

The City Rail Link: Auckland on track to a better future

Answers to common questions

What's the City Rail Link?

The City Rail Link is a game-changer for Auckland and the largest transport infrastructure project ever undertaken in New Zealand

The CRL will more than double capacity across Auckland's rail network. It extends the existing rail line underground with a 3.45km twin tunnel up to 42 metres below the city centre, and makes the downtown Britomart Transport Station a two-way station.

The extended network will connect to Albert, Vincent and Pitt Streets, cross under Karangahape Road and the Central Motorway Junction to Symonds Street, and join the Western Line at Eden Terrace (at a redeveloped Mount Eden Station).

The CRL is expected to be completed in 2024. More information: www.cityrailink.co.nz

How will the CRL improve my journey if I'm a train user?

CRL will mean more options for passengers: more central city stations, better public transport connections, faster journeys through Britomart Station, and more frequent trains right across the Auckland network. In addition, the rail network will be able carry more passengers – an estimated 54,000 peak-time passengers each hour in 2035.

How is KiwiRail involved in the CRL?

We're working with City Rail Link Limited to complete rail works on the Auckland network. We're involved in the first CRL project to be completed from a wider suite of works – improving access to The Strand 'stabling yard' in Parnell. This is the area where morning peak service trains which terminate in the city are 'stabled' before they come back into service for the evening peak.

Because there are two tight curves on the Newmarket branch line, access to the stabling yard is currently possible from the south only, by northbound trains using track that southbound trains would usually travel on. Improving access to the yard will eliminate the need for these manoeuvres, freeing up the network for more services once the CRL is completed.

What does KiwiRail's work involve and when will it be finished?

We're installing a new track cross-over point that allows trains to more easily access the existing Strand stabling facility, along with some track realignment and modifications to overhead line and signalling equipment. The work will take an estimated five months and we expect to complete it in January 2019.

How does this work affect people living and working along the rail network?

The work we are doing may cause some disturbance for people living and working along the Strand area of the rail corridor. For example, the machinery we use can create noise, vibration and dust, plus lights which are visible during night work.

Our staff and contractors are working hard to get this essential work done as quickly as possible and thank our rail corridor neighbours for your patience.

If your home, business or school is near the rail corridor and is directly affected by our construction work, you can expect to receive more information before work starts. We are providing regular updates to corridor neighbours about project progress and planned works during this time.

Why do you need to close the lines at times to carry out this work?

With hundreds of passenger and freight services on the network each day, our team cannot carry out this work safely and efficiently during the standard working week. We know that closing the line is inconvenient for commuters and thank you for your patience.

What happens to commuters when you close a line?

When a line is closed Auckland Transport provides a rail replacement bus between stations:
www.at.govt.nz

Who's funding this work?

The CRL is jointly funded by the Government and Auckland Council.