

It's time to have a heart

IN WAITAKERE CITY

It's time - for a Transport Centre



Britomart Transport Interchange

With the relocation of the Civic Centre, the Council is taking the opportunity to create a cluster of buildings designed expressly to help the Council to function better, to help the CBD to function better and to encourage public transport to undertake its full role in the future.

This is not a building nor even a building project - it is a hub around which much of Waitakere City will revolve.

Waitakere City has now developed a long track record of accurately picking future trends and setting them in motion. Among these has been our insistence that the way of the future is more compact cities with more dense populations around the town and transport centre, and a rapidly accelerating role of public transport in moving people conveniently and inexpensively.

We have followed the "build it and they will come" principle. Within a month of Britomart's opening, rail patronage had increased by 73%. Double tracking is coming perhaps by 2006 and the various players have reached a new plateau in understanding and - agreement on what should come next and who has what role.

Photos above supplied by Auckland City Council. Photographer Steve Durrant.

Now there will be a "Baby Britomart" at the other end of the line at Railside Avenue, Henderson. Not a rail station but a transport interchange with trains and buses coming together on co-ordinated timetables.

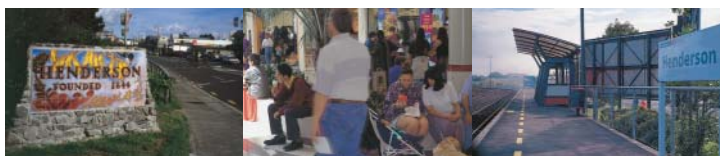
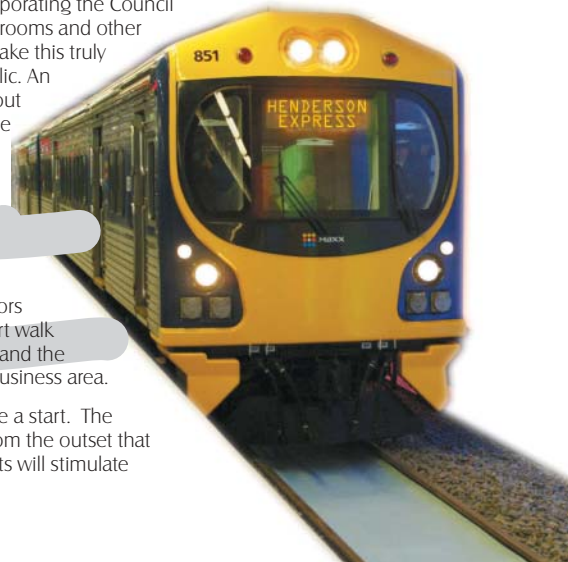
Facing this across the tracks in Henderson Valley Road, will be the new cluster of civic buildings. One will be an office block for the staff. The other will be a public facility, incorporating the Council chamber, meeting rooms and other facilities that will make this truly a place for the public. An airbridge will arch out from between these two buildings over the rail line to the transport interchange.

This will place council staff and 55,000 council visitors a year within a short walk of public transport and the main down town business area.

And this will only be a start. The Council has said from the outset that these developments will stimulate

growth: New growth is already starting to happen and Henderson is starting to feel like the new "coming place".

There is a new CBD growing in Waitakere and it will be good for the whole city.



Waitakere City Council

Te Taiao o Waitakere

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