

INFORMAL REMIT

DEVELOPMENT OF A SHARED SPACE IN AUCKLAND

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ABSTRACT

This informal remit presentation provides an insight into the processes undertaken in developing what is understood to be Auckland and New Zealand's first shared space. The shared space is one of a number of transport infrastructure improvements underway within the vicinity of the Eden Park rugby stadium, as part of plans to improve access ahead of the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

The shared space has been developed as a component of a wider Auckland City Council project to improve public transport on this northern section of Sandringham Road; the other major elements being a new outbound bus lane and realignment of the Walters Road intersection.

With the pressing deadline of the Rugby World Cup in 2011, the project has been undertaken at a relatively fast pace, with works beginning on site in December 2009, less than 2 years from beginning the project feasibility stage.

In terms of the extent of physical works, the shared space is a relatively minor component of the overall scheme, however in terms of resources it has been a major component of the scheme, requiring significant input from numerous Council departments and liaison with neighbouring residents and organisations.

The shared space will have dual purposes, serving as a local 'lane' for the majority of the year, but during major events at Eden Park, will be closed to traffic and become a thoroughfare for approximately 20,000 people. Consideration of this dual purpose is just one of the factors considered throughout the development of the space; other key issues were urban design, public art, environmental sensitivity and local heritage. These items will be covered in greater detail during the presentation.