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NEW LYNN
matters

Issue 3, September 2008

**LEARN ABOUT NEW LYNN DEVELOPMENTS
 AT PUBLIC OPEN DAY**

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20,
 10AM – 3PM, NEW LYNN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

New Lynn is on the verge of a long-awaited transformation, starting with the construction of a one-kilometre-long trench that will separate road and rail.

So you can learn more about development plans for New Lynn, a public information day is being hosted by Waitakere City Council and ONTRACK on Saturday, September 20 (10am to 3pm) at the New Lynn Community Centre, on Totara Avenue.

Come along and find out how ONTRACK plans to build the rail trench and what changes are needed to enable the construction to take place.

Information will also be available on the council's draft concept plan for the redevelopment of the wider New Lynn town centre around its new transport infrastructure.

The concept reflects the unique history and character of New Lynn and

attempts to guide the redevelopment of its commercial core, civic spaces and surrounding residential environs to realise the vision of a mixed-use centre that focuses more on people than cars.

The Auckland Regional Transport Authority (ARTA) will also provide information on public transport improvements.

For more information on the rail trench construction visit www.ProjectDART.co.nz



MAIN TRENCH CONSTRUCTION STARTS SOON

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW LYNN RAIL TRENCH IS DUE TO START IN LATE SPRING.

Last month ONTRACK signed a \$160 million contract with Fletchers Consortium to start the work, which involves putting the rail tracks and station below ground level to enable seamless development and movement above ground and improved passenger and freight services.

Work is underway to finalise the construction schedule and complete pre-construction work. Work crews are being mobilised and machines readied for use.

The massive transport infrastructure project is part of ONTRACK's upgrade of Auckland's rail network and also sits at the heart of Waitakere City Council's redevelopment plans for New Lynn.

When completed, the rail trench will stretch from Titirangi Road to Portage Road, within the existing rail corridor, measuring up to eight metres in depth. Roads cut by the trench will be reconnected by bridges. Portage Road will remain a level crossing.

A new rail station will integrate with a new bus terminal located above ground, allowing people to move quickly and easily between bus and train locations.

ARTA is also improving bus and rail services for commuters. Once trench construction is complete and additional rolling stock acquired, ARTA aims to have trains passing through New Lynn every 10 minutes during peak periods.

Changing the bus network to complement investment in Auckland's rail network will be a primary focus for ARTA over the next couple of years. The new bus network will be much simpler and easier to understand. There will be fewer bus routes and they will be better integrated with other parts of the network, especially at key points like the New Lynn interchange.

Over time, ARTA will improve the fares and ticketing system so that you will pay one fare for your entire journey, even if you have to use more than one service to get there.



The council's concept for New Lynn's new rail station.



WHAT MIGHT THE NEW LYNN

Waitakere City Council has created a vision that will build on the new road and rail developments to revitalise the town centre and cater for significant growth in New Lynn's population over the next 50 years.

That vision is encapsulated in the New Lynn Urban Regeneration Strategy and Concept Plan - a draft document that provides an integrated approach to dealing with complex transport and land use issues integral to the development of New Lynn as a major sub-regional centre.

The strategy is based on the principles of creating:

- a pedestrian-friendly environment within a 1km radius of the transport interchange
- a sustainable and safe, transit-oriented, town centre

- a mix of living, working and civic land uses
- a distinctive sense of place and identity
- strong and consistent design standards
- a growing economy evolving out of former industrial uses

New Lynn has historically been a centre of retail and industrial growth but it lacks the amount of residential development required to support future growth.

However, the council approved zoning changes to its District Plan in 2005 to encourage apartment and mixed-use development.

The urban regeneration strategy outlines key areas for future development that reflect those District Plan changes. Seven major project areas are proposed; the Merchants' Quarter, the Transit Centre, the Axis Retail Quarter, the Main Street

COMMUNITY CENTRE CARPARK CHANGES

To enable construction of the rail trench, temporary changes have been made to the New Lynn Community Centre carpark.

The number of reserved parking spaces remains the same but their locations have changed. These changes will stay in place for up to a year.

Spaces for free public parking are reduced, however more spots are available behind the Totara Avenue shops.

The council's vision for the new New Lynn town centre



WHAT DOES THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE?

Quarter, the Crown Lynn Residential Quarter, the Rewarewa Residential Area and the Portage Business Quarter.

The Transit Centre is the council's current focus, with the building of a world-class rail and bus interchange. The Merchants' Quarter will also be a key redevelopment area for the council. This historical block between Great North Road, Totara Avenue and Memorial Drive has a long history as a trade and retail area. High-quality design will protect the area's character while allowing for the development of ground-floor retail and residential and/or commercial premises above.

The Merchants' Quarter will form the 'heart' of New Lynn's town centre – a place where people can meet, walk, play, shop and eat. The area will have a pedestrian focus with good connections to the new

transport interchange, creek, housing, retail and parking areas.

The final New Lynn Urban Regeneration Strategy and Concept Plan will be adopted by the council in October.

To find out more about the vision and plans for the new New Lynn, come along to public information day on Saturday, September 20 (10am – 3pm) at the New Lynn Community Centre.

Copies of the draft New Lynn Urban Regeneration Strategy and Concept Plan are available from the New Lynn Library, the council's civic centre (6 Henderson Valley Road, Henderson), online at www.waitakere.govt.nz or by phoning the council's 24-hour call centre on 839-0400.

NEW LYNN PROJECT INFORMATION

For up-to-date information on New Lynn's town centre revitalisation, including transport developments and town centre planning, visit the New Lynn Library on Memorial Drive.

Watch out for project displays being circulated around key community locations, such as the library, community centre, LynnMall and Les Mills.

PEDESTRIANS AND MOTORISTS URGED TO TAKE CARE

ONTRACK is urging pedestrians to cross train tracks only at proper crossings or risk a maximum fine of \$10,000... or a maximum penalty of death.

Please keep these facts in mind:

- Every year people die or receive serious injuries on train tracks.
- It's easy to make mistakes when judging how fast a train is moving and how far away it is. By the time a driver can see you, it is probably too late to stop the train.
- Two tracks can mean two trains. If a train has just passed and the alarms are still going, there could be a second train coming in the other direction or just behind the first train.
- There are now more trains running on the network than a few years ago. They can run at any time, in any direction. This means more chance of being hit if you are on or near the tracks.
- Some trains are wider than others, so you can be hit even if you are some distance from the track. A fast train also creates a vacuum which can suck you in if you are too close.

Don't risk your life to save a couple of minutes.

Motorists are also urged to drive with caution when navigating central New Lynn during the trench construction period, as there will be road closures and layout changes and heavy vehicle movements.



Don't risk your life crossing tracks illegally

YOUR COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Keeping residents and businesses informed about New Lynn projects and giving them the opportunity to share ideas and provide feedback is what the New Lynn Community Liaison Group is all about.

Formed in November 2007, the group includes representatives of a number of community organisations and businesses, along with advisers from the council, ONTRACK and ARTA, a New Lynn councillor and community board member and a representative of MP David Cunliffe.

Chaired by New Lynn RSA president Terry Wood, the group meets once a month and is encouraged to share information and updates with others to ensure the distribution of accurate information on developments and future plans.

STAYING IN TOUCH

Both the council and ONTRACK are set up to respond to any queries or concerns about project work being undertaken in the New Lynn town centre.

For any questions relating to the rail trenching and associated roadworks, call ONTRACK's 24-hour hotline – 270 4404.

All other queries or complaints should be directed to the council's 24-hour call centre on 839 0400.

The council has a comprehensive recording and tracking system to deal with a wide range of issues from dust and noise nuisance to vehicle access and traffic circulation.

If in doubt, phone the council and we will direct your query or complaint to the appropriate person.

TOTARA AVENUE ONE-WAY

TO ENABLE THE TRENCH CONSTRUCTION, TOTARA AVENUE IS NOW RUNNING ONE WAY FROM VERONICA STREET TO MEMORIAL DRIVE.

All entrances and exits to the RSA and LynnMall remain open. There are some changes to the LynnMall carpark; most notably the Farmers up ramp is now a down ramp.

There are also minor changes for the bus station and pedestrian crossing. The bus-rail replacement stop has moved nearer to the bus station kiosk and the taxi rank has now moved to McCrae Way.



WHAU CREEK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

THE FIRST OF TWO NEW RAIL BRIDGES BEING BUILT AT WHAU CREEK IN NEW LYNN OPENS THIS MONTH.

The new bridge replaces the old wooden rail bridge at the same location.

A second bridge will also be built alongside to accommodate double-tracking of the rail line from Whau Creek to Avondale – one of the last

Western Line sections still to be duplicated.

ONTRACK aims to complete the last of its double-tracking by mid 2010 to improve service reliability and its capacity to run more trains, more frequently.



Whau Creek Bridge replacement

ROUNDOABOUT CHANGE COMING

The Clark Street/Rankin Avenue roundabout poses a particular challenge during the trench-building process, as trains and traffic need to continue moving across it.

In the early part of 2009 you can expect to see some changes made to the existing roundabout layout, of which you will be notified once details are confirmed.

CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

For the railway project:

ONTRACK's 24-hour phone line – 270 4404 – or website www.projectDART.org.nz

For New Lynn town centre information:

Waitakere City Council's 24-hour call centre – phone 839 0400 – or website www.waitakere.govt.nz

New Lynn Library, 3 Memorial Drive. Phone 839 2260

