



# Cobham Drive to Buckle Street transport improvements

## Public engagement

### Buckle Street – an update on plans for the NZ Memorial Park

23

#### Background

- Until recently the Ministry for Culture and Heritage (MCH) was responsible for proposals to develop the NZ Memorial Park and Buckle Street.
- The NZTA is now responsible for Buckle Street and for landscaping the vacant land to the north.
- We will work with MCH to develop a ‘memorial precinct’ on the south side of Buckle Street.
- Previously, MCH considered locating Buckle Street in a tunnel or moving Buckle Street to the north towards Mt Cook School.
- Buckle Street is presently a one-way, two-lane road that widens to three lanes as it approaches Taranaki Street.

#### Proposed Buckle Street upgrade

Buckle Street will stay at street level. It will be widened to three lanes between Sussex Street and Taranaki Street and moved about 10 metres to the north.

MCH, WCC and the NZTA are working on landscape plans for each side of Buckle Street. These will take into account:

- The landscaping already completed by MCH
- The design principles already established for the NZ Memorial Park
- The land to the north of Buckle Street has the potential to be used for transport/roading purposes in future.

#### What happens to the vacant land to the north of Buckle Street?

- The NZTA will continue to own this land so that future generations have the option of using it to upgrade the Inner City Bypass.

#### Other options considered

- Several options were investigated for improving SH1 along Buckle Street in front of the War Memorial, including the idea of locating Buckle Street in a tunnel.
- These investigations revealed that while the tunnel would have social and amenity benefits, it would be expensive and provide minimal transport benefits.



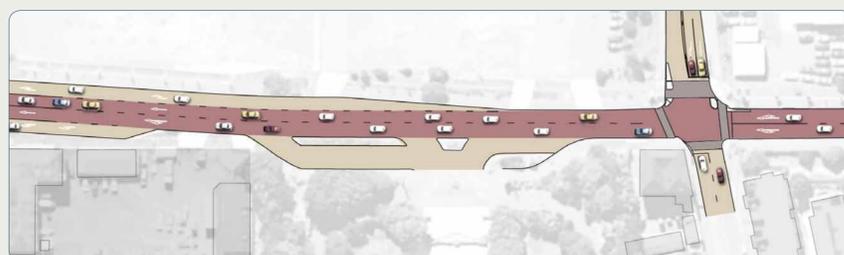
Artist's impression of Buckle Street from the west of Taranaki Street. The War Memorial Carillon is in the middle of the picture. The NZTA owns and will landscape the land to the north of Buckle Street.



We also investigated placing Buckle Street in a tunnel. This artist's sketch shows the tunnel entrance at Taranaki Street, with the NZ Memorial Park developed on top. However, the tunnel is too expensive to build.



Several schools and other educational institutions in the area generate significant pedestrian numbers.



Existing alignment of Buckle Street.



We propose moving Buckle Street 10 metres to the north of its current location and widening it to three lanes. The footpath between Buckle Street and the War Memorial will be improved, while the land to the north of Buckle Street will be landscaped.