



Monday, 22 April 2019

Attention: Shelly Warwick  
Chair, The Kāpiti Equestrian Advocacy Group

CC:

The NZ Transport Agency (NTZA)  
Board of Enquiry for the Ōtaki to North Levin (O2NL) Expressway  
Kāpiti Coast District Council (KCDC)  
Horowheuna District Council (HDC)

**Re: Support for a “smart future” with a well-planned and safe Cycleway, Walkway, Bridleway (CWB) on the Ōtaki to North Levin (O2NL) Expressway**

Tēna koutou katoa,

Energise Ōtaki is a local organisation whose members work towards “helping ourselves to a smart future”. We do this through action across many areas such as:

- Reducing electricity and energy consumption
- Reducing reliance on fossil fuels
- Increasing possibilities about what energy people use and how energy is generated, and
- Increasing choices about how people purchase energy.

#### Energise Ōtaki Supports Ōtaki Cycleways, Walkways, and Bridleways (CWB) Initiatives

Energise Ōtaki applauds the CWB that will be included in the Peka Peka to Ōtaki (PP2O) Project, and we are also in support of a well-planned CWB on the O2NL Expressway.

We see the CWB for the O2NL as a required component of the O2NL Expressway.

Energise Ōtaki has been an active supporter of the KCDC CWB Strategy which sets out the vision for a network around the town and the wider Ōtaki area, linking Ōtaki North and South. We have developed bike-related projects, such as the:

- **Green Bikes Initiative:** Students at Ōtaki College learnt how to rebuild bikes, supported by members of the community. This was supported by funding from the World Wildlife Fund, which enabled tools to be purchased, and bikes were donated from the community.
- **Bike Space:** The Green Bikes Initiative developed into a project at St. Peter Chanel where bikes are refurbished and then made available to people in the community. An important focus is on providing bikes for children and making it possible for them to swap these for larger bikes once they outgrow them. People can also come to St. Peter Chanel to receive help to repair their bikes. Support for this came from KCDC’s Waste Levy Fund. The Bike Space is modeled in part

on the Paekakariki Bike Library and has received generous support from Jane and others at Paekakariki.

- **E-vehicles and E-bikes:** Energise Ōtaki continues to support the roll-out of e-vehicles and bikes; a Committee member became an agent for e-bikes, we supported the Ōtaki College in their E-Velocity competition, and we supported the first EV charger in the Kāpiti Coast (at New World Ōtaki).

Creating a smart future requires intelligent planning today, and confirming the CWB for the O2NL Expressway is required to improve our:

- Environmental health, reducing our reliance on fossil fuels to commute between Ōtaki and Levin (or vice versa)
- Social Connectivity, linking Ōtaki through to North Levin, and reducing economic barriers to travel
- Economy through alternative transport, reduced reliance on fossil fuels, opportunities for innovative businesses, and
- Safety, with proper access for people, horses, and bicycles – without “squeezing” the CWB into plans at the last minute.

A well-connected, well-thought out, planned CWB from Ōtaki to North Levin would be an amazing opportunity for our two districts and the towns and people in between. We hope to hear that the Board of Enquiry for the O2NL Expressway has listened to the will of the people, and supported a connective and well-planned CWB for O2NL.

Kind Regards,



Leigh Ramsey  
Chair, Energise Ōtaki

More information about Energise Ōtaki can be found at [www.energise.otaki.net.nz](http://www.energise.otaki.net.nz).