

Proposed route for Light Rail in Onehunga



Earlier this year we asked for feedback on two shared heavy rail/light rail route options in Onehunga – sharing KiwiRail's corridor in North Onehunga or alongside the Southwestern Motorway (State Highway 20).

We received a significant amount of feedback and there was a strong community preference for a route following SH20 because people felt it will have the least disruption and impact on residential areas.

As well as considering community feedback, we've also been investigating ground conditions and the local environment to find the best route. A combination of all these factors means we now propose a light rail only route alongside SH20 and the edge of Onehunga Bay Lagoon. This is a shorter, more direct route reducing travel times and has less impact on local roads.

While this is our recommended option, the project's sponsors – Auckland Council, the Crown and mana whenua – will determine the final route, based on detailed assessments and recommendations.

What happens to the KiwiRail designation?



Auckland Light Rail is no longer considering a shared light rail and heavy rail route in Onehunga.

KiwiRail's plans are unaffected.

Shaping future decisions

Planning and consenting is expected to take another 2-3 years before construction starts. If this route is selected there will be lots more decisions we will need your help and feedback on, such as detailed design of the station and how it connects with the rest of the community.

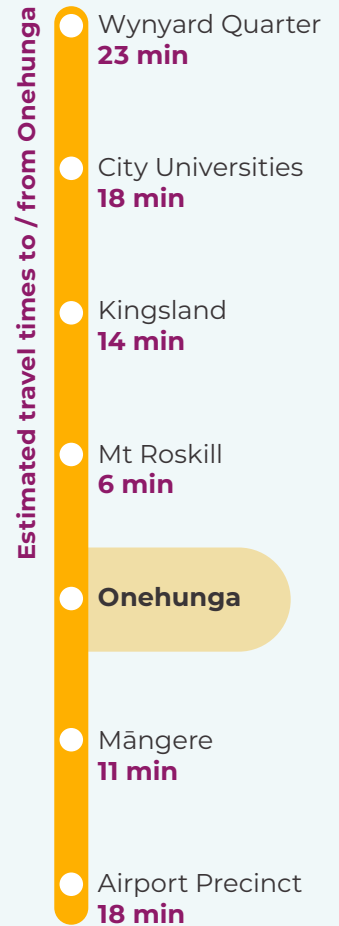




Next steps

We are progressing with design work, taking into account the local environment, minimising impact on parks, the lagoon and neighbouring properties. The design includes light rail on a long, raised bridge (viaduct).

This proposed route provides the opportunity to support greater development and new public spaces, but some properties in the commercial area are likely to be affected. Lodging for Notices of Requirement with Auckland Council to protect the land needed to build light rail is likely to be the next significant step in the project. This will happen once the project's sponsors have made decisions about the final route. ALR will notify and engage with affected property owners as soon as we are able.



ONEHUNGA route

- Runs alongside the Southwestern Motorway lanes and the edge of Onehunga Bay Lagoon
- Shorter, more direct route to get to the town centre and train station
- Close to the lagoon which is a popular and important feature
- Further design work is needed to be able to connect to the town centre
- Properties in the commercial area may be affected, but not the larger residential area
- Reduces local traffic and journey times on key roads
- Could shape and enhance the commercial area with new spaces

