

Memorandum of a Public Meeting called by the Association at 6pm 22 August 2017 at The Wharf, Northcote Point

NORTHCOTE
RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION
Box 34-0235, Birkenhead, AUCKLAND 0746



Present: Ian Bogue (Chairman), Chris Wargent (Secretary), Kevin Clarke (Executive), Hon. Jonathan Coleman (Electorate MP and Minister of Health), John Gillon (representing Kaipatiki Local Board) and 170+ members, residents and members of the public.

Apologies: Wayne Hale and Dinah Holman (Executive), Danielle Grant (KLB Chair), Trevor Thwaites, Carol and Rod Brown, Rachel and Paulette Wright

Business: Current works and planning of Auckland Transport (AT) in the northern section of Queen Street Northcote for the Northcote Safe Cycle Route.

The Chairman: welcomed everyone to the meeting and outlined purpose and proceedings. He referred specifically to the fact that previous consultation had led AT to modify some of its original planning intentions, but that aspects of the work under discussion had been concealed from the public until after the contract for the work had been let.

All previous contacts and requests from individuals, the Association and the Kaipatiki Local Board for information about left-hand Clearway lane egress from Queen Street had been answered by the assurance that left-hand lane egress would be provided. What had only recently become clear, when fuller drawings than those publicly available on AT's website were finally provided to the Association, was that the first 50-200 metres from the Rodney Road corner would not be provided.

The effect on all Northcote and Birkenhead Point residents **not** wanting to access the Auckland Harbour Bridge, but to access the rest of Northcote, the rest of the North Shore and the motorway northwards would be that they would have to add to the bridge queue until the left lane began, adding 10-20 minutes to their journeys, with the extra fuel consumption and emissions that would involve.

A related concern was that although in response to the Association's requests, a pedestrian crossing was now to take the place of the safe refuge for pedestrians to cross Queen Street between Rodney and Stafford Roads, no crossings were shown for the Queen Street ends of Vincent and Rodney Roads, which are on the main pedestrian route to all schools and which are unsafe for children to cross.

Kevin Clarke (Architect and Urban Planner): detailed the effects of the planned works as revealed in AT's detailed cross-section diagram 4a, which was also shown on screen. Kevin provided considerable detail showing that the configuration gained little advantage for cyclists but took away significant facility and benefit from a significant number of motorists.

Kevin then explained that both the cycle paths and left-hand lane could be accommodated all the way to the corner of Rodney Road, describing Copenhagen-style shared footpath/cycleway which was already planned for some other parts of the Route. He provided measurements and also existing cyclist numbers and the numbers which could arise when and if the Skypath project proceeded.

Jonathan Coleman: who lives in Queen Street and was fully aware of the problems of the present plan, assured the meeting that he would talk to Lester Levy (Chair of AT's Board) and ensure that he was fully conversant with the public concern and disadvantage arising if the planning and works are not modified. He was thanked for his interest and input.

The Chairman: Showed the meeting the proposed resolutions and called for questions and comment. Several attendees spoke or asked questions which were answered. A Birkenhead resident/cyclist/motorist presented a cyclist commuter's perspective.

The following resolutions were then put to the meeting and a petition was circulated and available:

Resolution 1:

This meeting demands that AT provide at least three x 3.5m wide traffic lanes in Queen St (two northbound, one southbound) to cover the full distance between Rodney Rd and Onewa Rd. The left northbound lane must be a Clearway during morning peak times as at present.

Carried (1 opposed, all others for)

Resolution 2:

That AT provides pedestrian crossings with centre refuges at the eastern exits of Rodney and Vincent Roads to ensure the safety of pedestrians and particularly school children.

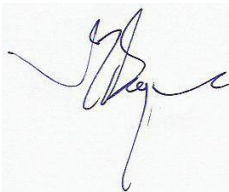
Carried (3 opposed, all others for)

Resolution 3:

That AT provide the community with its drawn proposals arising from the above, prior to committing to construction and that construction be halted until this issue is resolved.

Carried (1 opposed, all others for)

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and reminded them to sign the petition before leaving.



Ian Bogue

Chair - Northcote Residents' Association Inc.