

Meeting: Council Meeting – 1st June 2023

Name of Item: SH11 Shared Use Path from Paihia to Waitangi

Author: Cushla Jordan – NTA Asset Manager

Date of Report: 16th February 2023

TAKE PŪRONGO / PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To seek Council approval, regarding the Council's implementation of the proposed Waka Kotahi's Shared Use Path project along SH11 from Paihia to Waitangi.

WHAKARĀPOPOTO MATUA / EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

That this report:

- outlines the background for the proposed Shared Use Path along SH11 from Paihia to Waitangi.
- highlights all the considerations of the preliminary design.
- identifies risk to the Council in accepting this project from Waka Kotahi; and
- makes recommendation to decline this project design and implementation at this time and reallocate the local share funds to further support the bridge renewals programme under work category 215 Structures Component Replacements.

TŪTOHUNGA / RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- a) Declines to undertake the final design and implementation of the draft design undertaken by Waka Kotahi NZTA for the proposed Shared Use Path along SH11 from Paihia to Waitangi.**
- b) And That Council declares a surplus subsidy of \$1.38M to Waka Kotahi NZTA for their allocation to this project.**
- c) And That Council reallocates the local share portion of the LTP amounting to \$0.62M to other prioritised projects previously unfunded.**

TĀHUHU KŌRERO / BACKGROUND

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) are seeking to investigate a range of options to confirm the preferred design features as part of a wider programme of work that will achieve key investment objectives along State Highway 11 (Marsden Road). This work will form part of the wider Twin Coast Discovery Route (TCDR) programme, which aims to upgrade sections of the route to support local communities, to accommodate the increasing number of people visiting the area, and to encourage others to do the same.

Waka Kotahi have prepared a preliminary design report for a Shared Use Path from Paihia Town Centre to Waitangi along the coastal edge of SH11 Marsden Road, connecting from the north of Nihonui Point to south of the roundabout with Te Karuwha Parade. Refer to the extent of work shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1 - Proposed Project Extent of Paihia to Waitangi Shared Use Path

Waka Kotahi have approached the Far North District Council to undertake the final design and implementation of this project.

MATAPAKI ME NGĀ KŌWHIRINGA / DISCUSSIONS AND OPTIONS

The preliminary design report and drawings have been considered and the following considerations identified, which will have an impact for the Council. The major considerations are:

- Community engagement has not been undertaken prior to the preliminary design.
- Of the current eighty-nine parking spaces, the preliminary design reduces the quantity to thirty-one parking spaces - a reduction of fifty-eight spaces.
- The project does not connect to other shared use paths and will therefore be a standalone section.
- All 21 Pohutukawa trees within the project extent will remain.

Other considerations regarding the proposed project not covered by the initial design report are:

- Local Iwi are unwilling to permit any improvement works on the Nihonui Point – this will limit any connection of a shared use path and limits the scope of works.
- From initial feedback from the Paihia Business Owners, they are not in favour of this project.
- Funding allocated for this project under the Long-Term Plan (LTP) could be reallocated to new Footpaths across the district.

Option A – Find other Walking and Cycling projects.

There were no other projects identified under Walking and Cycling that met the requirements for funding to replace SH11 Shared Path Paihia to Waitangi.

Option A is not the preferred option.

Option B – Declare the surplus funds and redistribute local share to bridge renewals.

Declare the surplus funds under the LTP and under Waka Kotahi subsidy and use the local share funds to further support the bridge renewals programme under work category 215 Structures Component Replacements.

Option B is the preferred option.

From the above considerations, there is a risk that the community will not support this project. As this project was initiated by Waka Kotahi, and is a standalone project, it does not clearly align with the strategies of the Activity Management Plan (AMP) which is the justification for the LTP funding of transport activities throughout the district.

The recommendation therefore is that this project be declined or not be taken to implementation stage and the proposed local share funding available under the LTP, be reallocated to further support the bridge renewals programme under work category 215 Structures Component Replacements.

PĀNGA PŪTEA ME NGĀ WŪHANGA TAHUA / FINANCILA IMPLICATIONS AND BUDGETORY PROVISION

Application was made under the Walking and Cycling activity class for Low-Cost Low-Risk projects and approved by Waka Kotahi. Table 1 provides the local share portion and subsidy portion broken down by funding year.

Table 1 - Breakdown of SH11 Shared Use Path approved funds.

Year	Local share	Subsidy share	Total
2022/23	\$310,000	\$690,000	\$1,000,000
2023/24	\$310,000	\$690,000	\$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$620,000	\$1,380,000	\$2,000,000

ĀPITIHINGA / ATTACHMENTS

1. SH11_Paihia_to_Waitangi-Shared_Use_Path--Preliminary_Design_Report

Approved by:



Calvin Thomas - NTA General Manager
9th May 2023