

MEDIA RELEASE

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Auckland Transport recognised for excellence in cost-effectiveness

Auckland Transport has won the Co-Lab Award for Excellence in Cost-Effectiveness at the 2026 LGFA Taituarā Local Government Excellence Awards for its Climate Resilience versus Recovery Costs for Transport Networks project.

The award recognises smart, efficient approaches that achieve better outcomes while reducing costs and maximising value for communities. This includes initiatives that improve processes, optimise resources or deliver services in more effective ways.

Following the severe weather events of 2023, Auckland Transport analysed more than 200 major landslides across its network to compare the cost of prevention with the cost of recovery.

The findings showed that preventative resilience measures typically cost just 15–30 percent of the expense of repairing damage after a failure.

By challenging traditional rebuild approaches and designing infrastructure that is fit for purpose in a changing climate, Auckland Transport identified how \$670 million in resilience investment could avoid between \$2.2 billion and \$4.4 billion in future recovery costs.

The judges said the project demonstrated the value of investing in resilience and prevention.

“This entry presents clear and compelling evidence of the cost-effectiveness of investing in prevention and resilience over simply restoring to current standards,” the judges said.

“It also provided one of the clearest demonstrations of being ingrained in business as usual, particularly the climate adaptation and asset planning.”

The judges recognised the project for demonstrating how evidence-based decision-making can support long-term planning and investment while reducing future costs to communities.



Auckland Transport is eligible to enter the Excellence Awards as a council-controlled organisation (CCO).

About the LGFA Taituarā Local Government Excellence Awards

The LGFA Taituarā Local Government Excellence Awards showcase and celebrate outstanding programmes, projects, partnerships and initiatives from across New Zealand's local government sector. The awards recognise excellence, innovation and leadership that deliver positive outcomes for communities and create learnings that can be shared across the sector. The awards are hosted annually by Taituarā – Local Government Professionals Aotearoa.

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