

Northern Network



Artist impression

The Project at a Glance

Auckland Airport is upgrading its core network – one of the hardest working road systems in Auckland.

The multi-million-dollar Northern Network project will transform the main entranceway into the airport, increasing its capacity and enabling public transport.

During this project, George Bolt Memorial Drive, the main road into the airport from the north, will be widened to create high occupancy vehicle lanes, with shared pedestrian and cycle paths alongside.

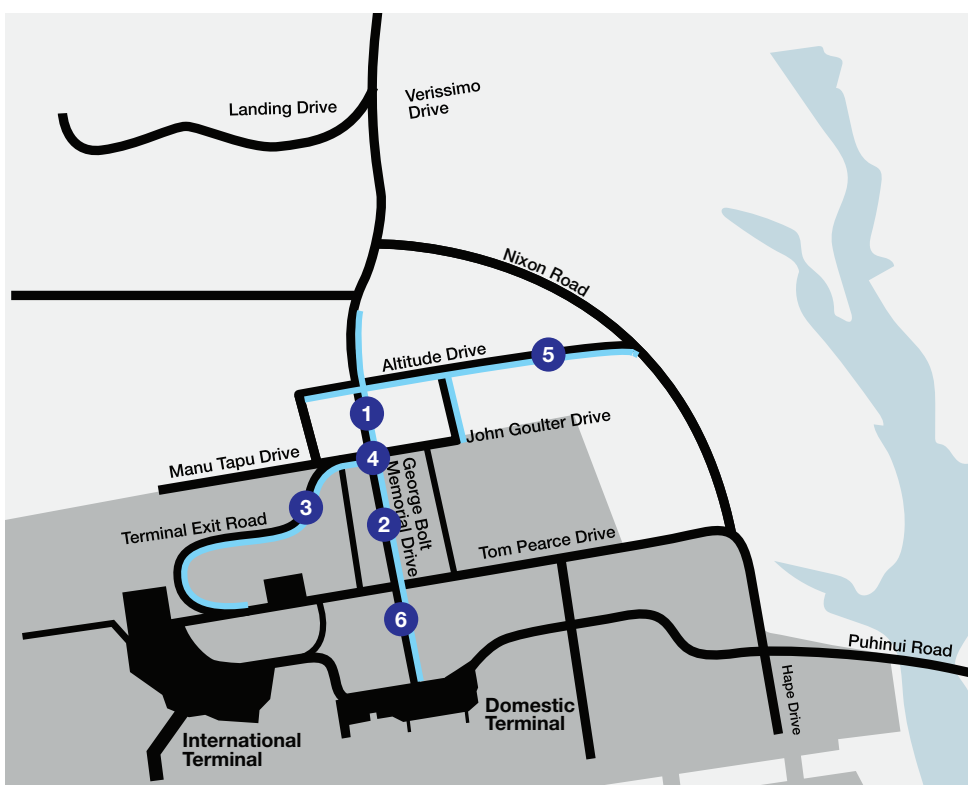
Simultaneously, roads will be added to the airport network.

A new one-way loop road will be built, allowing traffic to flow efficiently through a pick-up/drop-off zone at the international terminal before connecting back into George Bolt Memorial Drive.

The new Altitude Drive will provide additional roading capacity, allowing terminal bound traffic greater journey time reliability.

Work is beginning in August 2019. Most of the new roads and intersections will be finished by the end of 2020, while the intersection of George Bolt Memorial Drive and Tom Pearce drive is more complex and construction work on this intersection is scheduled to be completed in the middle of 2021.

This investment supports Auckland Airport's long-term strategy to enable public transport and aligns with the investment being made by the New Zealand Transport Agency and Auckland Transport in the wider transport network serving Auckland Airport, including the new Puhinui Station and State Highway 20B.



Northern Network

- 1 Widening George Bolt Memorial Drive to add high occupancy vehicle
- 2 Enhanced pedestrian and shared pathway links
- 3 New one-way loop road from the international terminal to George Bolt Memorial Drive
- 4 Two new traffic light-controlled intersections to improve traffic flows and allow pedestrians and cyclists to cross safely
- 5 Altitude Drive will provide additional roading capacity, allowing terminal bound traffic greater journey time reliability
- 6 Installing new underground utilities to create a resilient, future-proofed network able to support the wider terminal and runway developments

Northern Network FAQ



Artist impression

What is Northern Network?

The Northern Network is a project to create a resilient roading network to ensure consistent, reliable journeys for people travelling to, from and around Auckland Airport.

This project includes:

- Widening George Bolt Memorial Drive to add high occupancy vehicle lanes
- Altitude Drive, a new road, providing additional roading capacity,
- A new road circulation system formed by Ray Emery Drive becoming one-way and a new exit road from the International Terminal connecting with George Bolt Memorial Drive
- Two new traffic light-controlled intersections to improve traffic flows and allow pedestrians and cyclists to cross safely
- Enhanced pedestrian and shared pathway links
- Replacing and installing new underground utilities to create a resilient, future-proofed network able to support the wider terminal and runway developments.

Northern Network is one of eight major infrastructure developments Auckland Airport will begin over the next decade. These major projects form the foundation to deliver the airport of the future.

Alongside Northern Network, projects in the planning, design or construction stages are:

- The northern runway
- The northern stands and taxiways
- A new cargo precinct
- A new international arrivals' area
- A new domestic jet facility
- Domestic terminal works
- A multi-storey carpark and new international pick-up/drop-off zone.

Why are you building Northern Network?

George Bolt Memorial Drive is one of the hardest working roads in Auckland. During seasonal peaks, more than 95,000 vehicles travel along it every day. And that number is expected to grow. By 2044 Auckland Airport will be the arrival or departure point for 40 million travellers and 260,000 flights a year – double the number of travellers currently using Auckland Airport. This forecast growth cannot be accommodated without upgrades to our supporting networks, such as roads.

By creating high occupancy vehicle lanes to enable public transport, along with a one-way loop road allowing traffic to pass efficiently through the International Terminal, we are future-proofing our transport network. Other new roads, such as Altitude Drive, will provide additional roading capacity, allowing terminal bound traffic greater journey time reliability.

Below ground, gas, electricity and water mains will be replaced, boosting capacity and providing contingency and resilience to the utilities network. Ducting will be added to ensure future utility and technology demands can be met.

The combination of an efficient, reliable transport system and a resilient, high-capacity utilities network means Northern Network provides the backbone to supporting future airport development.

When is it starting and finishing?

Work is beginning in August 2019. While most of the new roads and intersections will be finished by the end of 2020, the intersection of George Bolt Memorial Drive and Tom Pearce drive is more complex and construction work on this part of the project is scheduled to be completed in the middle of 2021.

Will it make people late to work/miss their flight?

We recognise roadworks on busy Auckland streets can be a nuisance for drivers and can affect traffic, and we are focused on minimising the impact as much as possible.

The project team is making every effort to maintain capacity, so during the widening of George Bolt Memorial Drive two sealed lanes will be open in both directions – much the same as it is now.

With the completion of the heavy traffic route, Nixon Road, in 2018 and the introduction of traffic lights at both the Jimmy Ward and Puhinui Road roundabouts, we have added resilience into the network, with increased ability to manage traffic flows. This allows us to prioritise traffic flows during times of peak traffic.

It's essential we ensure the safety of our site staff and the public, so we are asking road users to take care when travelling through the construction zone. This, along with the need to temporarily reconfigure lanes during construction for road widening and new pavements to be built, means this part of their journey to the airport may take slightly longer.

We recommend people take this into account when planning their trip to the airport.