

16 March 2021

Adrienne Young-Cooper
Chair
Auckland Transport

By email

Tēnā koe Adrienne

Thank you for the work your team has done on the ATAP package and for working closely with Auckland Council to ensure this was passed unanimously.

However, following discussions on ATAP as well as the RLTP, councillors raised a number of concerns regarding the performance of Auckland Transport in particular areas.

The overarching concern was around the modelled increase in emissions over the next decade, though concerns were also expressed around Auckland Transport's delivery in a range of areas that could support emissions reduction. A key concern is the slow pace of delivering cycling infrastructure in Auckland.

At the Thursday 11 March Extraordinary Planning Committee, a motion was passed which included a request that Auckland Transport "ensures more rapid, and flexible delivery of cycle infrastructure". The Minister of Transport also indicated in a recent letter to me that he too has concerns regarding the delivery of safe cycling infrastructure.

Following February's Planning Committee workshop on ATAP, the Chair & Deputy Chair of both the Planning Committee and the Environment & Climate Change Committee approached me with their concerns, which will be forwarded to you.

Auckland Transport's explanations on this matter to date have not been fully satisfactory. It appears that cycling projects suffer unnecessary complications in delivery, have become more expensive than necessary and even once delivered, regularly suffered from a range of design shortcomings. There also needs to be a focus on joined up cycleways capable of maximizing the use of cycles for transport purposes to have the greatest impact on minimizing carbon emissions.

I am not convinced cycling has sufficient support with the Auckland Transport structure, which appears to be required to ensure projects can move through the design, consultation & delivery processes at the appropriate pace, while noting the need to respond to particular community concerns.

I propose that I meet with yourself and your CEO Shane Ellison to discuss these matters with Councillors Darby, Hills, Bartley and Cooms who raised these issues.

My office will be in touch to arrange an appropriate time.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Phil Goff'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Phil' written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name 'Goff'.

Phil Goff
MAYOR OF AUCKLAND

Copy to: Shane Ellison, CEO, Auckland Transport