



Rail Network Rebuild

PARNELL TUNNEL 24/7 RAIL WORKS

December 2025

Dear neighbour,

KiwiRail is rebuilding and upgrading Auckland's rail network to make train travel more resilient and reliable and to prepare the network for the more frequent trains the City Rail Link (CRL) will bring when it opens next year. We are continuing a major upgrade of our rail infrastructure in Parnell and Newmarket.

Over the 2025-26 summer rail upgrade (see dates right), we will be upgrading drainage and foundations under the tracks within and on both sides of Parnell Tunnel and making necessary repairs to the tunnel. This work will take place day and night so we can complete it as quickly as possible.

Parnell Station, Cowie Street and Sarawia Street, Newmarket, will be used as access points for our vehicles, so please take extra care when in the vicinity. We will be lifting rails to work beneath them and undertaking associated track works. This can only be undertaken when no trains are running.

There will be a full Auckland rail network closure between 27 December and 18 January; the closure on the Southern Line will extend until 26 January. Testing of the new CRL timetable means the entire network will be closed to passengers on 27–28 January 2026.

Passengers are encouraged to check the AT Mobile app or visit the Auckland Transport website to plan their travel at.govt.nz/journeyplanner

What we are doing:

This is part of the Rail Network Rebuild programme to improve reliability, allowing more frequent trains and improving the ride for passengers. The work involves the following steps:

- Removing track, ballast, foundations and drainage throughout the tunnel
- Installation of new drainage, foundations and ballast
- Replacement of all sleepers and reinstalling existing rail
- Installation of new signals cables to improve resilience.

KiwiRail will use this opportunity to undertake other renewal and enabling works to ensure the safety and reliability of the Auckland rail network. To find out more, visit kiwirail.co.nz/aklrailrebuild.

Upcoming dates

- Equipment will be delivered to Parnell Station and Cowie Street laydown area from **Monday 15 December**
- **27 December to 26 January 2026:** 24/7 construction work
- **27-28 January:** City Rail Link timetable testing – no passenger services

Photo: Parnell Tunnel water blasting earlier this year helped to assess its condition

Find out more

If you have any queries about our work, contact our Community Engagement Team via contactus@kiwirail.co.nz or 0800 801 070 ext 43042.

To receive future work notifications by email, send your address with your details to the contacts above.

Thanks for your patience while we carry out this important work - The KiwiRail team.

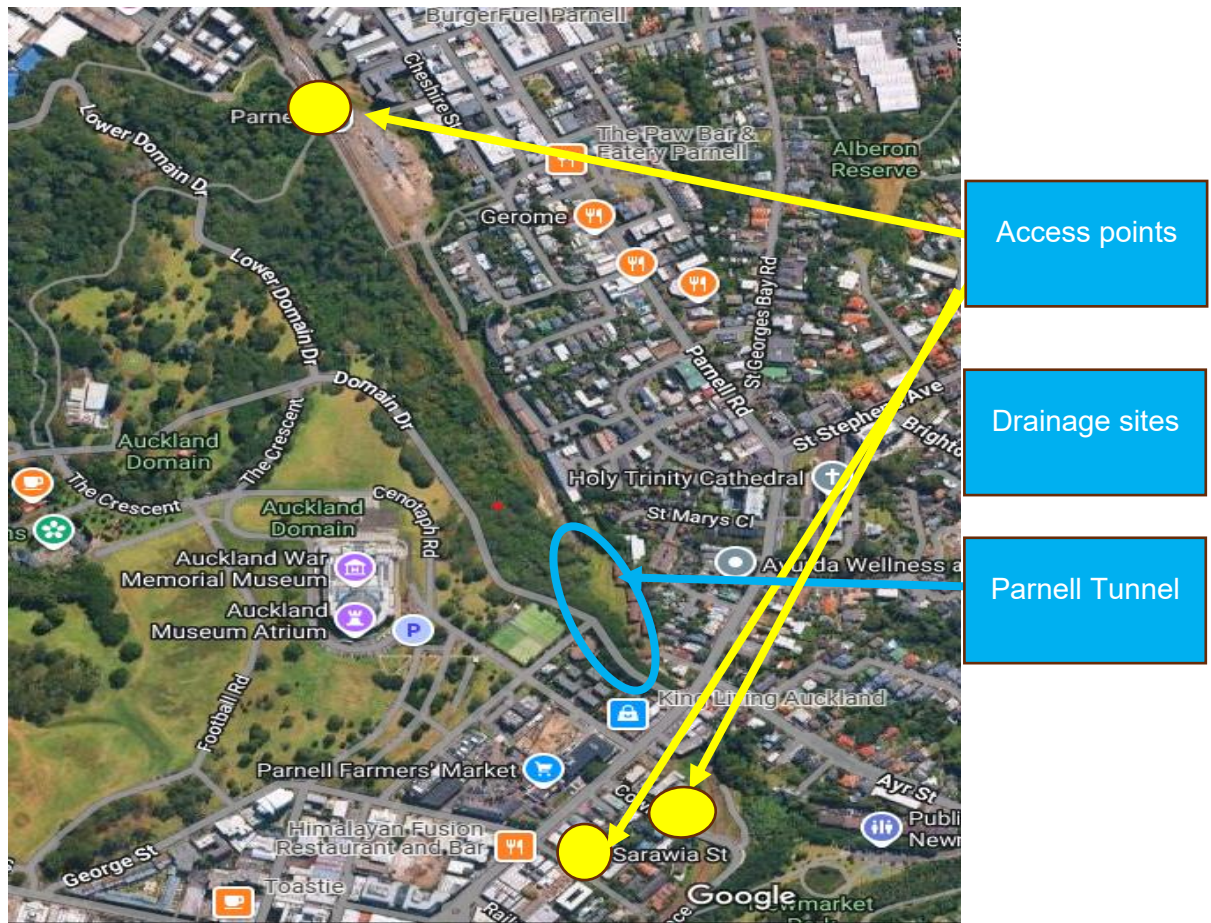
KiwiRail 

LOCATION OF PARNELL TUNNEL RAIL WORKS

What this means for you

During this work there may be noise, dust, vibrations and lights needed to keep the workers safe at night. Our teams are mindful that they are working in residential areas and will do their best to keep the disruption to a minimum. However, despite their efforts this work may cause you some disturbance and we apologise in advance for this.

There will also be increased vehicle movements near Parnell Station, Cowie Street and Sarawia Street so please take extra caution when in these areas. Work areas and these three access points are shown in the map below:



To learn more about where KiwiRail is working, visit: <https://www.kiwirail.co.nz/our-network/our-regions/amp/upcoming-work/>

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