



Getting across the Waitemata Harbour on foot and by bike is overdue. NZTA advises the Northern Pathway is progressing but running behind schedule. It's competition date is many years away.

With the pressure on to reduce carbon emissions, improve accessibility and reduce traffic congestion, it's time for NZTA to take a fresh approach...

Let's trial using one bridge lane to enable walking & cycling... Arā a te Iwi – *'the people's path'*

It's low cost... Temporary barriers can be installed to enable the trial. The western traffic lane can be used to trial access for people to walk & cycle between Westhaven and Northcote.

It aligns with Government Policy... The Government Policy Statement on Transport (GPS 2021) requires vehicle kilometres and single occupancy car trips to be replaced by walking, cycling and public transport¹.

The bridge has sufficient capacity... Converting one traffic lane to enable people to walk and cycle, the bridge continues to have the necessary capacity to ensure travel time predictability² for traffic.

It's only temporary... It's a trial. If it doesn't work it can be quickly removed. If it does work, it can be the fix we need until NZTA delivers on a permanent long-term solution.

It's worked elsewhere... In other places, traffic lanes have been converted to walking & cycling with great success³. Dire predictions of traffic chaos have proved misguided, instead traffic volumes fell in response to reduced road capacity⁴.

It's the future... Trying to build our way out of congestion doesn't work and damages the liveability of our cities due to induced traffic. The solution is mode shift to public and active transport per GPS 2021.

¹ Per Section 2.6 of GPS 2021-2031: Indicators for how progress will be measured

² Traffic on the AHB is generally uncongested and the key bottle necks are before and after the Bridge. Hence the conversion of one lane will have little impact on total travel time.

³ Seattle - <https://www.citynews1130.com/2019/07/14/burrard-bike-lane-birthday/>

Ghent, Belgium - <https://www.greaterauckland.org.nz/2020/01/21/modeshift-targets-critical-lessons-from-ghent/>

New York City - <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/28/nyregion/bike-brooklyn-bridge-de-blasio.html>

⁴ "Evaporating Traffic" - <https://thecityfix.com/blog/traffic-evaporation-what-really-happens-when-road-space-is-reallocated-from-cars/>