

From: [Owena Schuster \(AT\)](#)
To: [adam.milina](#); [Angela Lai](#); [Brooke](#); [Chris Carter](#); [Dan Collins](#); [Ingrid Papau](#); [luke Wilson](#); [Michelle Knudsen](#); [xxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.x](#); [Sharlene Riley](#); [Sophie Wylie](#); [Susan](#); [Wendy](#); [Will Flavell](#); [Allan Geddes](#); [Greg Presland](#); [Hannah Slade](#); [Jess Rose](#); [xxx.xxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.x](#); [Michelle Lucke](#)
Cc: [Ken Turner](#); [Shane Henderson](#); [Brett Lane](#); [xxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxxx.x](#); [Max Pendleton](#); [Rebecca](#)
Subject: City Rail Link readiness update
Date: Sunday, 29 March 2026 2:32:17 pm
Attachments: [CRL Readiness Elected Member Memo 27 March.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Kia ora koutou,

Auckland Transport, City Rail Link Ltd and KiwiRail would like to share an update outlining our progress of getting ready for City Rail Link (CRL) and its supporting functions ready for opening later this year.

The attached memo includes updates on:

- CRL station precinct progress, and celebrating the near completion of stage one of the Wellesley Street Bus Improvements, strengthening the key bus–rail interchange for Te Waihorotiu.
- Our priority for sharpening a reliable CRL launch plan, with the next timetable trials running between 13–15 April 2026, reflecting lessons from January’s stress test.
- People and operations readiness, and the recently completed recruitment for drivers and service staff.
- Customer engagement and building familiarity ahead of opening, including Auckland Transport presence at recent major cultural events.
- Information about the April rail upgrades that will see a series of full and partial closures on the network enabling progress on CRL testing, and work on supporting rail infrastructure projects.

We will continue to provide you regular updates on our progress in the lead up to opening CRL.

Ngā mihi. Kia pai te rā!

Owena Schuster | Elected Member Relationship Partner
Henderson/Massey, Upper Harbour, Waitakere Ranges Local Board Areas
Partnerships and Engagement
Te Ipu Kura ā Maki, Henderson Civic Building
Level 1, 1 Smythe Road
Henderson 0612

From: [Hannah Jemmett \(AT\)](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: AT's key messages to questions if we are proceeding with rail closures in April:
Date: Monday, 30 March 2026 3:13:00 pm
Attachments: [Outlook-zvxb21cz.png](#)

Hannah Jemmett | Senior Specialist, Travel Choices | Public Transport and Active Modes
Auckland Transport

From: Amber Carran-Fletcher (AT) <Amber.Carran-Fletcher@at.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 27 March 2026 11:02 am
To: Hannah Jemmett (AT) <Hannah.Jemmett@at.govt.nz>; Abigail Mace (AT) <Abigail.Mace@at.govt.nz>; Kelly Strong (AT) <Kelly.Strong@at.govt.nz>; Sophie Watt (AT) <Sophie.Watt@at.govt.nz>; Carolyn Saulsberry (AT) <Carolyn.Saulsberry@at.govt.nz>; Sandy Hu (AT) <Sandy.Hu@at.govt.nz>; Hamish Speakman (AT) <Hamish.Speakman@at.govt.nz>
Subject: AT's key messages to questions if we are proceeding with rail closures in April:

Hi all,

Just received key messages below in case you are getting questions:

We acknowledge there is a higher demand for public transport as fuel prices increase, however the works happening during the April rail closures are part of a critical path to completing CRL work and ultimately opening the new services and network to Aucklanders.

Reprogramming these works could cause delay to not only CRL but also other projects causing potentially significant increased costs, and delays to continual improvement in reliability and performance of the existing network.

Ngā mihi,

Amber Carran-Fletcher | Travel Choices Manager
Public Transport and Active Modes

Auckland Transport

20 Viaduct Harbour Avenue, Auckland 1010

(M) [REDACTED]

amber.carran-fletcher@at.govt.nz | www.at.govt.nz



From: [Mark Lambert \(AT\)](#)
To: [Stacey Van Der Putten \(AT\)](#); [Annabelle Wrigley \(AT\)](#)
Cc: [Joel Rowan \(AT\)](#); [Mark Lambert \(AT\)](#); [Daryl McIntosh \(AT\)](#)
Subject: RE: For review: CRL memo - transition timetable testing & April rail closures
Date: Thursday, 26 March 2026 6:10:03 pm
Attachments: [CRL Readiness Elected Member Memo March final.docx](#)
[image003.png](#)

Hi Annabelle,

Apologies for delay. On the back of recent engagement at the Council TIDC and CRL Sponsors meeting that has requested further information on timetable and the need for a transition approach, I think it is appropriate to not reference this at this time. We are scheduled to report back to sponsors next week. I have taken the liberty of deleting the reference to this in the attached.

Obviously happy to discuss.

Mark Lambert

GM Rail Services

Auckland Transport

20 Viaduct Harbour Avenue, Auckland 1010

Private Bag 92250, Auckland 1142

M [REDACTED] | [x@xx](#) | www.at.govt.nz



Let's go there



From: Stacey Van Der Putten (AT) <[x@xx](#)>
Sent: Thursday, 26 March 2026 1:55 pm
To: Annabelle Wrigley (AT) <[x@xx](#)>; Mark Lambert (AT) <[x@xx](#)>
Cc: Joel Rowan (AT) <[x@xx](#)>
Subject: RE: For review: CRL memo - transition timetable testing & April rail closures

Hi Annabelle,

All good with content and agree getting it out soon as practical so apologies for the delay.

Just cleared some messages – one from Cr Alf F, he has been asked for media comment in regards to up coming closures.

Joel – could you please equip Alf with any key messages/updates?- maybe email through for him.

Much thanks

Stacey

Stacey van der Putten | Director Public Transport & Active Modes

From: Annabelle Wrigley (AT) <Annabelle.Wrigley@at.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 26 March 2026 9:33 am
To: Stacey Van Der Putten (AT) <Stacey.VanDerPutten@at.govt.nz>; Mark Lambert (AT) <Mark.Lambert@at.govt.nz>
Cc: Joel Rowan (AT) <Joel.Rowan@at.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: For review: CRL memo - transition timetable testing & April rail closures

Hi Mark and Stacey,

Hope your week has gone well! Just following up to see if you've had a chance to review the attached CRL readiness memo and would like to provide further input?

We'd like to get this out before end of this week so we can keep our elected members informed about testing the transitional timetable and upcoming April rail closures.

Let me know if there is any support I can provide.

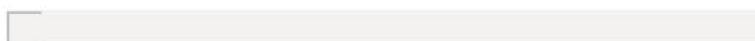
Many thanks,

Annabelle Wrigley | Senior Communications & Engagement Specialist
Auckland Transport

From: Annabelle Wrigley (AT) <Annabelle.Wrigley@at.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 12:12 PM
To: Stacey Van Der Putten (AT) <Stacey.VanDerPutten@at.govt.nz>; Mark Lambert (AT) <Mark.Lambert@at.govt.nz>
Cc: Falko Frei (AT) <Falko.Frei@at.govt.nz>; Joel Rowan (AT) <Joel.Rowan@at.govt.nz>
Subject: For review: CRL memo - transition timetable testing & April rail closures

Kia ora Stacey and Mark,

To provide our elected members a timely update on our CRL readiness programme, specifically the transition timetable and April rail closures - we have prepared an elected member memo linked below:



This document intends to inform all Auckland councillors, MPs and local board members about:

- CRL precinct progress, an update on train driver and service staff recruitment, and AT's recent engagement at cultural events to promote CRL.
- Outlining the results of the January CRL testing, and our decision to test the transitional timetable in April.
- The April rail closures, and what work is happening on the rail network during the closures.
- Schedule of upcoming rail closures until June 2026.

Can you please review the memo and let me know if you'd like any changes? We would like to send this memo out before the end of this week.

Many thanks,

Annabelle Wrigley | Senior Communications & Engagement Specialist
Major Projects | Partnerships & Engagement
Auckland Transport

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