

1 Sylvia Way
Te Horo Beach
RD1 Otaki 5581

To the
Mayor and Councillors
Horowhenua District Council

Dear Mayor and Councillors

Otaki to North of Levin Expressway: Shared (Multi-use) Path

The members of Kapiti Coast District Council's Cycleway, Walkway, Bridleway Advisory Group wish to put in writing their support for a multi-use path alongside the O2NL Expressway.

As you know, the southernmost 3km of O2NL is located in the Kapiti Coast District and flows directly on from the northern end of the soon to be completed Peka Peka to Otaki (PP2O) project. We therefore have an active interest in the progress of O2NL; our experience of the benefits of the existing Mackays to Peka Peka (M2PP) expressway for the district and the opportunities afforded by the associated shared (multi-use) path for both local communities and visitors from further afield, makes it obvious that such a path is a major asset, and that continuing the path north would provide an attraction from which both Districts would benefit.

Several of us have met with you and your staff on occasion to talk about the project and we now wish to formally acknowledge our support. We understand from NZTA that a shared path alongside the expressway has been confirmed; but that at this point little detail has been developed.

It is important to note that at this stage, the O2NL proposal provides for a shared (i.e. cycling and walking) pathway; the path alongside the existing Kapiti Expressway and that under construction alongside PP2O is multi-use, providing also for equestrian users. Added requirements are few, principally a grassed berm alongside the sealed or gravelled path. Our experience is that the predicted drawbacks, such as the deposits left by horses and risks associated with mixed use, have proved to be all but non-existent.

The multiuse path alongside M2PP continues to attract high user numbers and we expect the same from the PP2O path. Having this path continue north into your District will, we believe, provide huge recreational activities for all our residents and bring many visitors from out of the area to walk, ride, and spend. Note that we are, with the support of the Cycle Action Network national body, in the process of applying to have the current pathway listed as a Heartland Ride -this could well be extended to include the entire route from Paekakariki to north of Levin once completed.

We look forward to assisting in any way we can to have this path completed as a valuable part of the O2NL project.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Henderson

Chair, KCDC Cycleways, Walkways, Bridleways Advisory Group