



Alliance partners announced to progress transformational projects

Kia ora koutou,

Work to transform the way Aucklanders travel has accelerated today with the announcement of two preferred bidders to plan and design the next phases of the city's expanding rapid transit and multi modal network – Auckland Light Rail and Waitematā Harbour Connections.

Two teams have been identified to plan and design the next stages of two transformational projects.

The companies in the alliance named as the preferred bidder for the next phase of Auckland Light Rail are Aurecon and Arup. Waka Kotahi and partners Auckland Transport and Auckland Council have named an alliance of five companies: WSP, Beca, SYSTRA and Cox Architecture as its preferred bidder for the next phase of the Waitematā Harbour Connections project.

“Appointing the preferred bidders marks a big step forward to deliver two vitally important projects our city needs to sustainably grow and prosper. Together they underpin the expansion of a rapid transit system better connecting road, rail, bus, walking and cycling links,” says Auckland Light Rail Project Director Tommy Parker.

The light rail alliance will work on a final route for light rail and proposed locations of up to 18 stations. It will also develop the Corridor Business Case, look at how the system will be built and prepare the consents needed for construction.

Both projects will engage with communities throughout this year and next, to help shape final decisions. The alliances were named preferred bidders after a competitive and independent tender process, involving New Zealand and international companies.

Read the full media release [here](#).

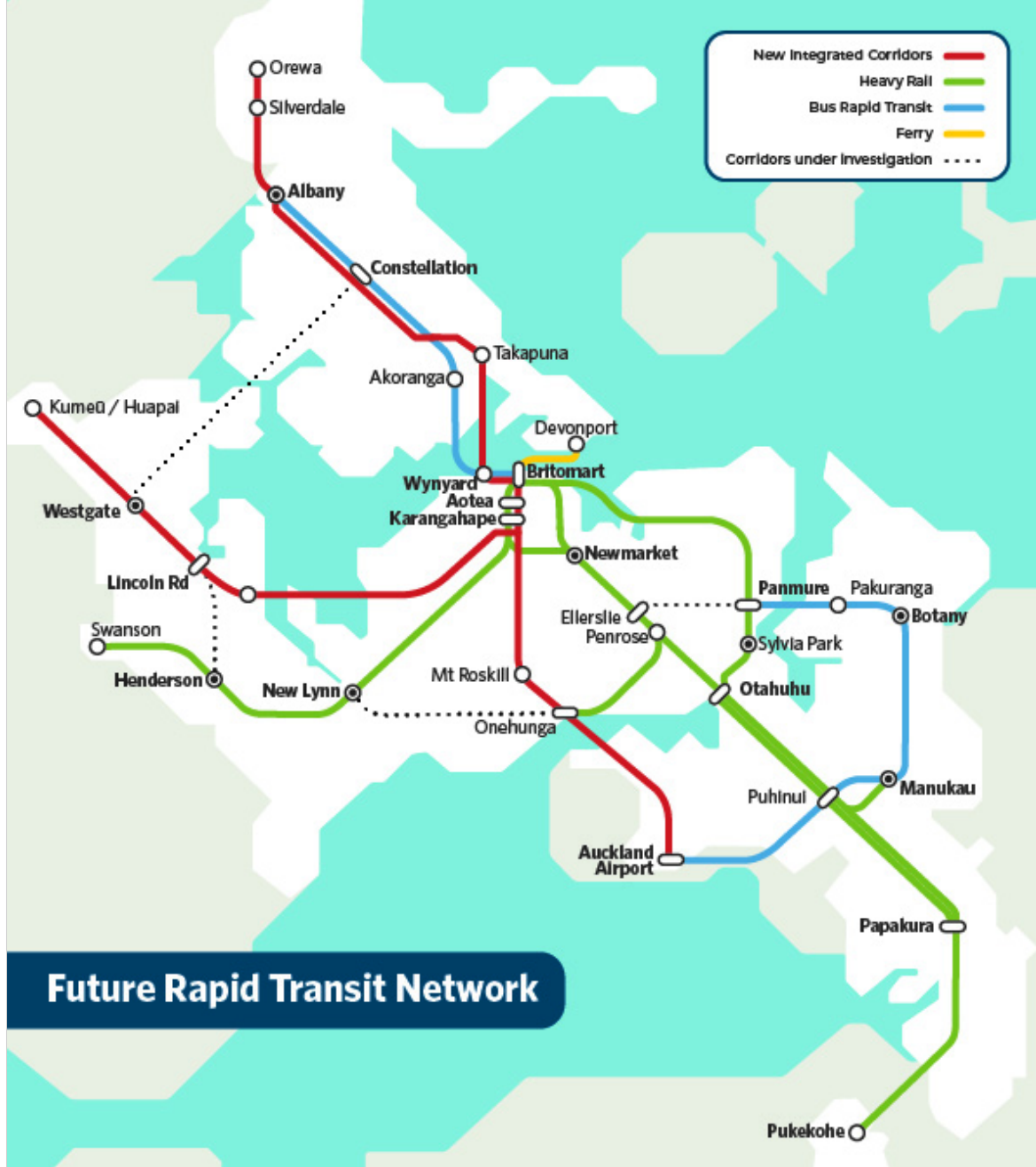


IMAGE: Future rapid transit network – Auckland, showing Auckland Light Rail and Waitematā Harbour Connections, and future rapid transit lines to the North West

Conversations with community continue

We've enjoyed speaking to locals along the City Centre to Māngere route at several community events these past couple of months. It's been interesting hearing about how people currently move around Auckland and sharing the ways that light rail can make their lives easier.

Later this year we'll be back out in communities again answering questions about light rail, talking about travel times, urban development outcomes, and much more. In the meantime, see our [website](#) for some recent highlights and for when we'll be back in a neighbourhood near you.

How light rail will change lives

"It messes with my family life and mostly I miss out."

These are the words of 20-year-old Moa-Herilla Salu, who every day spends up to three hours travelling on four different buses to get to and from home in Māngere to her university classes in Auckland's city centre.

Read her story and more about how the Government's investment in light rail from the city centre to Māngere will make it easy and faster to get to places of work and study [here](#).



IMAGE: Moa-Herilla Salu waits at her local bus stop to catch the bus from her home in Māngere to her university classes in the city centre.

Ngā mihi,

The Auckland Light Rail Team

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