

From: [Trevor Butler](#)
To: [Darren James; dan](#)
Cc: [markwilliams.at.mangawhai](#); [Shane Knowler \(shaneknowler@mac.com\)](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed realignment of Te Araroa trail
Date: Wednesday, 9 August 2023 8:17:13 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

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Thanks for the update Darren.

The approach you are taking at FNDC seems to be a sound one. A delay in addressing the section of track with slips will allow time for the site stability to settle down.

I suggest though that there would be merit in investigating the stormwater drainage conditions above the slips. We have noted at several sites of slipping in parks and reserves in urban areas in Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington that have been investigated by Frame Group, a significant factor in triggering slippage is the stormwater runoff from private properties above the slip sites. Where there are broken drainage pipes or property owners have simply directed surface stormwater into the reserve land, this can trigger slipping. A check of the drainage from the properties above this section of the Paihia-Opuia Track may be worthwhile.

Regards

Trevor Butler

TA National Trustee / Chair Trail Integrity and Operations Cttee
0274 522952

From: Darren James <Darren.James@fndc.govt.nz>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 8:05 AM
To: dan <dan@teararoa.org.nz>; Trevor Butler <TrevorButler@frame.co.nz>
Cc: markwilliams.at.mangawhai <markwilliams.at.mangawhai@gmail.com>; Shane Knowler (shaneknowler@mac.com) <shaneknowler@mac.com>
Subject: RE: Proposed realignment of Te Araroa trail

Good morning Dan and Trevor

Thank you very much for your quick response, it is really appreciated. To manage expectation on the current damaged area of the track, FNDC have limited funding to undertake repairs at this time as the majority of the budget for the Opuia-Paihia walkway is tied up with making other sections of the track compliant and safe.

FNDC would seek to pace budget for this particular portion of the track in a Future Long Term Plan year and as you may be aware the next Long Term Plan 2024-34 maybe a light one in terms of budget concentrating on roading projects for the first three years of that plan.

Many Thanks

Darren



Darren James

Asset Manager - District Facilities

Delivery and Operations, Far North District Council | **24-hour Contact Centre** 0800 920 029

DDI 6494070435 | M 64272393871 | Darren.James@fndc.govt.nz

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From: Daniel Radford <dan@teararoa.org.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, August 8, 2023 12:16 PM

To: Trevor Butler <TrevorButler@frame.co.nz>; Darren James <Darren.James@fndc.govt.nz>

Cc: markwilliams.at.mangawhai <markwilliams.at.mangawhai@gmail.com>; Shane Knowler (<shaneknowler@mac.com>)

Subject: RE: Proposed realignment of Te Araroa trail

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Hi Darren,

And thanks Trevor for the CC. Very understandable problem and acceptable solution for the time being as Trevor has indicated. Thanks for the heads up. It's about a week too late for me to slip it into the August map update, but that's not a big deal as long as you have it marked as you've indicated. We can correct the GIS in the next update in November and cover it in the notes until then.

Cheers,

Dan Radford

Te Araroa – Trail Manager

027 364 8088

From: Trevor Butler <TrevorButler@frame.co.nz>

Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 8:55 PM

To: Darren James <Darren.James@fndc.govt.nz>

Cc: Daniel Radford <dan@teararoa.org.nz>; markwilliams.at.mangawhai <markwilliams.at.mangawhai@gmail.com>; Shane Knowler (<shaneknowler@mac.com>)

Subject: RE: Proposed realignment of Te Araroa trail

Hi Darren,

Thank you for sharing this information and seeking my thoughts.

Since you seek comment from me as a TAT Board member, I have copied this email to Daniel Radford (TAT Trails Manager), Shane Knowler (Chair TAT Northland Trust), and Mark Williams (Operations Cttee, TA Northland Trust).

I am able to relate the slips etc in this section of the walkway to my notes and photos from the original scheduling of the whole Paihia to Opua track in 2021. Some of these slips represent fresh movement at the slips noted when I did the upgrade feasibility back in 2021.

I concur with the findings and the recommendations of the recent Haigh Workman report.

In my notes, I recorded the junction of the side track to Richardson St from the main track just south of the Lemons Bay Beach House (ie the proposed re-alignment route). I did not walk up this short link to Richardson Rd, but from the FNDC GIS, this track appears to climb about 21m in elevation over less than 50m, hence I assume this track consists of steps over most of the climb. The descent along Richardson Rd down to the slipway bay is relatively gentle and would be easy walking.

I do not see any issues with the proposed re-alignment of the Paihia-Opua track (and TA) onto this section of Richardson Rd for the short to medium future. This would provide safe reliable continuity of the TA route whilst the coastal cliff is experiencing an episode of instability.

As with any coastal erosion, the current slipping may settle down over time and the scarps may re-vegetate. Much of the attraction of the Paihia to Opua coastal track is the opportunity to follow closely the waters edge and enjoy the views across the water as well as the immediate shoreline. I would hope that at some stage in the future, funding would be found to implement the recommendations in the Haigh Workman report, and the coastal bench could be provided with the isolated retaining structures recommended in our 2021 report. I note that this coastal cliff is designated Road Reserve, bounded on the seaward side by Conservation Reserve. The shoreline has exposed sound greywacke rock at the toe of the cliff, hence once the existing weathered greywacke and soils on the cliff have reached equilibrium and new vegetation has established, it should be possible to safely return the track alignment to this route, possibly with boardwalks founded onto the rock for sections is necessary.

I acknowledge that for FNDC, the proposed re-alignment is a logical option until such time as the cliff becomes more stable and there is funding available to carry out any necessary retaining and stabilisation works to the original route.

Regards

Trevor Butler

TA National Trustee / Chair Trail Integrity and Operations Cttee

0274 522952

From: Darren James <Darren.James@fndc.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 4:09 PM

To: Trevor Butler <TrevorButler@frame.co.nz>

Subject: Proposed realignment of Te Araroa trail

Hello Trevor

In your capacity on the TAT board FNDC are proposing a realignment of a section of the Opua-Paihia Coastal Walkway. A recent slip event at the attached report will give you a feel of what the current condition is. FNDC have put in force an alternative route as shown below (redline and sign posted) and will look to make this the permanent route and abandon the coastline in this area.



Please let me know your thoughts

Cheers

darren



Darren James

Asset Manager - District Facilities

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