

Bike Waikato Submission to Morrinsville Road Upgrades

Kia ora Hamilton City Council

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to the proposed Morrinsville Road upgrades.

We are writing to express our **support** for the project as a whole.

We **support** the intended goals of the upgrades, which is to make it easier for children, university students, and casual commuters to cycle and walk on Morrinsville Road.

Independence and self-determination are precious to everybody but especially to our tamariki. This infrastructure is critical in protecting people walking and cycling, which in turn encourages walking and cycling, allowing people who cannot or do not want to drive to have access to schools, community services, and other critical services. This is a key theme we have heard from our members: they want to be able to bike their children to school, and they want their older children to feel empowered to bike on their own.

We **support** the construction of—

- physically separated on-road cycle lanes on both sides of the road
- safe, raised crossings at Mullane Street, Morris Road, and Berkley Avenue side road entrances, and
- improvements to the existing signalised crossing on Morrinsville Road.

We **support** both options for the cycleway sections (on-road or shared path), noting that if the shared path option is pursued, it must be wide enough to accommodate both people on bikes and people walking, and people on bikes must maintain a current level of service, i.e., crossings across side streets should have priority for people on Morrinsville road— “orange lollipops”.

With regards to the transition between on-road sections and shared path sections, it is important that the on-ramps/off-ramps have a gentle gradient. This improves accessibility and balance for people and families riding larger bikes, such as cargo bicycles, bicycles with trailers, or tricycles, reducing the likelihood of people falling from their bikes and hurting themselves.

We are looking forward to the construction of this project.

Thank you for considering our submission.

Kind regards

Bike Waikato Committee