

BRF-2850

14 March 2023

Mark Lambert  
Interim Chief Executive  
Auckland Transport  
Email: [chief.executive@at.govt.nz](mailto:chief.executive@at.govt.nz)

Dear Mark Lambert

**COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-Track Consenting) Act 2020 – comments sought on referral application – The North Project**

The Minister for the Environment (Minister) has received an application from 617 New North Limited to refer The North Project (project) to an expert consenting panel (a panel) for consideration under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 (FTCA).

The purpose of the FTCA is to promote employment to support New Zealand's recovery from the economic and social impacts of COVID-19 and to support certainty of investment while continuing to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.

The project is described in Appendix A and the application documents are in Attachment 1.

Auckland Transport may have an interest in the project because it may impact the local road network. Under delegated authority from the Minister and pursuant to section 21(3) of the FTCA, I invite Auckland Transport's written comments on the referral application. A template is provided for this purpose in Attachment 2.

The above information is provided to you in confidence and as part of the statutory process set out in the FTCA. Please do not forward the application or request for comments to anyone outside your organisation.

If the Minister accepts the application and the project is referred to a panel, the applicant will be able to lodge applications with the Environmental Protection Authority for the approvals needed under the Resource Management Act 1991. The applicant must provide a detailed assessment of environmental effects and cultural impact assessment(s) as part of this process.

Please provide comments via return email within 10 working days to ensure that the Minister takes them into consideration when deciding whether or not to accept the referral application. Note that the Minister is not required to consider any comments provided after this time.

If you would like more information about the fast-track consenting process, or to discuss the application, please contact the Ministry for the Environment's Fast-track Consenting Team at [fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:fasttrackconsenting@mfe.govt.nz) to arrange an appointment.

Yours sincerely



Madeleine Berry  
**Acting Manager, Fast-track Consenting Team**

Appendix:

- A. Details of proposed project

Attachments:

1. Application to refer The North Project to an expert consenting panel, including supporting information (Databox link in covering email)
2. Response template for written comments

cc: Matthew Richards, Manager Development Planning, s 9(2)(a)  
Sarah Haarhoff, Major Developments Interface Lead, s 9(2)(a)  
[gupicoordinators@at.govt.nz](mailto:gupicoordinators@at.govt.nz)

## Appendix A - Proposed project

| Project           | Applicant             | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The North Project | 617 New North Limited | <p>The project is to construct a nine storey (29.3 metres high) mixed-use building at 617-619 New North Road, Kingsland, Auckland including approximately 44 residential units, 34 visitor accommodation units, commercial space and 2 basement levels. The project will include 27 carparks, bicycle and scooter parking, a rooftop communal space, and new vehicle and pedestrian access.</p> <p>The project will include activities such as relocating a 19th century building, trimming and removing vegetation (including street trees), demolishing existing buildings and structures, carrying out earthworks (including disturbing potentially contaminated soils), taking, diverting and discharging groundwater, constructing residential and commercial units, constructing and installing infrastructure, lighting and signage and subdividing land.</p> |