

Kia ora Ryan Hamilton and Hon Tama Potaka

## **Lack of Cycling Infrastructure is a Matter of Life and Death—Urgent Action is Needed**

In your capacity as Members of Parliament for Hamilton East and Hamilton West, we are writing with regards to the recent sentencing of a truck driver who killed Jessica Moser while she was riding a bicycle at the intersection of Tristram Street and Norton Road in June 2022<sup>1</sup>.

The judge determined that **the lack of dedicated cycling infrastructure on this road was a significant factor** in the death of the person riding a bicycle.

This is another devastating but critical reminder that investing in cycling infrastructure in Hamilton is not a “nice to have” but a matter of life and death. People are suffering life changing injuries and being killed just for getting around the city on a bicycle—and, as the judge in this case ruled, a lack of cycling infrastructure is compounding this issue.

This is not acceptable.

Only a few weeks ago, another person riding a bike was run over by a truck driver<sup>2</sup> less than one kilometer from where Jessica Moser was killed.

**People will continue to be injured and killed if nothing changes.**

As our representatives in Parliament, you have the power and responsibility to advocate for Hamilton on a national stage. In December 2023, your Government canceled millions of dollars of funding for cycling and walking initiatives<sup>3</sup>, of which Hamilton had been awarded more than \$30M across more than twenty projects<sup>4</sup>. **This has almost certainly contributed to the increase in serious injuries and deaths of vulnerable road users on our roads in the last twelve months.**

We would like to hear from you, as a matter of urgency, about what you will do to advocate for this infrastructure in Hamilton to prevent further injuries and deaths.

Regards

Bike Waikato Committee

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<sup>1</sup> Killer truckie can keep driving as 'lack of cycle lane' blamed for cyclist's death (2025, April 29).

<https://www.waikatotimes.co.nz/nz-news/360670217/killer-truckie-can-keep-driving-lack-cycle-lane-blamed-cyclists-death>

<sup>2</sup> Cyclist seriously injured in early morning Hamilton crash (2025, April 29).

<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/cyclist-seriously-injured-in-early-morning-hamilton-crash/TNHGGUTH2VDHLNBDSP5FEWERUWU/>

<sup>3</sup> Minister pulls brakes on cycling and walking initiatives (2023, December 16).

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/504884/minister-pulls-brakes-on-cycling-and-walking-initiatives>

<sup>4</sup> Transport Choices. <https://hamilton.govt.nz/strategies-plans-and-projects/projects/cerf>