

**IN THE MATTER OF** the Resource Management Act 1991 (the 'RMA')

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF** Five Notices of Requirement (NoR) for the Airport to Botany Bus Rapid Transit Project by the Supporting Growth Alliance (SGA - Auckland Transport and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency)

### **DIRECTION OF THE HEARING PANEL**

1. Pursuant to sections 34 and 34A of the RMA, Auckland Council (the Council) has appointed a Hearing Panel consisting of three independent hearing commissioners - David Wren (Chair), Alan Pattle and Basil Morrison. The Hearing Panel's function is to hear the applications and submissions and make recommendations to the Requiring Authority on the five Notices of Requirement. It is also to deal with any procedural matters.
2. The five NoR's are:

#### **NoR 1 - Bus Rapid Transit - Botany to Rongomai Park (Auckland Transport)**

NoR lodged by Auckland Transport for a new designation to widen Te Irirangi Drive between Botany and Rongomai Park to provide for a Bus Rapid Transit corridor and walking and cycling facilities.

Key features of the proposal include:

- a dedicated Bus Rapid Transit corridor, centre-running along Te Irirangi Drive
- Bus Rapid Transit stations at Smales Road, Accent Drive, and Ormiston Road – Botany Junction Shopping Centre
- walking and cycling facilities on both sides of the corridor
- swales and wetlands
- areas for construction related activities including yards, site compounds, and bridge and structure works.

#### **NoR 2 - Notice of Requirement: Rongomai Park to Puhinui Station (in the vicinity of Plunket Avenue) (Auckland Transport)**

NoR lodged by Auckland Transport for a new designation to widen a number of existing roads to provide for a Bus Rapid Transit corridor and walking and cycling facilities.

Key features of the proposal include:

- a dedicated Bus Rapid Transit corridor, centre-running for the majority of the corridor along Te Irirangi Drive, Great South Road, Ronwood Avenue, Manukau Station Road, Lambie Drive, and Puhinui Road. West-running on Davies Avenue along the edge of Hayman Park
- Bus Rapid Transit stations at Dawson Road, Diorella Drive, Ronwood Avenue, Manukau Station, and the corner of Lambie Drive and Puhinui Road Station.
- walking and cycling facilities on both sides of the corridor
- priority access for fire engine movements across the Bus Rapid Transit corridor at Papatoetoe Fire Station
- new signalised intersections at Mitre 10 and Bunnings Warehouse, Lambie Drive and Ronwood Avenue, and Puhinui Road and Plunket Avenue
- swales and wetlands
- areas for construction related activities including yards, site compounds, and bridge and structure works.

**NoR 3 - Notice of Requirement: Bus Rapid Transit – Puhinui Station (in the vicinity of Plunket Avenue) to SH20/20B Interchange (Auckland Transport)**

NoR lodged by Auckland Transport for a new designation to widen the existing Puhinui Road between Plunket Avenue and east of the SH20/SH20B Interchange to provide for a Bus Rapid Transit corridor and walking and cycling facilities.

Key features of the proposal include:

- a dedicated Bus Rapid Transit corridor, centre-running along Puhinui Road connecting to the Puhinui Station concourse via a new Bus Rapid Transit bridge structure
- a Bus Rapid Transit station at Puhinui Station
- walking and cycling facilities on both sides of the corridor
- walking and cycling facilities will be provided along Cambridge Terrace, Bridge Street and Kenderdine Road
- wetland
- areas for construction related activities including yards, site compounds, and bridge and structure works.

**NoR 4a - Notice of Requirement: Bus Rapid Transit - SH20/20B Interchange to Orrs Road (Auckland Transport)**

NoR lodged by Auckland Transport for a new designation to widen Puhinui Road between the SH20/SH20B Interchange and Orrs Road to provide for a Bus Rapid Transit corridor and walking and cycling facilities.

Key features of the proposal include:

- a dedicated Bus Rapid Transit corridor, centre-running on Puhinui Road through to the Manukau Memorial Gardens intersection (approximately 600m west of SH20/SH20B Interchange); and south running to Orrs Road

- walking and cycling facilities on southern side of the corridor
- swales
- area for construction related activities including yards, site compounds, and bridge and structure works.

**NoR 4b - Notice of Requirement: Alteration to Designation 6717 State Highway 20B – State Highway 20 to Auckland International Airport (Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency)**

NoR lodged by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to alter Designation 6717 State Highway 20B - State Highway 20 to Auckland International Airport. The alteration is from the SH20/SH20B Interchange to Manukau Memorial Gardens.

Key features of the proposal include:

- to provide westbound lanes to Auckland Airport
- walking and cycling facilities
- a ramp from SH20B onto SH20 for southbound traffic while enabling a Bus Rapid Transit corridor.

3. The NoR has been the subject of notification and submissions have been received. The hearing is scheduled to commence on Monday 21 August 2023.
4. The reason for this Direction is to establish dates for the provision of reports and/or expert evidence so that the proceedings can be conducted in an efficient and effective manner.
5. The Panel directs, under sections 41B and 41C of the RMA, the following:
  - (a) The Council officer's section 42A RMA report is to be published on Council's website by 5pm **on Friday 2 June 2023**.
  - (b) Supporting Growth Alliance, the requiring authority, is to provide expert evidence to the Hearings Advisor by **midday on Thursday, 22 June 2023** for circulation to the Panel, the submitters and the Council officers.
  - (c) Submitters are to provide expert evidence to the Hearings Advisor by **midday on Thursday, 13 July 2023** for circulation to the Panel, the requiring authority and the Council officers.
  - (d) Supporting Growth Alliance, the requiring authority, is to provide its rebuttal evidence to the Hearings Advisor by **midday on Tuesday, 1 August 2023** for circulation to the Panel, the submitters and the Council officers.
  - (e) Submitters are requested to provide lay or non-expert statements/evidence to the Hearings Advisor by **midday on Tuesday, 1 August 2023** for circulation to Panel, the requiring authority and the Council officers.

- (f) Should it be decided that expert conferencing is required, this will take place during the week commencing **Monday, 7 August 2023**.

The purpose of the conferencing is for the parties' experts to identify, discuss and potentially resolve (or not) the issues in contention between them. This may enable all parties to reduce the scope and length of the expert evidence and to focus on those matters that remain in contention.

- (g) Supporting Growth Alliance, the requiring authority, is requested to provide legal submissions to the Hearings Advisor by **midday on Wednesday, 16 August 2023** for circulation to the Panel, the submitters and the Council officers.

5. This Direction is to be circulated to all the parties to the hearing by the Hearings Advisor, Mr Donovan. That may be by email if that is most convenient.
6. Any correspondence relating to this Direction and related matters should be sent through Mr Donovan.
7. The Panel encourages the applicant to engage with submitters and with the Council to address issues of contention.
8. Any correspondence relating to this Direction and related matters should be sent to the Hearings Advisor, Mr Donovan via [bevan.donovan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:bevan.donovan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz).

Mr Donovan's contact details are [bevan.donovan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:bevan.donovan@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz) or Level 25, 135 Albert Street, Auckland or telephone 890 8056 or 021 325 837.



David Wren (Chair)  
for the Hearing Panel  
30 May 2023