



GREAT HARBOUR WAY

TE ARANUI O PŌNEKE

The Panel

Te Ara Tupua Fast Track Consenting Panel

Environmental Protection Agency

Dear Consenting Panel

You have asked for comment from a range of stakeholders referenced in NZTA's application for resource consent for Te Ara Tupua - being the seaward side shared path from Petone to Ngauranga.

We have previously provided NZTA with our strong endorsement of their application. That document is attached to this email and we commend its contents to. NZTA have engaged with us during the pre-consent consultation process. We have had opportunity to provide our perspectives. We are particularly delighted with the standard of their proposed design and the proposed scope and quality.

In respect of your invitation, we would like to provide the following brief additional comments. Our perspective reflects the objectives and vision of our Te Aranui o Poneke Trust, being the establishment of a shared pathway from Baring Head in the east to Red Rocks in the west.

- We consider the case for investment in Te Ara Tupua to be incredibly strong and indeed essential and urgent for Wellington and Hutt Valley.
- its impact will be transformational not only for the adjacent communities but for the 2 cities and the region. The current linear park concept provides many opportunities for participating with the natural elements as well as recreating and movement.
- without this infrastructure investment, nonvehicular movement continues to be thwarted and discouraged
- the opportunity exists to enhance our economic, social, recreational, and overall well-being with this proposed infrastructure investment.
- This proposed infrastructure investment aligns well with a range of current trends and imperatives.
 - The need for a healthier lifestyle underpinned by regular exercise
 - the need for infrastructure to underpin an alternative to motorised transport
 - the advent of E bikes and E scooters which greatly multiplies the potential pool of users
 - the emphasis on enhanced individual and group well-being which can only be positively impacted by the availability of this harbourside linear park
 - the need to strengthen our resilience in the face of changing weather patterns and tidal levels.
- This is a critical harbourside section. It will make a substantial contribution to the overall network of shared pathways and cycleways. Within that overall regional network, the Great Harbour Way provides a continuous spine facilitating linkages with many shared urban shared pathways as well as notable nonurban trails, e.g., the Remutaka Trail.
- We note the importance of delivering signage which reflects the network hierarchy. While each segment around the harbour will have its own characteristics and section name, the signage needs to identify its elemental contribution to the overall product being the Great



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Harbour Way. The GHW itself will be a subset of Wellington region's trails and shared pathways. We see it is critical for the segment value proposition to show its relationship with the larger collective. This will facilitate clear messaging and communication of the respective value propositions to residents and visitors alike.

- Te Ara Tupua is a bridge between 2 cities, between different segments of harbour perimeter shared pathways, between old and new behaviour and activities, and a facilitator and enabler of new regional network capability and effectiveness.
- We are an enthusiastic endorser of this investment proposition and resource consent application.

Graeme Hall

Chair

Te Aranui o Poneke/Great Harbour Way Trust





August 24, 2020

Great Harbour Way/ Te Aranui o Pōneke Trustees letter of support for resource consent application for the Te Ara Tupua path

The trustees of the Great Harbour Way/Te Aranui o Pōneke Trust (GHW) 100 percent support the NZTA submission for resource consent for Te Ara Tupua shared pathway.

The GHW vision is a continuous harbourside walking and cycling route around the entire 72km perimeter of Te Whanganui-a-tara, Wellington Harbour. This route will be a scenic and history enriching recreational attraction for locals and tourists, and an active commuter path, linking the sea with the land, the past with today, and the natural environment with human-made infrastructure.

Few, if any, major harbour cities in the world can match Wellington's opportunity to allow residents and visitors to safely walk or cycle a large and continuous Harbour coastline. No private land needs to be acquired to achieve this vision. Already, this unique perimeter shared pathway is being enjoyed by a wide range of users –walkers, runners, skaters, scooters, bikers; children, young people and adults; local national and international; able and disabled; commuters, recreationalists, exercisers, environmentalists, sportspeople, fishers, socialisers, fresh air lovers.

Since the inception of the Great Harbour Way project in 2003, the trust's vision has moved progressively closer to realisation. Crucial sections of the Great Harbour Way, such as the Cobham Drive path, will soon be complete. Consent for the Eastern Bays Shared Path to Eastbourne has been lodged. Building Te Ara Tupua, the Petone to Ngaūranga link, will be an essential step towards realising that vision. Te Ara Tupua will create a linear park that will double as a safe commuter route between the Hutt Valley and Wellington while also becoming part of one of Aotearoa's great urban walks and rides.

Closing the gap between Ngaūranga and Petone has been the biggest challenge and the focus of the GHW Trust's efforts for over a decade. We are delighted that this project will now be fast-tracked. Since the high-level intention to invest was announced, the project team has worked through the stages of needs analysis, benefit investigation and assessment, community and stakeholder consultation, innovation and design, and subsequent consultation. GHW trustees have been consulted and involved throughout.

We have had numerous positive interaction with the project team, and provided opportunities to input our thoughts and ideas, including on the linkages to other trails such as Hutt River Cycle Trail and the Remutaka Rail Trail, as well as the section of Te Ara Tupua from Petone

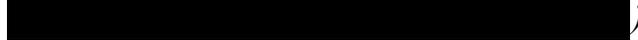
to Melling. We are particularly pleased the concept for Te Ara Tupua is for a linear park along the lines of the Lambton Harbour section – wide enough for multiple activities, not just a single function commuter thoroughfare.

The quality design, with its ground-breaking incorporation of Māori art and values, its close attention to safety, and its determination to provide exciting community experiences, has our full approval and admiration. We also see many tourism opportunities arising from this project, such as cruise ship passengers ferrying to Days Bay and biking or walking back to the boat, and small companies setting up services to assist people experiencing the full harbourside route. These opportunities and experiences can only enhance the strong Wellington brand.

We consider the investment in Te Ara Tupua will lead to substantial behaviour change and modal shift; for the first time there will be an alternative link between Wellington and the Hutt, to the current vehicle and rail modes. This is likely to benefit the whole region socially, recreationally, economically and in terms of health, well-being and social cohesion. Te Ara Tupua will truly be a linear park for the people.

We continue to fully support the project team and look forward to the opening of Te Ara Tupua this in 2024.

For more information, contact GHW Trustees Chair Graeme Hall

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