furniture
- Reinstating and realigning kerbs

So, when you see a hole in the ground and you can't believe that it's just for a cycleway, go to [AT.govt.nz/kroad](https://at.govt.nz/kroad) to find out more.



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More trees, more plants, more pleasant

As part of the project, some changes are being made to the trees and plants on Karangahape Road.

- 41 existing trees, including Nīkau, Liquidambar and London Plane Tree, will be retained
- 11 existing Nīkau will be relocated within the project
- Nine existing trees will be removed, including exotic Magnolias, two Tītoki and one Nīkau, which is in poor condition
- 33 new native trees will be planted, including Nīkau, Pohutukawa, and two new exotic trees, London Plane Tree, will be planted at Howe Street

“The 11 Nīkau being transplanted will be removed and taken to a nursery for specialist care,” says Cory Manson, Project Landscape Architect with LandLAB.

“The Nīkau will return and be replanted in the new garden beds, located within the cycleway separators and at the top of side roads. Relocating the trees is to allow the new cycleway alignment.”

Eighteen new raingardens will include native ground plantings located alongside tree pits in the cycleway separator. These will treat storm water run-off from the street.

K ROAD'S FUTURE IN PROGRESS

LOOKING AFTER OUR TREES

With the heavy work happening as part of the streetscape enhancements we need to protect the nikau trees. Each tree will be carefully uplifted to a safe temporary home where they will be looked after.

Once the project is nearing completion the trees will be transplanted back and lifted into newly constructed planting areas.

Follow the progress at [AT.govt.nz/Kroad](https://www.at.govt.nz/Kroad)

AUCKLAND'S FUTURE IN PROGRESS

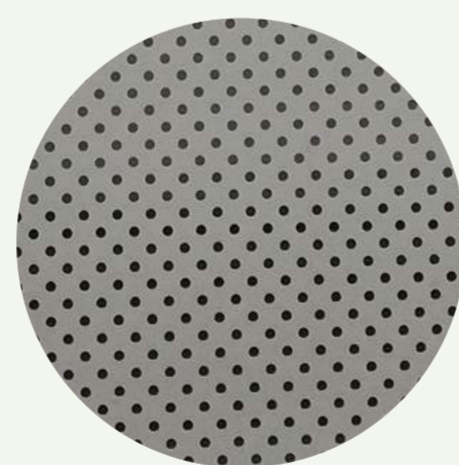
New Karangahape Road art works underpin journeys and destinations

New art works are coming as part of the Karangahape Road Enhancements project. Auckland Transport has been working with art consultant Tessa Harris and mana whenua to develop a range of art works that will reflect the ridge’s history as a place to pass through and a destination. The new art works will be focused on the motorway overbridge.

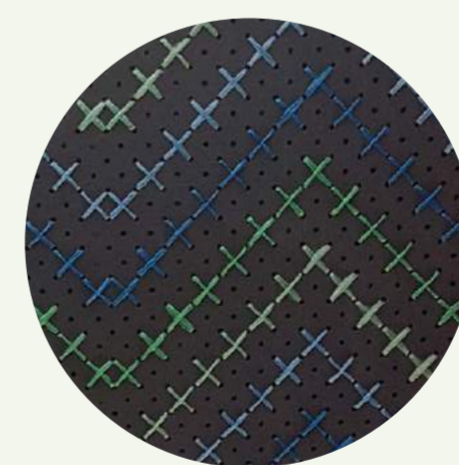
One design element will be literally woven into the bridge with steel wire turning the existing panels, into tukutuku panels. The patterns will speak to the idea of journeys along the Karangahape Road ridge.

Another element will be printed on the existing glass screen panels on the motorway overbridge: a narrative responding to the views and the significant landmarks within the landscape.

A third feature reflects the historic and cultural meaning of paua shell - giving the shelters paua colours, they will become the ‘eyes’ of the bridge, looking out over Maungawhau and the Waitematā, in the same way that traditional carvings had paua shell eyes.



Existing



Weaving



Steel wire

What’s happening with the existing art work during construction?

Existing artworks on Karangahape Road will be temporarily rehoused while the work is underway. Auckland Council’s arts team are arranging for artworks, like ‘Chaise Lange’ by Peter Lange, (right) outside Caluzzi, to be removed and stored while the work is underway. These works will be reinstalled, in consultation with the respective artists and Auckland Council’s arts team.

Works that will disappear temporarily include the art seats between Pitt and Queen streets, the two bronze Misery sculptures, one of which was on Beresford Square on Pitt Street, the other was near the entrance to the Karangahape Road food court, opposite St Kevin’s Arcade.

