



Working with what we have

Resilience for the Future

Whakamahinga ki ngā mea kei a tātou:
He manawaroa mō ngā rā anamata
Transportation Conference 2026



8 – 11 March 2026
Tākina Convention Centre
Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

AT Transport Design Manual training programme: Green and Blue Infrastructure

Since 2022, Auckland Transport (AT) and MRCagney have been collaborating to deliver engaging internal training modules for AT staff that promote best practice street design. Grounded in AT's Transport Design Manual (TDM), these sessions aim to upskill teams, demonstrate the value of the TDM, and explore flexible, cost-effective approaches to achieving great outcomes.

Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) is the focus of one of the modules, which forms the basis of this presentation. GBI is no longer a “nice to have” it is essential to building resilient, future-ready transport networks. More than stormwater management, when implemented well, GBI represents a systems-thinking approach that delivers ecological, social, cultural, and economic benefits.

Key learnings from the module include:

- **Empowering teams:** Upskilling both technical and non-technical staff helps embed GBI knowledge across all areas of transport planning.
- **Recognising the impact:** GBI offers more than environmental benefits, it supports community health and wellbeing, cultural identity, and long-term economic resilience.
- **Fostering collaboration:** GBI as a network spans agencies, communities, and disciplines. Shared ownership of infrastructure means success depends on working together with integrated thinking.
- **Avoiding short-termism:** Rationalising the implementation of nature-based solutions for cost savings can lead to negative long-term social and financial impacts for communities. The big picture is important.

As professionals, we bring diverse perspectives and motivations to our work. To shape resilient urban futures, we must collaborate, think long-term, and advocate for design that integrates nature, especially during times of constraint. This presentation invites reflection and discussion on how GBI can be embedded meaningfully into transport infrastructure. It shows how training can be a catalyst for change by working with teams to change mindsets around the benefits of GBI and nature-based solutions.



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