

Te Atatu Road Upgrade – Consultation Commencement

Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to update the Board on the commencement of public consultation for the Te Atatu Road Corridor Improvement project.

Executive Summary

Auckland Transport is currently in the process of developing the design for the Te Atatu Road Corridor Improvement project. The location outlined in the Locality Plan (Attachment 1) includes:

- *Te Atatu Road:* from SH16 motorway interchange to the Edmonton Road / Flanshaw Road intersection and;
- *Edmonton Road:* from Te Atatu Road / Flanshaw Road intersection to School Road intersection.

Now that the design is nearing its final stages, we are commencing communication with affected stakeholders. Some of the impacts will include property purchases either in part or whole. This therefore has the potential to create concern and negative media attention in the area. Funding has not yet been confirmed and while indicatively construction is scheduled for late 2013 in the AT program, this remains subject to funding. The project is strongly linked to the success of the NZTA Waterview Connection and SH16 reclamation projects, and is very likely to attract NZTA subsidy.

Background

In September 2010, the former Waitakere City Council approved its preferred option for Te Atatu Road Corridor Improvements as the basis for future design and recommended to the new Auckland Council to include funding for Te Atatu Road Corridor Improvements in its draft Annual Plan 2011/2012 and Long Term Plan 2012/2022.

AT is currently in the process of completing the design for the Te Atatu Corridor Improvement project. The project aims are:

- Integrating with NZTA's planned upgrade of the SH16 / Te Atatu Road interchange;
- Addressing safety issues along the route for all transport modes and;
- Enhancing public transport, pedestrian and regional cycleway infrastructure.

The project works will involve:

- Widening of existing roads;
- Reconfiguration of intersections (roundabout to signal conversion and existing signals upgrading);
- Accommodation of cyclists, buses and pedestrians by implementing cycle lanes, bus priority measures and wider footpaths;
- Stormwater treatment as an integral part of the projects development (including landscaping and streetscape design);

- Relocation and upgrading of services and;
- Tie-in AT's works with NZTA future upgrade of the motorway interchange.

Cost / Funding

Consultation cost is included in the current financial year.

Consultation

In June 2011, AT's project team provided a presentation and update to the Henderson-Massey Local Board on the design progress for this project during their monthly meeting. The Local Board indicated support of the proposal to commence the public consultation and land acquisition phase.

While NZTA has indicated support for this project in principle, as it compliments their SH16 interchange upgrade project, category 1 funding approval has yet to be obtained. A prerequisite of the category 1 funding by NZTA is that adequate consultation has taken place with affected parties/landowners. There will be a period of time between the consultation phase and the category 1 funding approval by NZTA.

During the period that the project is being consulted on there will be some risk of negative media. The project requires acquisition of properties (some small commercial shops) which will be signalled in the consultation.

Due to this sensitivity as we move forward into a robust consultation AT will take a strong leadership role in managing the process for those impacted as effectively as possible.

Next Steps

Consultation letters to affected landowners are due for distribution on Tuesday, 20 September 2011, which will signify the beginning of the consultation and land acquisition process.

Recommendation

That the Auckland Transport board receives this paper.

Attachment

Attachment 1: Te Atatu Road Corridor Improvement Project Locality Plan

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