

17 October 2024

Jimmy King

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Your request for information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) -CAS-982797-K9F0Q1

Kia ora Jimmy,

Thank you for your request for information dated 23 September 2024 regarding the Special Vehicle Lane (SVL) located on Onewa Road.

The importance of Special Vehicle Lanes and its enforcement across Auckland

Due to the high number of vehicles at peak times, Auckland's roading network operates at capacity. Travelling by bus allows more people to move around the city. Special Vehicle Lanes (SVL) only assist buses to travel around the city faster if they are not congested. To ensure that SVL are clear we issue infringement notices to drivers who use SVL incorrectly to deter this illegal activity. Faster public transport times will attract more patronage on public transport which will reduce congestion on our roads.

Auckland Council fully supports the Government's initiatives on Climate Change and Emission Objectives. To achieve modal shift along arterials and encourage micro mobility as first and last leg travel options will be one way Auckland Transport is able to meet Climate Change and Emission Objectives.

Efficient corridors and PT journey times will lead to stronger modal shift to Public Transport.

Why were cameras chosen for Onewa road? What were the other options that were not chosen?

From 2018, Auckland Transport (AT) started to rollout the introduction of CCTV cameras to monitor the SVL's, increasing its enforcement efforts using technology (CCTV) for enforcement whilst replacing manual labour. Enforcement of a newly created SVL and the move from manual to CCTV enforcement, does include a warning period (a minimum 2 weeks) during which all vehicles that incorrectly use the lane are issued with a Warning Notice.

Onewa Road was chosen as an ideal location to start the rollout of transit lane cameras to increase compliance which would reduce congestion and increase efficiency of the network.

Alternatively, continuing with manual monitoring is less efficient than using CCTV cameras. This approach relies heavily on officers to be positioned on the roads, requiring the full team of 18 staff to be deployed daily to match the monitoring capabilities of CCTV.

The benefits are:

- It allows us to monitor more lanes.
- It allows us to monitor lanes daily, compared to random monitoring when using officers (dependant on availability) with manual cameras. For example, a lane which has operating hours of 7-10am & 4-7pm



Mon-Fri has the full 30hrs of monitoring (using CCTV) compared to the manual monitoring of 15hrs per week.

- This increases compliance faster and can maintain compliance through consistency over time. CCTV enforcement also enables a safer work environment for staff as time spent capturing manual footage kerbside is eliminated.

Onewa Road has 17 enforcement zones; travelling from Highbury citybound there are 9 enforcement zones and travelling from the Motorway to Highbury there are 8 enforcement zones. Enforcement went live from 23 May 2022, following a 2-week warning and 1-week stand-down period that took effect on 26 April 2022

How much did it cost in traffic management for that project?

For the cost involved with the traffic management during the installation of CCTV on Onewa Road; the average cost at the time of installation was \$4,800.00 per zone. With 17 zones making up the Onewa Road corridor, an average cost of \$81,600.00 was attributed to the traffic management for the full project.

How much does it cost to operate these cameras per year?

Two parking officers are required for the continuity of operations five days per week. The total cost is \$134,000.00 per year, based on the average officer salary, which to-date reflects \$67,000.00.

How many total fines have been given out from when the cameras became operational to 23/09/2024

For the period between 23.5.22 and 23.9.24; a total of 12,452 infringements were issued to vehicles for the Unauthorised Use of a Special Vehicle Lane on Onewa Road. Refer to the table below for a granular outtake.

With an average compliance rate sitting at 99.2%, Onewa Road is among the most compliant in Auckland which shows people are not only complying, but also reinforces the purpose behind the rollout of CCTV cameras and the success it achieves in compliance.

Date	SVL	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2022	Onewa Road (All Zones)					74	34	26	39	49	40	61	42	301
2023	Onewa Road (All Zones)	34	57	86	44	494	36	32	50	44	44	56	47	584
2024	Onewa Road (All Zones)	47	39	35	43	381	27	37	55	35			359	

When there was no cameras and there were people having cameras manually, how much did it cost per year to have those camera operators?

Before the introduction of CCTV cameras on Onewa Road, three parking officers were required to manually monitor the SVL. Salaries prior to 23 May 2022 (rollout of live CCTV enforcement) had an average of \$62,000.00 per officer thus the costs associated per year for three officers is \$186,000.00.



How much is maintenance to these cameras so far?

In the event of unforeseen physical and/or technical issues such as environmental factors (i.e., a vehicle colliding with the poles in which the CCTV cameras are installed upon); the costs associated with this reactive maintenance average \$1500.00 per month, which includes all 17 zones within the Onewa Road corridor, with the addition of a 6-monthly and annual general maintenance check-up.

I understand if this is not possible, but could I potentially get the names of the people who were in charge of that project?

The project was completed with the approval from the Group Manager of Parking Services & Compliance, John Strawbridge and the Head of Transport and Parking Compliance, Rick Bidgood. The work was completed by CSLi (CSL Infrastructure).

Should you believe that we have not dealt with your request appropriately, you are able to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman in accordance with section 27(3) of the LGOIMA Act and seek an investigation and review regarding this matter.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Strawbridge', written over a light blue circular stamp.

John Strawbridge
Group Manager, Parking Services & Compliance