CONNECTING CARTERTON

Schools Link



Carterton District Council is developing cycleways to make safe connections between our local schools, parks, and amenities.

Waka Kotahi's Transport Choices programme is supporting **Connecting Carterton - Schools Link** through provisional funding of cycleways connecting our schools.

Safety is our number one priority. The new routes will improve safety and make cycling a more appealing option for more children - meaning fewer cars on our roads, especially at the start and end of the day.

Over the course of this year, we've engaged with schools, businesses and organisations to help us snap up the funding before the deadline. We have investigated other routes and options and this proposed route best meets the community's needs. We need to make decisions by the end of September and construction by June 2024.

Being active and being able to connect with family and friends, has a positive effect on all aspects of our hauora - our physical, mental, spiritual and social wellbeing. The cycleways will link our community to local schools, and easier connection to whānau and friends.

- Brooklyn Road BMX track to SH2/High St An asphalt pathway on existing grass berm & pedestrian crossing near the BMX track.
- Brooklyn Rd/High St South [SH2]
 Existing raised crossing across SH2 for access to South End School.
- High St South [SH2] eastern side
 A shared pathway, allowing parking for school drop offs/pick ups.
- SH2 towards King St
 Fully separated and bi-directional cycleway on the northern side to the school gate.
- SH2 King St towards Seddon St Fully separated cycleway using wide shoulder.
- Seddon St to Wakelin St
 Shared footpath allows parking at Medical
 Centre.



- Wakelin St to Carrington Park
 Separated cycleway on north side.
- Park Road and Dixon Street
 Separated cycleway on southern side of road, with new crossing at Dixon Street.



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SCHOOLS LINKQuestions & Answers

Not many kids are biking to school. Why are you doing this?

Schools Link will improve road safety for kids who are already cycling to and from school, and will make cycling a more appealing option for everyone. Feedback from schools and our community has supported this. That means fewer cars on our roads, especially at the start and end of the school day. We are working with schools and Wairarapa Road Safety Council to encourage and educate kids and their families on the benefits of cycling or using active transport.

• Who will pay for the maintenance?

We have considered the whole-of-life cost in designs to ensure maintenance costs are kept as low as possible. Maintenance schedules and costs will be included in the annual operating roading budget.

Why have you focused on these streets?

Our community and schools told us cycling along SH2 can feel unsafe. Connecting kids with their schools is important, and making SH2 safer for walking and cycling helps this.

• Will this affect my rubbish bin collection?

Your rubbish and recycling bins will be collected as usual.

• Who is paying for this project?

This project is funded by Waka Kotahi through their Transport Choices programme, subject to final design approval. Transport Choices is part of the government's Climate Emergency Response Programme, formed out of the Emissions Reduction Plan and Budget 2022 to help make it easier for people to participate in a low carbon transport system.

• How is the Council able to make changes to a State Highway managed by Waka Kotahi?

This project has been funded and supported by Waka Kotahi as part of its Transport Choices Programme. The project will need to get final sign off by them prior to being implemented. Other routes have already been investigated and were unable to proceed.

What will it look like?



This enhanced image shows cycleways used across New Zealand. It opens up the footpath for walkers, and keeps cyclists safely distanced from traffic.

Why two-way cycle ways?

Bidirectional [two-way]cycleways allow more space. Riders can often ride two abreast or in small groups. Physical separation can offer a level of safety and security for riders. They take up less space, as a buffer/separator is only required on one side.

Is this part of a bigger plan for getting fewer cars on roads in Carterton?

We accept vehicles are used to get between towns in Wairarapa. But most of central Carterton is accessible by bike, and our terrain is welcoming for walking and cycling. We have wide streets, slow traffic and our township is relatively compact.

Will this be safe for kids to use?

The cycleways have been reviewed by expert engineers at Waka Kotahi. The standards are high, and we would be unable to get funding if the cycleways were not built to the recommended standard. The plan is subject to a Safety System Audit, and it formalises and improves the paths for walkers and cyclists.

Will some car parks be lost?

There will be fewer parks available on the eastern side of High St South, some adjoining streets, and Park Road, Affected businesses have been contacted and alternatives are easily available in these spaces.

Why and how was the funding made available?

Carterton District Council applied to a contestable fund for three projects. The Transport Choices programme provisionally awarded us \$918,720 for cycleways and \$180,000 for bike storage facilities at schools.





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