

Kia ora Hon Chris Bishop

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

In your capacity as the Minister for Transport, 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 2022¹.

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 driver² less than one kilometer from where Jessica Moser was killed.

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

As the Minister for Transport, you are charged with the safety of people using our transportation network. In December 2023, your Government canceled millions of dollars of funding for cycling and walking initiatives³, of which Hamilton had been awarded more than \$30M across more than twenty projects⁴. **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 improve safety for people riding bikes in Hamilton to prevent further injuries and deaths.

Regards

Bike Waikato Committee

¹ 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>

² 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/TNHGGUTH2VDHLNBDSP5EWFERUWU/>

³ 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>

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