

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

AND

IN THE MATTER OF Nineteen Notices of Requirement (NoRs) and one Resource Consent application for the North-West project by Te Tupu Ngātahi Supporting Growth Alliance (SGA), a partnership between Auckland Transport (AT) and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi)

DIRECTION #1 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 – Richard Blakey (Chairperson), Vaughan Smith and Mark Farnsworth. The Hearing Panel’s function is to hear the applications and submissions and make recommendations to the Requiring Authority on its 19 NoRs and hear the application and submissions and make a decision on one Resource Consent application. It is also to deal with any procedural matters.
2. The 19 NoRs and one Resource Consent application are:

l) **North-West Strategic: Projects in Whenuapai, Kumeū , Huapai and Redhills**

The North-West Strategic are six individual transport projects in Auckland located in Whenuapai, Kumeū, Huapai and Redhills. The SGA has lodged six NoRs for designations with the Council for route protection. These projects include an Alternative State Highway, an upgrade to the current State Highway 16, and a new Rapid Transit Corridor with two new Rapid Transit Stations. Access Road is also being upgraded.

(a) **NoR S1 – Alternative State Highway [Waka Kotahi]**

Notice of Requirement lodged by Waka Kotahi for a new designation, for a new dual carriageway highway and the upgrade of the Brigham Creek Interchange.

(b) **NoR S2 – State Highway 16 (SH16) Main Road (Huapai) [Waka Kotahi]**

Notice of Requirement lodged by Waka Kotahi to alter Designation 6766 to provide for the upgrade of the corridor, including provision of active mode facilities and realignment of the Station Road intersection with SH16.

(c) **NoR S3 – Rapid Transit Corridor (Kumeū) [Waka Kotahi]**

Notice of Requirement lodged by Waka Kotahi for a new designation, for a new Rapid Transit Corridor and active mode corridor.

(d) **NoR KS – Kumeū Rapid Transit Station [Waka Kotahi]**

Notice of Requirement lodged by Waka Kotahi for a new designation, for a new rapid transit station, including transport interchange facilities and accessway.

(e) **NoR HS – Huapai Rapid Transit Station [Waka Kotahi]**

Notice of Requirement lodged by Waka Kotahi for a new designation, for a new rapid transit station, including transport interchange facilities, park and ride and accessway.

(f) **NoR S4 – Access Road (Kumeū) [AT]**

Notice of Requirement lodged by AT for a new designation, for the upgrade of Access Road with separated active mode facilities.

II) **North-West Local: Projects in Whenuapai and Redhills**

The North-West Local transport projects are for eight upgrades to existing roads in Whenuapai and Redhills. The SGA has lodged six NoRs for designations with the Council for route protection which are to be constructed at a future date.

(a) **NoR W1 – Trig Road (Whenuapai) [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new designation, for the upgrade of the Trig Road corridor to an urban arterial with separated active mode facilities.

(b) **NoR W2 – Māmari Road (Whenuapai) [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new designation, for an extension and upgrade of the Māmari Road corridor to an urban arterial corridor, including the provision of bus priority lanes and separated active mode facilities.

(c) **NoR W3 – Brigham Creek (Whenuapai) [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new designation, for the upgrade of the Brigham Creek Road corridor with separated active mode facilities.

(d) **NoR W4 – Spedding Road (Whenuapai) [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new designation, for an upgrade of the existing Spedding Road corridor and new east and west extensions with separated active mode facilities.

(e) **NoR W5 – Hobsonville Road (Hobsonville) [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for an alteration of the existing Hobsonville Road designation 1437 to provide for the widening of the Hobsonville Road corridor between Oriel Avenue and Memorial Park Lane, including provision of separated active mode facilities.

(f) **NoR RE1 – Don Buck Road (Massey) [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new designation, the upgrade of Don Buck Road corridor including provision for bus priority lanes and separated active mode facilities.

(g) **NoR RE2 – Fred Taylor Drive (Massey/Whenuapai) [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for an alteration of the existing Fred Taylor Drive designation 1433 to provide for the upgrade of the Fred Taylor Drive corridor, including provision for bus priority lanes and separated active mode facilities.

(h) **NoR R1 – Coatesville – Riverhead Highway [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new designation, upgrading the southern section of the Coatesville – Riverhead Highway corridor to a rural arterial with active mode facilities, and upgrading the northern section of the corridor to an urban arterial with active mode facilities.

III) **North-West Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF): Projects in Redhills**

The North-West Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) transport projects are for roading upgrades in the Redhills area that has funding from Central Government. These projects will create new arterial roads, upgrade arterial roads, and upgrade intersections in the Redhills area.

(a) **NoR1 – Redhills North-South Arterial Transport Corridor [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new urban arterial transport corridor and upgrade of the Don Buck and Royal Road intersections.

(b) **NoR2a – Redhills East-West Arterial Transport Corridor – Dunlop Road [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new urban arterial transport corridor that intersects with Fred Taylor Drive and connects to the remaining East-West connection (NoR2c) at the intersection with the Redhills North-South arterial corridor.

(c) **NoR2b – Redhills East-West Arterial Transport Corridor – Baker Lane [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new urban arterial transport corridor that intersects with Fred Taylor Drive and connects to the intersection of the remaining East-West connection and Dunlop Road (NoR2a).

(d) **NoR2c – Redhills East-West Arterial Transport Corridor – Nixon Road Connection [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for a new urban arterial transport corridor that intersects with the Redhills East West Arterial Corridor – Dunlop Road. This includes the upgrade of the existing Redhills Road/Nelson Road/Nixon Road intersection, and the existing Nixon Road/Henwood Road intersection.

IV) **North-West HIF Trig Road Network: Trig Road Corridor Upgrade [AT]**

(a) **TRHIF (NoR) – Redhills North-South Arterial Transport Corridor [AT];** and

(b) **TRHIF (RC) – Trig Road, Whenuapai [AT]**

Notice of requirement lodged by AT for an upgrade of Trig Road, Whenuapai, to an urban arterial corridor. This includes the upgrade of the existing Hobsonville Road/Trig Road and Hobsonville Road/Luckens Road intersections.

The North-West Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) transport project is to upgrade the section of Trig Road in Whenuapai between State Highway 18 and Hobsonville Road. This will turn Trig Road into an Arterial Road and upgrade parts of Hobsonville Road, and the Luckens Road and Trig Road intersections.

This upgrade is the section of Trig Road between State Highway 16 and 18. This project involves both a Notice of Requirement for designation and a Resource Consent.

The Notice of Requirement will provide route protection and district plan effects. The Resource Consent will involve regional plan matters (e.g., earthworks and stream work consents).

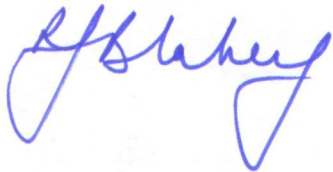
3. The NoRs and Resource Consent have been the subject of notification, and submissions for the NoRs have been received. Submissions for the Resource Consent application closed on 19 July 2023. The hearing is scheduled to commence on 18 September 2023.
4. The reason for this Direction is to establish dates for the provision of reports and/or expert evidence on the nineteen NoRs so that the proceedings can be conducted in an efficient and effective manner. The dates for the provision of reports and/or expert evidence for the resource consent will follow the RMA timelines unless otherwise specified at a later date.
5. The Panel has received a request from the Requiring Authority for expert conferencing to be carried out. The purpose of the conferencing is for the parties' experts to identify, discuss and potentially resolve (or not) the issues in contention between them. It is anticipated that expert conferencing is likely to be relatively confined and would only be necessary for topics where there is disagreement between experts following the exchange of expert evidence. Transport effects could be one example.
6. With respect to the 19 NoRs, the Panel, under sections 41B and 41C of the RMA, directs the following:
 - (a) The Council officers' section 42A RMA reports are to be published on the Council's website by **5pm on Wednesday, 12 July 2023**;
 - (b) Supporting Growth Alliance, the requiring authority, is to provide their evidence to the Hearings Advisor by **midday on Wednesday, 2 August 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 Wednesday, 23 August 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 Friday, 8 September 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 Friday, 8 September 2023** for circulation to Panel, the requiring authority and the Council officers.
 - (f) Supporting Growth Alliance, the requiring authority, is requested to provide legal submissions to the Hearings Advisor by **midday on Thursday, 14 September 2023** for circulation to the Panel, the submitters and the Council officers.

- (g) If, following the receipt of expert evidence there are matters still in disagreement between experts, expert conferencing can be carried. This will take place between **Friday, 25 August and Wednesday, 30 August 2023**. It will be up to the Requiring Authority to make arrangements for any expert conferencing and to provide a Joint Witness Statement to the Panel at the conclusion.

To enable the Requiring Authority to make expert conferencing arrangements, parties (Council and submitters) are required to provide the Hearings Advisor with the topics they wish to be the subject of expert conferencing and the names of their experts that would attend conferencing by **Friday, 4 August 2023**. Please note that it is the responsibility of the submitter to reimburse their experts for attendance at expert conferencing.

7. This Direction is to be circulated to all the parties to the hearing by the Hearings Advisor, Mr Patrice Baillargeon.
9. The Panel encourages the applicant to engage with submitters and with the Council to address issues of contention.
10. Any correspondence relating to this Direction and related matters should be sent to the Hearings Advisor, Mr Baillargeon via patrice.baillargeon@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz.

Mr Baillargeon's postal address is Private Bag 92300, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142 and he can be reached by telephone at 09 890 4692 or 027 338 5383.



Richard Blakey (Chairperson)
for the Hearing Panel

29 June 2023