



Briefing: City Link Bridge

9 February 2026 – 3.30pm

Attendees

Elected Members: Mayor Fauono Laban, Cr Barratt, Deputy Mayor Brown, Cr Dyer (via audio visual link), Cr Edwards, Cr Lewis (via audio visual link), Cr Mitchell, Cr Parkin, Cr Puketapu (via audio visual link), Cr Stallinger (via audio visual link), Cr Tonga-Grant (via audio visual link), Cr Yung.

Staff: J Miller, Chief Executive; A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities; J Kingsbury, Director Economy and Development; K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services; A Darby-Braddock, Head of Mayor's Office; S Gola, Project Manager - Streetscapes (via audio visual link); R Oliver, Senior Consultant; L Desrosiers, Head of Business and Urban Development; B Gale, Urban Design Lead and V Gilmour, Democracy Advisor (via audio visual link).

Non-Attendance

Cr Ravi and Cr Shaw

Presenters

R Oliver, Senior Consultant; and
J Kingsbury, Director Economy and Development

Introduction

The purpose of the briefing is to provide an update on the progress of the City Link Bridge (CLB) and outline the proposed Principal's Requirements that will guide the design and build procurement process.

Key Objectives of the Briefing

The key objectives of the briefing were to:

- provide an update on the progress of the CLB project;
- outline the proposed Principal's Requirements that will form the basis of the design and build procurement;
- explain the rationale for key design requirements, including accessibility, safety, urban design and cost considerations; and
- Seek early feedback from elected members before formal approval by the Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee.

Presentation by R Oliver, Senior Consultant and J Kingsbury, Director Economy and Development

Slide 1 – City Link Bridge Principal's Requirements (Header)

Slide 2 – Why are we here?

Slide 3 – Principals Requirements (PRs)

Slide 4 – High-Level Summary of PRs for CLB

Slide 5 – High-Level Summary cont.

Slide 6 – Mana Whenua Narrative (from consent)

Slide 7 – CLB Concepts

Slide 8 – CLB Concepts cont.

Slide 9 – CLB Concepts cont.

Slide 10 – CLB Concepts cont.

Slide 11 – CLB Concepts cont.

Slide 12 – CLB Concepts cont.

Slide 13 – Broader Outcomes

Slide 14 – Next Steps

Questions and discussion points

- Braille installation at the base of the stairs for low vision assistance was not included in the project but will be reviewed in the accessibility assessment. Tenderers must also address accessibility in their design proposals.
- Shelter options were initially considered for the project but not pursued due to cost and structural concerns. Consequently, wind and rain protection is not included in the bridge requirements, as it would increase costs, affect visibility and safety, and degrade visual quality. Consistency with other city pedestrian bridges and walkways was also considered.
- The bridge project must be delivered within the approved budget, and no additional funding is available. This constraint has informed design decisions, including the exclusion of additional structural elements such as wind protection.
- The bridge design requires both stairs and ramps. This approach recognises the height and steepness of the stopbank, which would require ramps to take

a longer and less direct route. Providing stairs provides more direct access for pedestrians, while ramps remain available for accessible and cycling use.

- Coordination with Greater Wellington Regional Council is required in relation to stopbank interfaces. These matters will be resolved prior to tender release and are not expected to impact the bridge's principal design requirements.
- Edge protection along the bridge will be determined through the design process. Options may include solid elements or lighter barriers such as posts or wire, with the flexibility to manage weight, wind loading, cost and safety outcomes while meeting project requirements.
- The project focuses on local economic, training, and employment outcomes by prioritizing Hutt based businesses, with some engagement in wider Wellington. At least 5% of the contract value must be delivered by Māori and Pasifika businesses. Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora | Ministry of Social Development will be a key partner for employment outcomes, and collaboration with tertiary training providers is underway to support training to employment pathways. Further refinements will be made before reporting to the Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee.

Next steps

- **5 March 2026 – Seek Committee approval** (Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee) of CLB PRs.
- **March 2026** – Agreement with Greater Wellington Regional Council and Waka Kotahi on interface details, these are not expected to impact on bridge outcomes.

Briefing materials

Attachment 1 – Presentation: [City Link Bridge.pdf](#)

The briefing closed at 4.00pm