



Ratepayers & Residents Association

PO Box 55, Piha, Waitakere City

To: Auckland Transport (AT)

Name of Submitter: Piha Ratepayers & Residents Association Inc (“the Submitter”)

Please find herewith our submission with regard to:

New bus Network for West Auckland

Introduction

1. This is a submission to propose restoration of previously operated bus services to the Piha, Anawhata and KareKare communities west of Auckland City.
2. The submitters interest is in reintroduction of a targeted shuttle bus service at limited times and days that coincide with the maximum utilisation factors associated with the affected residents and visitors to the Piha, Anawhata and KareKare Coastal Village area.
3. The submitter has confirmed to the Waitakere Ranges Local Board (WRLB) the Piha R&R's support for a shuttle bus service and the Boards strategy to investigate options.

Background

4. The Submitter is an incorporated body that has been actively representing the Piha community 1939. Members include property owners, business owners, permanent residents, holiday and weekend dwellers and property tenants. The Submitter has an active membership of ratepayers who are necessarily affected by changes in the rules and regulations affecting development of their properties. The Submitter has an informative website and facebook page with regular communications to members.

Issues

The Submitter has elicited views from the community with regard to the possibility of reintroducing a shuttle bus service to the Piha area listed below;

6. “There is no doubt that Piha does need a shuttle link.”
There are a number of categories of people who would utilise a shuttle service including:
 - a) Visitors to Piha, particularly weekend visitors, surf club members, campers and hikers.
 - b) Residents who work in the city and/or western suburbs or areas serviced by existing rail and bus services.
 - c) Residents who need to access shopping and social services such as Doctors, hairdressers, health centres and the like.
 - d) Older residents who would prefer not to drive for access to shopping and services.

7. “The old bus service was cancelled in a council cost saving programme, not by Piha users and should never have been stopped.”
There is a strong feeling in the community that they have been “short changed” by Council through the cancellation of bus services to the Piha area. The rates paid by residents include levies for public transport, but no service is available, so “we are paying for service we are not receiving.”

8. “Piha to rail link good idea, e.g. Henderson or Glen Eden.”
It is generally considered that a shuttle bus link to a transport hub provide the broadest spectrum of opportunity for commuters to and from the Piha area, and that Henderson and/or Glen Eden are the obvious choices for such a link.

9. “Action ! We need a service now.”
Community response indicates that the service is a desperate need for the area and that such a service should be introduced at the earliest possible time.

10. “Could be smaller trial shuttle”
Some respondents suggested that as a compromise, a trial period could be introduced that might allow AI to better assess the community utilisation of a shuttle service.

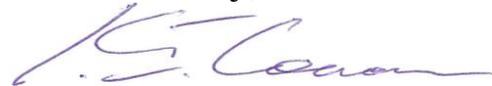
11. “A Friday / Sunday shuttle popular”
Respondents referred to previously operated shuttle bus services and particularly referred to the popular Friday / Sunday service that allowed visitors to enjoy Piha and residents to enjoy a weekend away from their homes.

12. “Depart Barnet Hall with pickups on way”
Suggested operational details included a Piha termination point of Barnett Hall with designated pick up points in Piha and at the Karekare and Anawhata Road junctions.
13. “Daily service the ideal”
The community feedback indicates that the ideal service would be a twice daily service that would allow residents and visitors access and provide a public transport service for residents who work in the city.

Actions sought

14. The submitter requests that AT seriously consider the introduction of a shuttle bus service to the Piha area that is targeted on the days and usage needs of the Piha area community and visitors to the Piha area.
15. The submitter considers that as a minimum, At consider the introduction of trial services to provide service in the areas detailed earlier in this submission.

Yours faithfully,



Ken I. Cowan

President

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