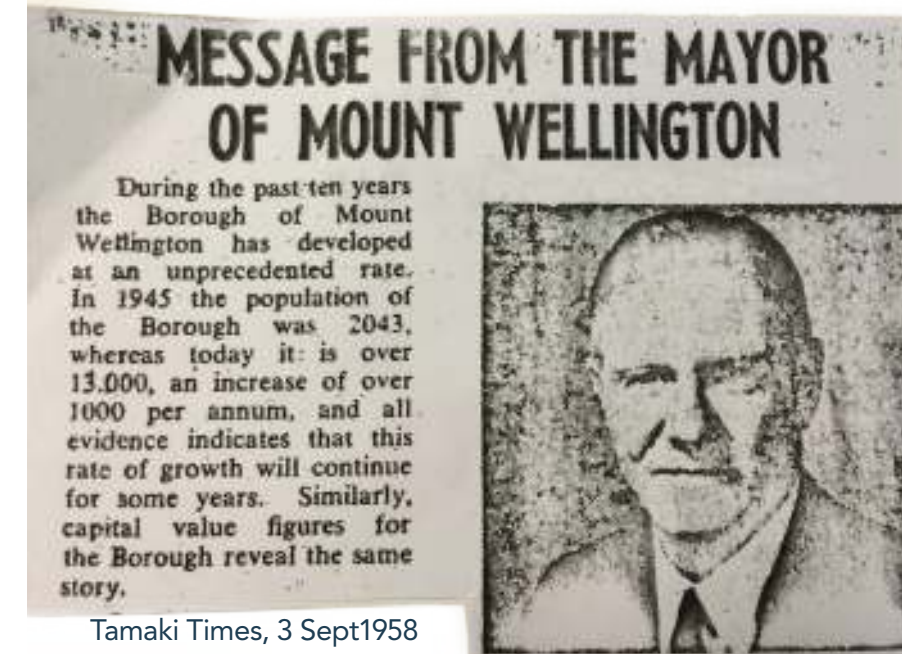


Capturing Panmure's past

As AMETI progresses and the Panmure area gets new features, we take a trip back in time via old newspaper stories which herald the area's then prosperous and thriving industry.....



Tamaki Times, 3 Sept 1958



Eastern Courier, 14 May 1975



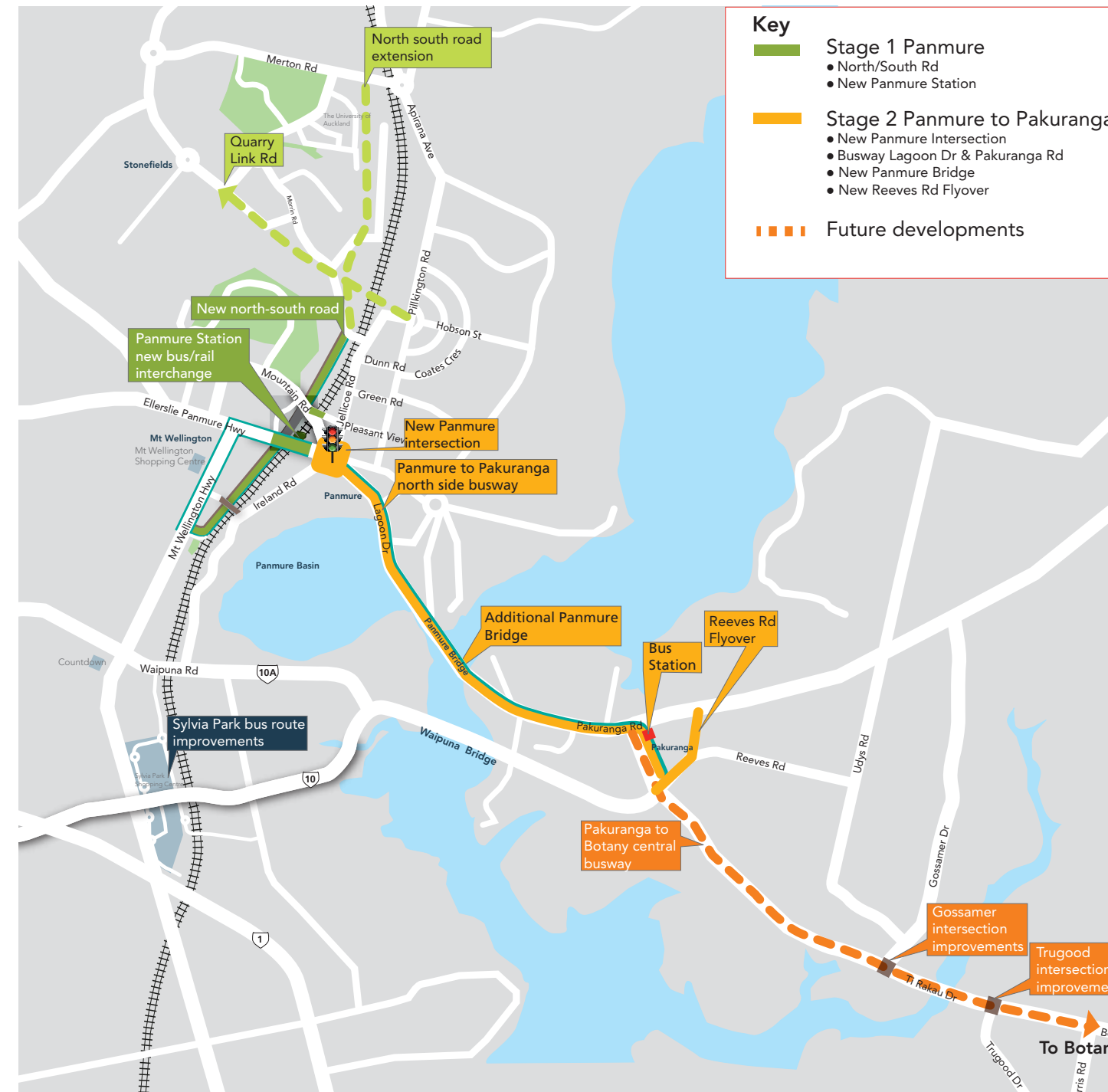
The Auckland Star, 3 Dec 1958



NZ Herald, 12 June 1959

About the AMETI transport projects

The Auckland Manukau Eastern Transport Initiative (AMETI) is a group of transport projects for the south east (Panmure, Mt Wellington, Pakuranga, Howick and Botany).



The aim is to give people in the area better transport choices by improving public transport, walking and cycling facilities and reducing traffic congestion. Other major aims are to create jobs by unlocking the economic potential of the area, improve transport for freight and business traffic and to promote good urban design.

Panmure Stage One: New road linking Mt Wellington Highway and Morrin Rd, Panmure Station upgrade, Van Damme's Lagoon improvements, walking and cycling paths, busway bridge and two bridge replacements.

Panmure to Pakuranga (Stage Two) – new intersection to replace Panmure roundabout, busway from Panmure Station to Pakuranga town centre, walking and cycle paths, Reeves Rd flyover in Pakuranga.

Other future developments: Sylvia Park bus interchange and route improvements, busway extended to Botany along the centre of Ti Rakau Dr, East-West link improvements, extension of new AMETI Rd to Merton Rd.

The NZ Transport Agency and Auckland Council are major funders of AMETI.



AMETI

Newsletter

Auckland Manukau Eastern Transport Initiative, AMETI

April 2014

Big boost for Panmure commuters as new interchange opens

Thousands of people turned out to celebrate the opening of the new Panmure Station in January, marking the completion of the biggest milestone on the first stage of AMETI.

The opening had a strong community focus with entertainment and food provided throughout the day as a way of thanking businesses and residents for their patience and support.

The \$17.5 million facility provides easy and direct transfers between rail and bus, benefitting those living and working in the area as well as those who travel through Panmure as part of their daily commute.

The new station will make life a lot easier for commuters with the walking time between buses and trains now taking less than a minute. It will be the gateway to Auckland's newest high frequency Southeastern Busway between Panmure, Pakuranga and Botany.

The busway will offer passengers faster and more reliable travel times by freeing buses from traffic congestion. The next stage will see the creation of busway lanes along Lagoon Drive and Pakuranga to a new bus station at Pakuranga town centre.

The interchange is designed for easy transfers, also enhanced by the new AT HOP card allowing people to travel seamlessly between public transport modes and operators.

Features include a new central pedestrian plaza linking both rail tracks, two lifts, escalators to both platforms and four sets of stairs at the main access points. Ticket machines have been installed on both platforms with a staffed ticket office on the ground floor.

Panmure is currently one of the busiest rail stations in the region with approximately 1700 passengers per day. It has grown rapidly since 2003 when it was used by less than 100 passengers per day.

The facility is one part of a much bigger transport picture for Auckland. It will encourage more people to use public transport, provide more travel options and manage congestion on the city's motorways and roads.



A stunning sunrise marked the dawn blessing of the new Interchange on Saturday 17 January. See more photos on page three.

Find out more: (09) 355 3553 or visit aucklandtransport.govt.nz/ameti

From the Project Director

As we move into the final stages of Stage One of Ameti, I'd like to first thank the local community, businesses and residents for their unwavering support and patience whilst we work to provide better transport infrastructure for the area.



In January when the new Panmure Interchange was officially opened, it was clear from the thousands that turned out for the event that the facility was much admired and welcomed by the people of Panmure.

The amount of positive feedback was overwhelming and it's clear that the interchange will become a vital connection in Auckland's new public transport network.

Work on Stage One of Ameti is now in its final year and I look forward to the completion of the Ameti Link Road which will further enhance the improvements already delivered providing better services for our customers.

Sincerely
Peter King
AMETI Project Director

Stay up to date

Auckland Transport is committed to keeping the community up to date on the AMETI project. We are also aiming to get the balance right between making progress and minimising the impacts.

Auckland Transport has a Stakeholder Management Specialist, Greg Horne, who is focused on working with directly affected properties and others in the area who may be impacted by the project. For any issues please contact Greg at greg.horne@aucklandtransport.govt.nz or on 09 355 3553. A monthly project update is distributed to the area around the construction.

The Auckland Transport website will also have regular updates on the project at www.aucklandtransport.govt.nz/ameti.

Panmure to Botany busway update

Further design work is getting underway for the Panmure to Pakuranga stage of the busway and Reeves Rd flyover.

The work will further develop concept plans and include consultation with the community, businesses and affected property owners.

The Panmure to Pakuranga stage of AMETI also includes upgrading Panmure roundabout to an intersection with traffic lights, a Pakuranga town centre bus station as well as walking and cycling paths.

Auckland Transport is aiming to apply for Notice of Requirements in late 2014, which will be followed by public submissions and heard by independent commissioners in 2015. The aim is to begin construction in 2016.

The busway will eventually operate between Panmure, Pakuranga and Botany town centres, with high frequency buses cutting journey times.

Community celebrations at the new interchange opening



Relocating our native eels

As part of the Van Damme's Lagoon upgrade, contractors have relocated 440 eels to a safe new home whilst desludging and other works take place.

The eels have been relocated to several freshwater streams around the Tamaki River. The eel species captured comprise both Shortfin and Longfin eels (*Te Reo: Tuna*). They are the two main species of native eels found in New Zealand.

Capturing and relocating these eels is crucial to preservation as the number of native eels has decreased in New Zealand, due to the loss of wetlands and the historical commercial fishing practice.



Above: contractors removing the eels from the nets that they are caught in. Approximately 15 eel nets were set up and baited with a range of their favourite foods including vegemite, cat food, lamb's heart and lamb's fry.

The electric fishing technique, where a current is sent through the water via the metal rod, to temporarily stun the eels so they can be captured. Once they are taken from the stream they recover after a few seconds.

Eels are able to survive in both saltwater and freshwater. They migrate upstream when they are young to find a suitable adult habitat, then after many years they migrate to the Pacific Ocean to breed and die. They have been swimming up and down New Zealand streams and rivers for the last 23 million years.

The Longfin eel is one of the largest eels in the world and is only found in New Zealand waterways. The commercial eel fishery is managed by the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) under the Quota Management System.