

# KiwiRail's Auckland Metro Programme April 2022

# No passenger or freight trains over Easter while KiwiRail improves network



No passenger or freight trains will run on the Auckland network over Easter (for four days 15-18 April) while KiwiRail takes the opportunity of lower patronage to continue important network upgrades. KiwiRail is raising the standard of the Auckland rail network with big projects ahead of City Rail Link opening, as well as ongoing works to improve the reliability of train services. During the passenger service closure, we'll be working around the clock so we can achieve as much as possible, as safely as possible.

## Main works this Easter

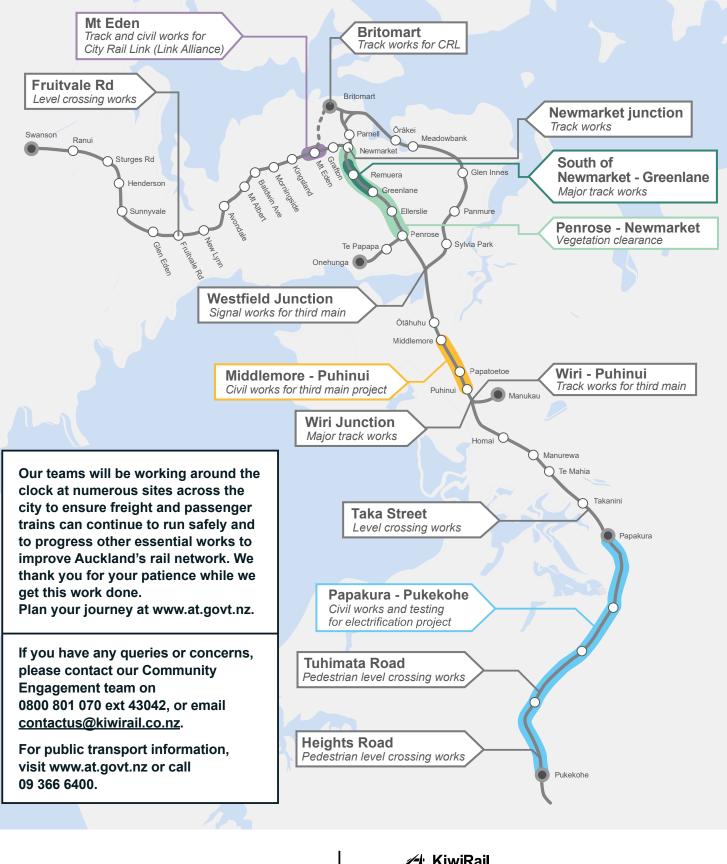
Between Puhinui and Middlemore, civil works will continue for the project to build a third main rail track between Westfield and Wiri junctions. Also for this project, major signal installation and testing will be done at Westfield Junction. There will be general civil works, pedestrian level crossings works and testing from Papakura to Pukekohe as part of the project to electrify the rail network on this 19km section. Major rail track work will be completed at Britomart and Newmarket to Greenlane. Link Alliance – the team working on the City Rail Link – will be busy at the Mt Eden Station with civil and track works





KiwiRail Easter Weekend works

## 15 - 18 April



## www.kiwirail.co.nz



## Work on the Auckland rail network

The work over Easter is part of an extensive programme over several years to lift the standard of the rail network in Auckland. After years of under-funding, and to prepare for the start of City Rail Link, there is lots to do. The Government has provided significant funding from the New Zealand Upgrade Programme towards KiwiRail's \$1.5 billion Auckland Metro Programme which will modernise the network in Auckland. The more trains are used to move people and freight, the greater the reduction in carbon emissions.

The Auckland Metro Programme includes extending electrification to Pukekohe; three new stations between Papakura and Pukekohe; a third main track to relieve congestion on the busiest section between Wiri and Westfield; and other general upgrades across the network. Once the major works are finished, and City Rail Link is operating (which is planned for late 2024), passengers will enjoy more flexible routes, shorter journey times and improved frequency, as well as there being greater capacity for rail freight and improved resilience throughout the network.

As we continue to work on the Auckland Metro Programme, there will be ongoing temporary closures. From mid-August this year until the second quarter of 2024, passenger rail services between Papakura and Pukekohe will be replaced with a bus service.

For more information visit www.kiwirail.co.nz/what-we-do/ projects/amp/

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While works at Wiri and Westfield junctions are almost complete, the team is busy on the section between Puhinui and Middlemore stations. This work includes building retaining walls and ground works in preparation for the laying of this last



The new retaining wall by Gordon Park, Papatoetoe, with the gravel road to the left where the new track will be laid

section of track for this project. The wall by Gordon Park is now complete and work continues on another retaining wall just north of Puhinui Station.



Earthworks for the third main south of Gordon Park, Papatoetoe. The team used a new process to stabilise the earth which involved the use of lime and cement sprayed into the soil before it was compacted

## Westfield and Wiri Junction works

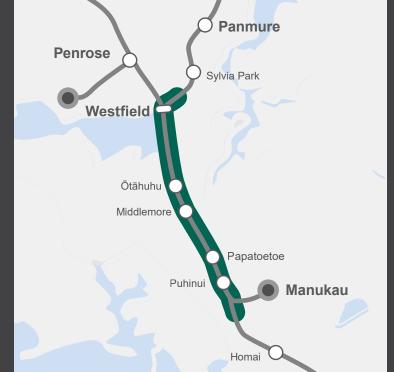
A major piece of work happening over the Easter closure will be the installation and testing of signals at Westfield Junction. Signals control the safe movement of trains throughout the rail network.

Once this signals work is finished, works on the Westfield Junction as part of the Third Main Track - Wiri to Quay project will be complete. The improvements at Westfield Junction will improve capacity and resilience throughout the network.

The improvements at Westfield Junction include a number of elements:

- A third rail track from Portage Rd to Mt Wellington Highway bridge on the Eastern Line
- 16 turnouts (complex track structures that allow trains to move from one track to another)
- Dismantling the pedestrian overbridge.

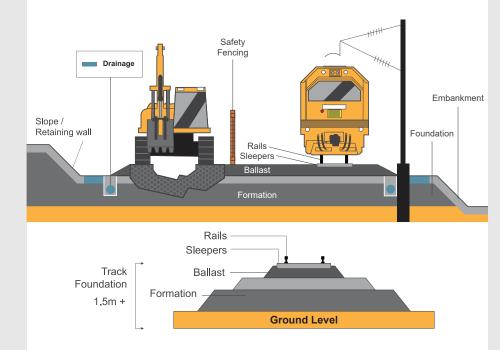
Works at Wiri Junction are expected to be completed by mid-2022.



## Renewing Auckland's aging network

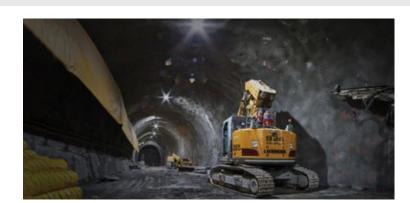
Over Easter, KiwiRail and its contractors will continue to replace old sections of track foundation. The team will rebuild the formation (the foundations beneath the tracks), reinstate rail, sleepers, ballast (the rocks that are immediately under the tracks) and improve drainage along parts of the Southern Line between Greenlane and south of Newmarket. These parts of Auckland's network are over 50 years old and are due to be replaced.

This programme of work will see us replacing existing worn-out infrastructure at specific locations across Auckland's metro network that extends from Swanson to Pukekohe. These renewals, along with other activities such as enhanced maintenance and new equipment, will enable improved rail services once the City Rail Link opens.



## **City Rail Link tunnel**

Inside the mined cavern at City Rail Link's Mt Eden Station, work is being done prior to installing the permanent concrete lining for the tunnel. The City Rail Link is a 3.45km twin-tunnel underground rail link connecting downtown Britomart to Mt Eden. It includes the creation of two brand new stations provisionally named Aotea and Karangahape - along the way. The project is due for completion in late 2024.

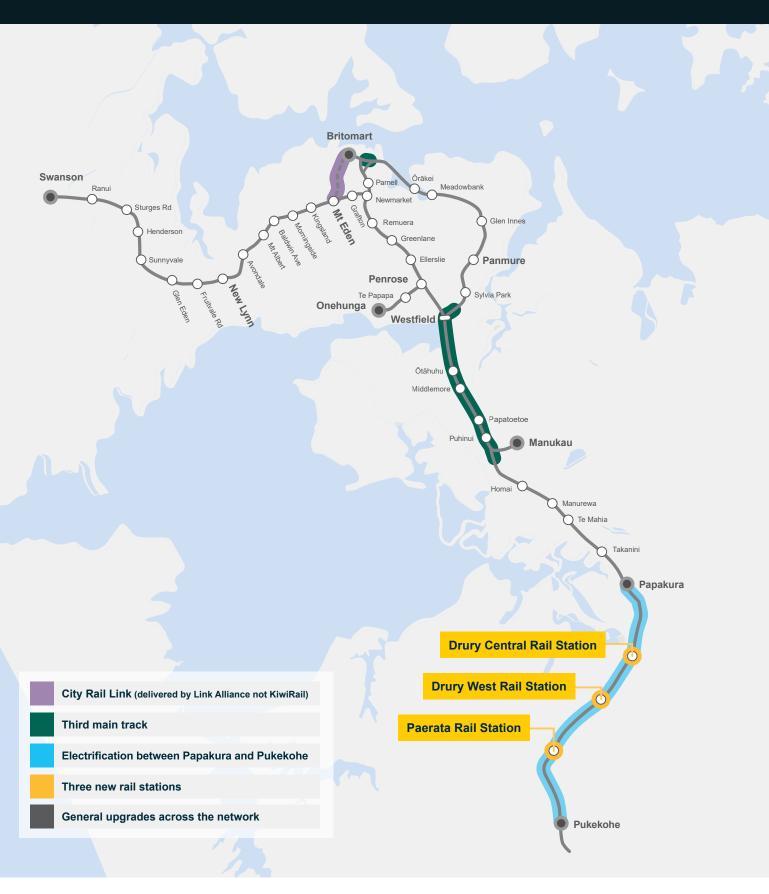


For any queries, email us at contactus@KiwiRail.co.nz



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