



Students picture the future with light rail

Kia ora koutou,

Three Auckland schools have won a drawing competition for picturing a future on a new light rail line from the City Centre to Māngere.

The competition was run as part of the project's community engagement programme in 2021 and judges selected three winners from over 200 entries. Children were invited to draw their future neighbourhood with modern, frequent and environmentally friendly light rail to get around.

The project team has been really impressed with the creativity and the positive vision that has come through from our youth. Across the entries we saw an understanding of how light rail connects people to work, study and play within thriving urban hubs

Initially promoted through schools and at community events, the competition was extended when the country went into lockdown last August. It provided an activity at home for many children who submitted their artwork during the lockdown period.

The winning artworks are being displayed on bus shelters and buses along the City Centre to Māngere light rail route, with each of the buses seen by over 12,000 people every day.

Learn more about the competition here.

IMAGE: Minister of Transport Hon Michael Wood presented Nevaeh from Māngere Central School with a framed copy of her winning artwork and her school a \$1,000 prize towards transport costs for their part field trip.



IMAGE: Alexi from Waterlea School, Mängere Bridge with Project Director Tommy Parker and Mängere- Ōtāhuhu Local Board Chair, Tauanu'u Nanai Nick Bakulich.

Bid now open to join the light rail team

The call has gone out locally and internationally to bring together engineers, urban planners, designers and industry teams with the right skills and experience for a project of this scale.

The invitation to prepare a bid for the detailed planning and design work has been released. This will enable a new specialist team to be on board in October to develop a Corridor Business Case and design the route to progress the project by mid 2024.

For more information visit: www.gets.govt.nz

Ngā mihi,

The Auckland Light Rail Team

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