

Debating the Issues

Debate the issues from a variety of perspectives.

Role Play – Waterview Connection

If you asked a number of people living in Auckland how they feel about the Waterview Connection Project you would probably get a range of responses depending on where they lived and their personal perspectives.

This could be a scenario such as a council meeting, a public information evening, a demonstration, or community gathering.

Roles

Councillors and Local Politicians: You have a responsibility to answer the concerns of local citizens who are worried about noise levels, disruptions and detours. You will also need to answer questions about why the Waterview Connection Project is going ahead, when it will be finished and what its benefits will be.

Transport Companies: You are concerned about the disruptions that this project could cause to your business but are keen to see the project completed as soon as possible so there is an alternative route around the CBD of Auckland.

Geologists and Geotechnical Engineers: You have been involved in assessing land strength and designing a tunnel that is strong enough to withstand earthquakes and need to give clear explanations to the public.

Business Representative: You support the Waterview Connection because it will provide a direct link between your business and the airport and make transporting goods and services quicker and easier.

Environmentalist: You are concerned with how much money is being spent on roads when this could go towards improving public transport and thereby reducing carbon emissions.

Local Community Representative: You represent the views of your community who are concerned about how the local environment will be affected by the project

NZTA Representative: You will need to answer questions about construction and how impacts on people and the environment will be reduced.

- Ⓢ Consider using other ways of analysing these perspectives e.g. write a speech or letter, draw a cartoon, sketch a caricature of roles, develop a poster or pod cast etc.
- Ⓢ Video the debate
- Ⓢ Swap roles and complete a debrief so students can discuss what they have learnt
- Ⓢ Send your ideas and/or student work in to display with full acknowledgement on our LEARNZ website, contact shelley.hersey@core-ed.org