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Key Themes and Responses – Intersection safety improvements at Ngapipi Road and Ngaiwi Street, Ōrakei

Theme 1: Traffic flow and congestion

Many submitters were concerned that the proposed roundabout could increase congestion, delays and queuing, particularly during peak travel periods.

Response:
Traffic modelling indicates that the roundabout is expected to operate at a similar level to the existing intersection, with only minor queuing anticipated during peak periods. The roundabout is considered the most appropriate treatment for improving safety while maintaining efficient traffic flow on Ngāpipi Road.

Theme 2: Pedestrian crossing location and safety

Submitters raised concerns about the proximity of the proposed pedestrian crossing to the roundabout and the nearby hill crest, questioning whether visibility would be adequate for both drivers and pedestrians.

Response:
In response to feedback, the pedestrian crossing has been relocated approximately 5-7 metres further north, to increase its separation from the roundabout while remaining close to the desired crossing point. The crossing will remain at road level, and the design will be subject to a road safety audit before construction.

Theme 3: Cycling safety and connectivity

Many submitters highlighted the importance of retaining safe cycling facilities, particularly the northbound cycle lane between Ngāiwi Street and Tāmaki Drive.

Response:
Following feedback and endorsement from the Ōrākei Local Board, the northbound cycle lane will be retained and made permanent. Broader cycling network and connectivity matters raised through consultation will continue to be considered through future active mode planning.

Theme 4: Safety concerns and the need for change

Several submitters commented on existing safety issues at the intersection, including restricted visibility, high vehicle speeds and the crest of the hill. Some questioned whether a roundabout was the most appropriate solution and suggested alternative treatments such as traffic signals.

Response:
The intersection has been identified as a high-risk location with a history of injury crashes. Improving safety is a key objective of the project. The roundabout is expected to reduce vehicle speeds and improve driver awareness, while additional measures such as advance warning signs, "SLOW" road markings and high-friction surfacing will support safer operation of the intersection. Alternative treatments, including traffic signals, were investigated but were not considered suitable for this location.

Theme 5: Intersection design and operation

Submitters raised a range of concerns about the detailed design and operation of the intersection. Key issues included the ability of buses, freight vehicles and oversized loads to safely navigate the roundabout,

the removal of on-street parking, the proposed traffic islands, and retaining the existing two-lane arrangement exiting Ngāiwi Street, including the left-turn lane.

Response:
Vehicle-tracking assessments informed the design to ensure buses, freight vehicles and oversized loads can safely navigate the roundabout.

Following feedback, the proposed traffic islands have been removed and two lanes exiting Ngāiwi Street, including the dedicated left-turn lane, have been retained. Approximately two on-street parking spaces on Ngāiwi Street are proposed to be removed to accommodate vehicle movements through the roundabout while minimising overall parking impacts.

Theme 10: Construction timing and coordination

Some submitters raised concerns about construction timing and the potential overlap with other projects in the area.

Response:
Construction timing will be coordinated with other planned works where possible to minimise disruption to road users, cyclists and nearby residents. A detailed construction programme has not yet been finalised.