



20 February 2023

**Mark Lambert**  
Acting CEO  
Auckland Transport General  
Private Bag 92250  
Auckland 1142

Dear Mark,

We are the principals of the six major schools along the route of Auckland Transport's inner west street improvements: Newton Central School, Grey Lynn School, Westmere School, Western Springs College, Pasadena Intermediate School and Point Chevalier School.

We have all written separately and are now writing as a group to record our schools' strong support for the projects, and our concern at recent reports that Auckland Transport might seek to pause or descope parts of the projects.

We are calling for Auckland Transport to proceed with the full set of Inner West projects in full, so that our tamariki and their whānau can travel safely to and from school. Across the whole route, our children face busy and dangerous roads. We welcome Auckland Transport's designs, which will provide a safe, connected network of accessible walking and cycling facilities.

We have been consulted, taken part in focus groups and taken time from our schedules since 2016 not out of obligation and duty, but out of a deep commitment to better outcomes for our children, schools and communities. It is incredibly frustrating that we are still in this position.

These projects have been planned for seven years or more. Many children have started and finished at our schools during the time they have been delayed, and it is only a matter of time before we see tragic outcomes for our students.

We ask that you urgently move forward with the projects. It matters to our kids and our communities. As schools we connect and collaborate through te Kāhui Ako o Waitematā which focusses on a seamless learning pathway for our ākonga – it would be great to have a safe physical connection.

Ngā mihi

**Stephen Lethbridge**  
Principal Point Chevalier School | Rangi-mata-rau  
Co-Lead Principal Te Kāhui Ako o Waitematā  
Immediate Past President Auckland Primary Principals' Association



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