

26 September 2016

Better Urban Planning Inquiry  
New Zealand Productivity Commission  
PO Box 8036  
The Terrace  
Wellington 6143

**Better Urban Planning – draft report**

Auckland Transport (AT) would like to thank the Productivity Commission for the opportunity to respond to the draft report on Better Urban Planning (“BUP”). Auckland Transport has worked closely with Auckland Council on the attached submission and fully support it.

In addition to the points in the submission relating to infrastructure provision and integration, we also wish to highlight the following matters which are also relevant:

**Route protection for infrastructure networks** – as highlighted in the Auckland Council submission, securing infrastructure networks in growth areas is critical to enable the provision of development land and accelerate the provision of housing as envisaged by the commission, particularly in periods of rapid growth and land price inflation as Auckland has recently experienced. In AT's view, the ability to use a mechanism such as 'concept designations' would secure the necessary routes while providing guidance and certainty to the wider community as to where such networks would be located.

**Funding tools** – A wide range of funding tools and the flexibility to use them in a way that allows tailoring to local circumstances is critical to the enablement and management of Auckland's growth.

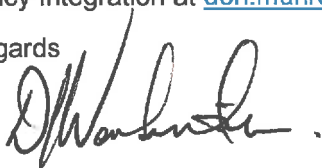
**Government Policy Statement (GPS)** – As noted by Auckland Council, there are a number of potential issues with the proposal for a GPS but any change should seek to either replace or integrate the existing collection of National Policy Statements, to provide clear guidance in dealing with conflicts between policies.

**Cumulative effects** – Under an effects based system, the mitigation and attribution of responsibility for incremental infrastructure demands is challenging, particularly for the transport network. AT recommends that this issue is specifically reviewed by the Commission and can provide further information if required on this topic.

Auckland Transport would welcome the opportunity to discuss these matters with the Productivity Commission directly.

Should you require further information or elaboration please contact Don Munro, Manager Strategic Policy Integration at [don.munro@at.govt.nz](mailto:don.munro@at.govt.nz).

Regards



David Warburton  
**Chief Executive Officer**

CC: Auckland Council