

A background image showing several hands in business attire writing on documents with pens, suggesting a professional meeting or collaborative work environment.

Transport assessments

Abley provide independent transport planning and traffic engineering advice for developers and planning authorities for a wide variety and scale of development proposals.

The Resource Management Act requires significant resource consent and plan change applications to include an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE).

This describes all of the environmental effects associated with a proposed activity. Transport assessments and ITAs (Integrated Transport Assessments) assess the traffic and transportation effects of a development proposal and are an essential component of an AEE for many applications.

Our team understands the balance between commercial decisions and consenting authority requirements, and always seek to provide practical recommendations that create a win-win situation for all involved. We have been providing these services throughout New Zealand for more than 15 years, including the following types of development:

- › Subdivisions (residential, commercial or mixed use)
- › Retirement villages
- › Schools (including preschools)
- › Supermarkets
- › Industrial developments
- › Service stations
- › Mixed-use sites
- › Small-scale developments

Abley offers a complete service package for the assessment of transportation matters.

These include:

- › Resource consent and District Plan Compliance
- › Master planning and site layout design
- › Transportation modelling
- › ITAs for plan change and resource consent applications
- › Expert witness
- › Accessibility and Active Travel
- › Access and parking advice

Our team of highly skilled transportation planners and traffic engineers are experienced across the transportation processes and rules in New Zealand. If you wish to discuss your requirements, please contact:



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Case studies



Papanui PAK'n SAVE Supermarket – Christchurch

Abley assisted Foodstuffs South Island Limited with the resource consent application to establish and operate a new PAK'n SAVE supermarket in Papanui, Christchurch. We undertook a site layout review to explore opportunities to improve access, parking, loading and safety for the proposed supermarket. Once the site layout was finalised, we prepared the ITA to accompany the resource consent application which details the traffic and transport elements of the proposal and how it affects the surrounding transport network. We built a microsimulation (s-Paramics) transport model to assess the impact of the proposal on the wider road network. The modelling results concluded that whilst the supermarket had a large traffic generating footprint, the majority of trips are already on the network as they pass-by the site or are trips diverted from elsewhere on the local network.

The application was referred to a hearing where we provided expert transport evidence. The proposal was concluded to have positive safety and efficiency effects on the transport network, and that any adverse effects would be less than minor. The resource consent has been approved.



Silverdale South Plan Change – Auckland

Abley prepared an ITA to accompany the Silverdale South Plan Change (Plan Change 123) to the Auckland Council District Plan. The Plan Change proposed a mixed-use development of 84ha of land in the Silverdale south area in Auckland.

Two transport models, the Hibiscus Coast Cube Strategic Transport Model and the Hibiscus Coast AIMSUN Microsimulation Model, were used to determine the impact of the Plan Change on the wider road network. It was concluded that traffic demands could be better catered for by creating additional capacity at the adjacent intersection and reconfiguration of signal phasing and timing.

A consensus was reached on the proposed mitigation measures following extensive conferencing with Auckland Transport, Auckland Council and other interested parties, resulting in the Plan Change being approved.



Orion Point Retirement Village – Auckland

Metlifecare is New Zealand's largest retirement village provider. Abley was commissioned by Metlifecare to provide transportation inputs into the design of their new 230-unit Orion Point retirement village and associated transport infrastructure in Hobsonville, Auckland.

Our team prepared an ITA to assess the potential traffic impacts for the resource consent application. During this process, we worked with architects and civil engineers to develop a retirement village that would be best suited for the elderly residents. One of the features was the use of kerbless roads within the development to minimise trip hazards and make the village more accessible for mobility scooter users. Construction of this village is expected to begin in 2021.



Leaps and Bounds Preschool Expansion – Rangiora, Canterbury

Abley prepared an ITA to support the Leaps and Bounds Preschool resource consent application in Rangiora to increase the number of licensed children from 26 to 56 children.

We undertook a trip generation and parking demand survey to determine the existing travel and parking demand patterns, so we could assess the effects of the proposed expansion. We also provided a concept parking layout as part of the ITA report. The ITA also included an assessment against the relevant Waimakariri District Plan rules. The resource consent application was approved, and expansion of the preschool has been completed.