# Connecting Communities – A Fresh Approach

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Transport can be either an enabler or a barrier to how our communities live and grow. Communities that exist along our busy arterial roads can be well served by a variety of transport choices, or they can be severed and constrained by uninviting road design, streams of cars and trucks and accompanying noise, safety worries and stressful journeys.

Auckland Transport’s “Connected Communities” project seeks to rebalance the design of 11 main roads connecting and bisecting the town centres, residential and commercial areas through which they pass. Getting the right balance between throughput and safety of people using all transport modes with the needs, aspirations and wellbeing of the adjacent communities requires an integrated approach to planning, consultation and design.

Effective community and stakeholder engagement is a key element of bringing the communities along on the journey to successful outcomes and this plays a large part of the strategy. Great outcomes will only be achieved by understanding the varied mobility needs of the communities through which the corridors pass. Based on that understanding, removing barriers to movement, be they physical or perceived, to enable people of all ages and abilities to safely and efficiently connect with each other and with services and facilities, will help to improve the vitality and sustainability of our communities.

Key to successful outcomes will be achieving the right balance between the ‘place’ and ‘movement’ function within the constraints of the existing space, while ensuring consistency across the 11 corridors.

Auckland Transport and consultants will elaborate on the innovative working model, and the approach being taken to ensure that all opportunities to deliver excellent outcomes for the communities are identified and captured.