

11 December 2020

Alan Webb
Chairperson
Te Ara Tupua Expert Consenting Panel

Email: tearatupuafasttrack@epa.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Alan,

Te Ara Tupua – Ngā Ūranga ki Pito-One Pathway Project

Hutt City Council would like to record its strong support for the Te Ara Tupua – Ngā Ūranga ki Pito-One Pathway Project (Te Ara Tupua) to the Environmental Protection Agency.

The benefits of Te Ara Tupua are numerous and align directly with delivering Council's broader vision, which is *a connected, resilient and inclusive city where all of our people thrive*.

Te Ara Tupua will create safe and integrated walking and cycling between Ngā Ūranga and Pito-One (Ngauranga and Petone), improving connectivity (between the Hutt Valley and Wellington City) and resulting in significant social, cultural, economic (including through increased tourism) and recreational benefits.

Council commends Waka Kōtahi working in partnership with iwi mana whenua and in doing so have ensured their stories, histories, cultural designs and narratives are integrated into Te Ara Tupua.

Te Ara Tupua is a once in a lifetime opportunity to build something that is more than just a path. Te Ara Tupua to our mind will be a celebration of culture and identity that seeks to foster a closer and positive connection between people, our environment and our shared histories, which will act to enrich our future as people and as a community.

Te Ara Tupua will also act to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians. It will also encourage the uptake of active modes of transport, provide health and wellbeing benefits, reduce congestion and CO2 emissions, and most importantly providing a sustainable travel choice.

Te Ara Tupua is designed in such a way that it also provides improved resilience to climate change and sea level rise effects along a key arterial route for both the Hutt Valley and Wellington City (State Highway 2).

Te Ara Tupua, together with the benefits it will deliver, fits within our vision for Lower Hutt and aligns with Council's key strategies:

Environment Sustainability Strategy 2015-2045

- a) "safe walkways and cycleways (for both recreational and commuting purposes)" and "and a low carbon footprint, including through the promotion of walking and cycling";
- b) within focus area 3: transport, a goal of developing "a comprehensive cycling network that links all key population centres, provides access through the city, and is in alignment with the Great Harbour Way concept."

Infrastructure Strategy 2018-2048

- c) a vision to provide "Infrastructure that meets the needs of today and tomorrow", including by "increas[ing] the resilience, sustainability, and long-term adaptability of the infrastructure";
- d) "Ensuring infrastructure is resilient in the long term and adaptable to changing circumstances";

Leisure and Wellbeing Strategy 2012-2032

- e) "A safe and integrated transport system that prioritises active travel" and in terms of cycling specifically, "routes both on and off-road" that "cater for a range of user needs, including commuter and leisure cyclists".

Urban Growth Strategy 2012-2032

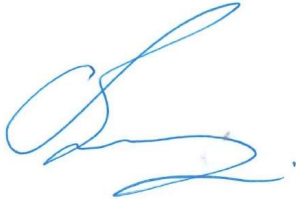
- f) "fantastic recreational opportunities" and "a transport network [that] contributes positively to our social mobility and ability to get to places to enjoy recreational activities"; and
- g) "a comprehensive cycling network that links all key population centres, provides access through the city, and is in alignment with the Great Harbour Way concept"

Overall, the benefits of Te Ara Tupua, and its linkages with similar Council projects like the Eastern Bays Shared Pathway and other cycleway connections, such as the Beltway cycleway fit directly with the vision and strategies Council has for our city. For this reason Te Ara Tupua is a positive, aligned and compelling project that we are proud to support.

Te Ara Tupua will also add significant benefit to our city through re-development works of the Honiana Te Puni Reserve, which we are directly working in partnership with Waka Kōtahi and Taranaki Whānui on. The redevelopment activities and projects being led in their main by Waka Kōtahi and Taranaki Whānui as the legal owners of the Reserve will create a significant gateway to and from the city, whilst also upholding and speaking to the cultural identity of iwi mana whenua.

We hope that the Environmental Protection Agency look upon this project with positivity as we know that Te Ara Tupua will be a significant asset to our city and most importantly a significant asset for our community.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Campbell Barry', with a stylized, flowing script.

Campbell Barry
Mayor of Lower Hutt

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jo Miller', with a stylized, flowing script.

Jo Miller
Chief Executive

Invitation for Comment on Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone Shared Path at Ngauranga to Petone.

The Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone Shared Path is a Listed Project under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

Application Name:	Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone Shared Path
EPA Reference:	FTC000001
Applicant:	New Zealand Transport Agency
Comments due by:	11 December 2020
Accessing the application:	The full application and supporting documents can be viewed on the EPA website, which can be accessed here: https://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/listed-projects/te-ara-tupua/

An application for resource consents and notice of requirement has been made by New Zealand Transport Agency under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 for Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone shared path.

To comment on the Te Ara Tupua application and notice of requirement using the form below, please fill in the details and:

- **Email** the form to tearatumuafasttrack@epa.govt.nz. Please mark in the subject line: “Comments on Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone Shared Path” (Your name/organisation) by 11 December 2020; or
- **Post** the form to Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone Shared Path, Environmental Protection Authority, Private Bag 63002, Waterloo Quay, Wellington 6140 in time for the form to be received by the 11 December 2020; or
- **Deliver in person** to Environmental Protection Authority, Grant Thornton House, Level 10, 215 Lambton Quay, Wellington by 11 December 2020. Please note that due to potential changes in COVID-19 Alert Levels our reception may not be open to the public. We suggest phoning ahead to check.

Comments must be received by the EPA, on behalf of the Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone Expert Consenting Panel, no later than 11 December 2020.

If your comment is not received by the EPA by 11 December 2020 the Panel is not required to consider your comment (although it may decide to). Under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 there is no right to seek a waiver of the time limit.

If you are an iwi authority you may share the consent application with hapū whose rohe is in the project area in the application, and choose to include comments from the hapū with any comments you may wish to provide.

Important information

Your personal information will be held by the EPA and used in relation to the Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone shared path consent application and notices of requirement process. You have the right to access and correct personal information held by the EPA.

A copy of your comments, including all personal information, will be provided to the Expert Consenting Panel and the applicant.

All comments received on the application will be available on the EPA website.

If you are a corporate entity making comments on this application, your full contact details will be publicly available. For individuals, your name will be publicly available but your contact details (phone number, address, and email) will not be publicly available.

Please do not use copyright material without the permission of the copyright holder.

All information held by the EPA is subject to the Official Information Act 1982.

More information on the fast-track consenting process can be found at <https://www.epa.govt.nz/fast-track-consenting/about/>.

Comment on the Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone shared path Fast Track Application

1. Contact Details

Please ensure that you have authority to comment on the application on behalf of those named on this form.

Organisation name (if relevant):	Hutt City Council (Environmental Consents)		
First name:*	Parvati		
Last name:*	Rotherham		
Postal address:	30 Laings Road, Hutt Central, Lower Hutt		
Home phone / Mobile phone*:	0278074290	Work phone*:	04 5706926
Email*: (A valid email address enables us to communicate efficiently with you)	Parvati.rotherham@huttcity.govt.nz		

All sections of this form with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.

2. We will email you draft conditions of consent/notices of requirement for your comment.*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I can receive emails and my email address is correct	<input type="checkbox"/>	I cannot receive emails and my postal address is correct.
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3. Please provide your comments on the Te Ara Tupua – Ngauranga to Petone shared path Application

In the interest of brevity the Reosource Consents team at HCC generally concurs with the assessment of effects and conclusions made within the application documentation.

HCC considers all conditions are appropriate and accepts all conditions with the exception to comments/suggestions below which we would like the panel to be mindful of in making their decision.

- **Condition GC.5 and GC.6:** these conditions relate to the lapse date of consents, currently the wording is somewhat vague when differentiating what consents/activities are captured by each condition – this could be better explained within the condition itself. Alternatively specific reference could be made to section 7.3.4 of the AEE to allow any person to easily navigate the application documentation and reduce any chance of confusion or the index attached to the conditions set (being Appendix B).
- **Conditions HTP.5(a) and HTP.6(b):** These conditions reference the design and placement of the Tawharau Pods and the submission of plans to the manager prior to construction or

placement. HCC suggest that the use of these pods might be better described either as part of the approval/application or within conditions. We suggest this in case wider uses beyond community and cultural activities might be sought to be accommodated within the pods once established – to expand upon this point, our initial correspondence with the applicant prior to the project being fast tracked included reference to the pods potentially having retail uses (i.e coffee cart etc) so we simply suggest that this is clarified as part of any approval. This would enable the consent holder to have greater flexibility and reduce the chance of requiring further consents in the future. The small scale of the pods and location would make them ideal for a range of uses and HCC would not oppose a greater level of flexibility afforded to their use as a result.

- Hutt City Council also supports the amendments to condition LV.3 put forward by the applicant relating to an audit regarding CPTED and SID design matters. These changes were put forward in the response to information requests dated 9th December 2020.

Overall HCC consider the proposal/project will be a positive addition to our city and the region. We would like to request that should additional conditions or amendments are made that comment might be sought from HCC prior to finalisation.
