

Quarterly and Monthly Transport Indicators – November and December 2019

Recommendation

That the Board:

- i. Receives this report.

Executive summary

1. The attached Monthly and Quarterly Indicator Reports provide an overview of AT's performance against its Statement of Intent (SOI) performance measures for November and December 2019, and the December 2019 quarter. The reports also provide supplementary information on the wider Auckland context as well as AT's public transport, road operations and maintenance, and customer response activities.

Strategic context

2. Latest results continue to show mixed growth across external indicators. New car registrations and fuel consumption continue to decline year on year.
3. Auckland employment increased by 0.5% for the 12 months to September 2019 compared with the 12 months to September 2018.¹ Latest labour market statistics have been delayed for reweighting as a result of the 2018 census.
4. The number of dwelling consents in Auckland increased by 16.1% in the 12 months to November 2019 compared with the 12 months to November 2018.²
5. GDP in Auckland was up 2.6% for the 12 months to December 2019 compared with the previous year. Growth in GDP for New Zealand was 2.4% for the same period.³

¹ Calculation based on data from Statistics NZ, *Labour Market Statistics: September 2019*.

² Calculation based on data from Statistics NZ, *Building Consents Issued: November 2019*.

³ Infometrics Quarterly Economic Monitor – September 2019 <https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/auckland/QuarterlyEconomicMonitor/Gdp>.

6. The number of cars first registered in Auckland in the 12 months to December 2019 decreased by 5.9% compared with the 12 months to December 2018. However, the total number of cars registered in Auckland in December 2019 was 1.7% higher than in December 2018, increasing by 16,597 from 987,065 to 1,003,662.
7. Total annual fuel sales decreased by 5.4% for the 12 months to October 2019 compared with the 12 months to October 2018.
8. A total of 21.1 million passenger movements were recorded through Auckland Airport in the 12 months to October 2019.⁴ This is an increase of 1.5% on the 12 months to October 2018.

Public Transport

9. Total public transport totalled 103.2 million boardings for the 12 months to December 2019, an increase of 7.6%, or 7.3 million boardings, on the 12 months to December 2018. December monthly patronage was 6.7 million, an increase of 0.3% on December 2018 but 1.5% below forecast. December patronage was impacted by bus driver industrial action
 - Rail boardings totalled 21.9 million for the 12 months to December 2019, an increase of 6.0%, or 1.2 million boardings, on the 12 months to December 2018.
 - Bus boardings totalled 75.0 million for the 12 months to December 2019, an increase of 8.6%, or 5.9 million boardings, on the 12 months to December 2018.
 - Ferry boardings totalled 6.2 million for the 12 months to December 2019, an increase of 2.0%, or 0.1 million boardings, on the 12 months to December 2018.
10. Boardings on the Rapid and Frequent Network totalled 51.0 million in the 12 months to December 2019, an increase of 12.3%, or 5.6 million boardings, on the 12 months to December 2018. The growth rate on the Rapid and Frequent Network has slowed compared to previous years as the conversion rate of low-frequency Local and Connector bus services to high-frequency Frequent bus services through the rollout of the bus New Network through new bus capacity has been completed. This is compounded by annualization of bus or train transfer boardings in the counts following completion of the New Network implementation. The increasing demand that has been seen on Rapid and Frequent services inevitably reduces capacity availability, which also contributes to a slow-down in use growth rates. AT continues to add capacity to existing Rapid and Frequent corridors including new EMUs over the next 24 months to the rail network and additional bus capacity. AT is also looking at options to continue to transition low-frequency Local and Connector bus services to high-frequency Frequent bus service routes through provision of further capacity.

⁴ Monthly traffic updates – October 2019 <https://corporate.aucklandairport.co.nz/news/publications/monthly-traffic-updates>

11. The total public transport farebox recovery ratio was 42.4% in December 2019, compared to a target of 43 to 46%. While this is below the target band, it is within 2.5% of the lower boundary.
12. Year to date public transport punctuality was 97.5%, meeting the SOI target of 95.0%.

Environmental impacts

13. The percentage of streetlights that were energy efficient LED in 2017/18 was 45%. The 2019/20 SOI target is to increase this to 56% of the streetlight network. The result of this measure will be reported in June 2019.
14. Corporate emissions (CO₂) from 2017/18 totalled 1,248 tonnes. The 2019/20 SOI target is for corporate emissions (CO₂) to not exceed 1,194 tonnes, a reduction of 7% compared with 2017/18. The result of this measure will be reported in June 2019.
15. There were three low emission (electric) buses in the Auckland bus fleet as at 31 December 2019. The 2019/20 SOI target is to have five low emission buses in operation by 30 June 2020. Recent developments indicate that this target will be exceeded.

Safety

16. The SOI sets a target of 10 high risk intersections or sections of road to be addressed by the safety programme. In the YTD December 2019, this target has been met with improvements to four high risk intersections and six high risk corridors completed. A further eight high risk intersections and 11 high risk corridors are in construction, indicating this measure will be exceeded.
17. The 12-month rolling total local road DSI to September 2019 was 538, 3% lower than the 12 months to September 2018. For the 12 months to the end of September 2019, local road deaths decreased by 15% (from 46 to 39) and local road serious injuries have decreased by 2% (from 509 to 499).

Cycling and active modes

18. There were no cycleway kilometres intended to be delivered in the past quarter. The YTD cycleway kilometres delivered remain at 2.2 km, unchanged since September 2019. The K Road - Upper Queen Street section is intended to be complete in January 2020.
19. The year to date cycle count of 1,727,977 trips to the end of December 2019 is now meeting the SOI target, although 1.8% below forecast. Low cycle count numbers in recent months are expected to increase as new cycleway infrastructure is completed in the second half of 2019/20.

Best use of the transport network

20. The rolling average AM peak arterial productivity was 32,941 for the 12 months to December 2019. The 2019/20 SOI target for arterial road productivity has been increased from 21,000 to 27,500. This is measured as the product of the number of vehicles (including buses), their average journey speed and average vehicle occupancy across 30 arterial routes.
21. In December 2019, 78% of the network operated efficiently at levels of service C or above (50 to 100% of the posted speed limit). This was eight percentage points higher (better) than November 2019, largely attributable to the higher operating speed across the network associated with the School and Christmas holidays. In the 12 months to December 2019, 75% of the network has been operating efficiently during the morning peak. This is 2 percentage points worse than the 12 months to December 2018.
22. The average proportion of the freight network operating efficiently during the inter-peak was 93% for the 12 months to December 2019, exceeding the SOI target of 85%.

Customer experience and satisfaction

23. Overall satisfaction with public transport services in December 2019 was 91%, which has remained unchanged since September 2017. This exceeds the 2019/20 SOI target of 85%.

Assets and maintenance

24. The SOI target relating to resurfacing / rehabilitating local roads is 5.8% of the local road network, which equates to 389 km. The year to date (December 2019) completed length of 140.9 km (2.1% of the network) is less than the forecast trajectory of 190 km due to primarily difficult weather conditions for resurfacing earlier in the financial year. However, the opportunity was taken at the time to progress ahead of target preparatory works that are not weather dependent including kerb and channel replacement to permit resurfacing to be completed quicker later in the year. There are a number of road pavement rehabilitation projects programmed for January to take advantage of the improved weather and lower traffic levels on the roads to reduce disruption from works. Though we are behind the forecast profile we remain on track for delivery of the programme.
25. The percentage of customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths that receive a response within AT's specified times was 85% in December 2019, up four percentage points from December 2018. The year to date average to December 2019 is 85.0%, now meeting the SOI target.

Summary of performance against SOI measures at 31 December 2019




26. Table 1 provides a summary of performance against SOI targets.

Table 1: Performance against SOI targets					
Strategic Transport Priorities	<u>On target to exceed</u> measures	<u>On target to meet</u> measures	<u>Not on target to meet</u> measures	<u>Non-reporting period</u>	<u>Total</u> measures
Help people to travel safely	2	0	0	0	2
Improve access to frequent and attractive public transport	2	3	0	0	5
Encourage walking and cycling	0	2	0	0	2
Make the best use of existing transport networks	2	0	0	2	4
Manage the impacts of the transport network on the environment	0	1	0	2	3
Value for money	0	3	0	4	7
Local Board engagement	0	0	0	2	2
Total	6	9	0	10	25

Attachments

Attachment Number	Description
1	Auckland Transport Quarterly Indicators Report 2019/20 – December 2019
2	Auckland Transport Monthly Indicators Report 2019/20 – December 2019
3	Auckland Transport Monthly Indicators Report 2019/20 – November 2019

Document ownership

Submitted by	Hamish Bunn Group Manager Integrated Network Planning, Policy & Sustainability	
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Glossary

Acronym	Description
SOI	Statement of Intent
GDP	Gross Domestic Product