

stuff**New cycle route to boost bike numbers at Blenheim schools**

ELENA MCPHEE

Last updated 13:46, May 1 2017

ELENA MCPHEE/FAIRFAX NZ

Eltham Rd resident Alex Craig, 9, is looking forward to being able to cycle to Bohally Intermediate School.

Parents, schools and the wider community will soon be asked for their views on a new cycle lane which will allow school children to bypass Blenheim's busy town centre.

Some young cyclists from three schools already use the route to avoid traffic, and the council is planning to create an official cycle lane to make the ride to and from school safer.

The lane, which runs down Eltham Rd and Beaver Rd will encourage students of all ages to use their bikes.

SUPPLIED

A proposed cycle lane in Blenheim to make it safer for children getting to school.

Construction on the track is due to start in 2018, and consultation with the public will begin soon.

READ MORE:

- * Group sets sights on \$2m walking, cycling route from Blenheim to Picton
- * Ride of the Long White Cloud record bid by Marlborough cyclist
- * Marlborough inundated with cycle path projects

The route will run along Eltham Rd, up either Carr St or Dillon Street and along Beaver Rd to the Taylor River Reserve, which cyclists can then cross, bypassing busy traffic in Blenheim's town centre.

SCOTT HAMMOND/FAIRFAX NZ

Bohally Intermediate pupils crossing the Beaver Rd footbridge with, from left, NZTA representative Stefan Sanders, BikeWalk Marlborough chairman Robin Dunn and deputy mayor Terry Sloan. (File photo)

It is designed to link primary school Whitney Street School to Bohally Intermediate and Marlborough Girls' College.

Eltham Rd resident Andrea Craig says she supports the cycleway, and her son Alex is keen to ride his bike to Bohally Intermediate when he starts school there in two years' time.

Many people use Eltham Rd as a thoroughfare in the mornings, Andrea says.

"It will be fantastic knowing that it's safer for [children]," she said.

Ad Feedback

Seven per cent of Whitney Street pupils and 14 per cent of Marlborough Girls' students ride their bikes to school, compared with 30 per cent of Bohally Intermediate students.

The idea was presented at an assets and services committee meeting last week.

Blenheim ward councillor Mark Peters said while he supported the track there was an "elephant in the room", with Marlborough Girls' College due to co-locate with Marlborough Boys' College on one site in 2021.

However all the councillors voted in favour of the proposal, which is expected go out for public consultation after the next full council meeting in May.

There are a wide range of options for the cycle route, such as including "landscape calming" features such as street trees and shrubs, having two lanes side-by-side, and separating the cycleway from traffic by putting a berm between them.

The estimated cost of the cycleway ranges from \$200,000 to \$500,000.

- The Marlborough Express

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Recommended by

Construction on Blenheim cycleway expected to start early next year

SCOTT HAMMOND/STUFF

Whitney Street School board of trustee Lance Spencer with, from left, Maui De Wildt, 7, Tamati De Wildt, 6, Blake Kirby, 6, Dylan Kirby, 8, and Couper Spencer, 5.

More than two years after government funding was first announced, plans for a long-awaited cycleway in Blenheim are close to being finalised.

A report outlining options for the 1.5-kilometre link between the Taylor River Reserve and Maxwell Rd was presented to the assets and services committee on Thursday.

The route has been touted as a way of getting students from three Blenheim schools - Whitney Street School, Bohally Intermediate, and Marlborough Girls' College - on their bikes.

It was approved by the council earlier this year, but following public consultation Christchurch consultancy firm ViaStrada has released a report outlining options for the cycleway.

READ MORE:

- * [New cycle route to boost bike numbers at Blenheim schools](#)
- * [Marlborough cycleways work gets thumbs up](#)
- * [Marlborough cycleway extensions delayed](#)
- * [New Marlborough cycleway offers smooth ride out of town](#)

The assets and services committee voted to implement their recommendations at the Thursday meeting, with construction on the cycleway expected to start early next year.

The ViaStrada report outlined recommendations for the on-road section of the cycleway on Beaver Rd, and the Eltham Rd section which would be separated from traffic.

A 'neighbourhood greenway' was proposed for Beaver Rd, creating a pleasant environment for cyclists where vehicles could not go over 30kmh.

The recommended option for the on-road section of the cycleway included the installation of median islands on High St to assist with crossing.

Traffic on Beaver Rd would also be given priority over vehicles on Alfred, Monro and Dillon streets, the report said.

Ad Feedback

Exclusions apply.

ViaStrada also recommended the council consider creating a 2.4-metre shared pathway on the north side of Dillon St joining the Eltham Rd section at Carr St in the future.

The consultancy company recommended a 2.7m separated cycleway on the east side of Eltham Rd, something that would lead to the loss of car parking.

To minimise this they had proposed running part of the cycleway along the Whitney Street School field so car parks along that length of the path could be saved.

Whitney Street School board of trustees chairwoman Andrea Craig said the loss of car parks had been identified as a significant impact to the school community.

The board agreed in principle to allow the cycleway to encroach on the school grounds to save a minimum of 10 car parks, she said.

Bike Walk Marlborough co-ordinator Braden Prideaux said the cycleway was the third his organisation had been involved with, and the first true urban ride.

Transport Minister Simon Bridges first announced funding for the project, along with the Taylor River and Spring Creek cycleways, in June 2015.

"It'll have positive impacts in terms of getting school students and commuters more active by providing them with a safe, direct convenient cycleway," Prideaux said.

The budget for the project was \$361,812, which was split evenly between Bike Walk Marlborough, the New Zealand Transport Agency and its Urban Cycleways Programme fund.



Cycleway consultation gets underway

2:57 PM MONDAY 3 JULY 2017

Media Statement



Proposed designs for the new cycleway connecting Eltham Road and Beaver Road with the Taylor River cycle path are available for public input. BikeWalk Marlborough and the Council are asking the local community for their views.

Local residents received a letter in their mail box today inviting them to feed back on the plan. There's also an opportunity to view images of the plans and provide feedback at a public drop-in session this Saturday 8 July, from 10am to 2pm, at Whitney Street School.

Consultation closes at 5.00 pm on Monday 31 July.

Members of the public can also go online to see the proposed options and submit feedback at:

See proposed options

The cycle link offers a safer route for the 500 students at Whitney Street School, Bohally Intermediate and Marlborough Girls College who cycle along these roads each school day. It also provides an important north-to-south cycle link across Blenheim.

Further information is available from Braden Prideaux, BikeWalk Marlborough Coordinator.

Phone: 03 577 8855 ext. 5

Email: bwm@marlborough.govt.nz

Disclaimer



Eltham/Beaver Road Cycle Link

Background

The Eltham/Beaver Road Cycle Link Project is a 1.5 km route that will improve and formalise a north-south walking and cycling route between Taylor River and southern neighbourhoods. This (partially) separated cycle link will offer a safer cycle route for the more than 500 students that attend Whitney Street School, Bohally Intermediate and Marlborough Girls' College. It will also encourage more people to cycle to the Taylor River Reserve Path to reach the town centre and other destinations in the area.

Funding

This project is funded through the Urban Cycleway Programme (UCP) for Blenheim, along with the extensions to the Spring Creek shared path and the Taylor River Path. The Urban Cycleways Programme comprises of a shared investment from the Urban Cycleways Fund, the National Land Transport Fund and local councils. The UCP enables high-value urban cycling projects to get underway around the country, while improving safety and supporting more connected cycle networks.

How to use the cycleway

Eltham Road two-way cycleway

This section of the cycleway operates as a two-way separated cycleway exclusively for people on bikes.

Tips for using a two-way cycleway:

- People on bikes should keep left and alert other users before passing them.
- People on bikes have right of way on a two-way cycleway, however as always be aware of vehicles using driveways.

Beaver Road and Carr Street neighbourhood greenway

This section of the cycleway operates as a neighbourhood greenway, incorporating low speed limits to create a more pleasant cycling environment.

Tips for using a neighbourhood greenway:

- People on bikes are encouraged to take their place in the traffic lane, especially along narrow sections and around parked vehicles.
- People on bikes should move to the left to allow vehicles to pass when there is room to do so safely.

'Sharrow' or share arrow' road markings are there to remind drivers they should expect to see people on bikes riding further out in the traffic lane.

CycleLink Eltham Beaver Road Online brochure

View the CycleLink Eltham Beaver Road Online brochure here (PDF, 4.8MB)

CycleLink Eltham Beaver Road Printable brochure

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'Sharrow' or share arrow' road markings are there to remind drivers they should expect to see people on bikes riding further out in the traffic lane.

Sharrows – Tip for people on bikes

- Sharrows are used to encourage people on bikes to take their place in the traffic and ride further towards the centre of the lane.
- More information on riding in traffic and 'taking the lane' is in the New Zealand official code for cyclists.



New Zealand official code for cyclists

Sharrows – Tip for drivers

- Sharrow road markings are there to remind drivers they should expect to see people on bikes riding further out in the traffic lane.
- Drivers should slow down and wait until they can pass safely.

Sharrows research

A 2014 trial, carried out in partnership with the NZ Transport Agency, found that more bicycle riders moved position to take the lane when sharrows were marked on the road.

A reduction in vehicle speeds at many trial sites was also recorded. This is important because lower speeds will improve safety for everyone.

The trial was held in Wellington, Auckland, Dunedin, Palmerston North and Nelson.

Read the full report on the NZTA website

Public consultation

Community consultation was held in July 2017 and included a letter drop to local residents and a drop-in meeting at Whitney Street School. The general public and residents were invited to make a submission and submit feedback on the proposed designs.

Marlborough District Council Media Statement

File Ref:

Date: 3 July 2017

Ask For: Glyn Walters, Phone 021 278 6858

Eltham and Beaver roads cycleway consultation underway

Proposed designs for the new cycleway connecting Eltham Road and Beaver Road with the Taylor River cycle path are out for public input. Bike Walk Marlborough and the Council are asking the local community for their views on the proposal.

Local residents will receive a letter in their mail box today inviting them to feedback on the plan. There's also an opportunity to view images of the plans and give feedback at a public drop-in session this Saturday 8 July, from 10am to 2pm, at Whitney Street School.

The Cycle Link offers a safer route for the 500 students at Whitney Street School, Bohally Intermediate and Marlborough Girls College who cycle along these roads each school day. It also provides an important north-to-south cycle link across Blenheim.

Members of the public can also go online to see the proposed consultation plans and to submit your feedback online, visit: www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/walking-and-biking/elthambeaver-rd-cycle-link-project

For further information, call Braden Prideaux, Bike Walk Marlborough Coordinator
Phone: 03 577 8855 ext. 5
Email: bwm@marlborough.govt.nz

ENDS

Record.

File Ref: C500-007-001-M17
Alternative container (Must be completed)
Record No. 17119733

Council Page

Heading	Consultation on Eltham-Beaver roads cycle link
Sub-Heading	
Date of Advertisement	6 July 2017

Bike Walk Marlborough and the Council are asking the local community for their views on the proposed Eltham Rd and Beaver Rd Cycle Link.

The Link offers a safer route for the 500 students at Whitney Street School, Bohally Intermediate and Marlborough Girls College who cycle along these roads each school day. It also provides an important north-to-south cycle link across Blenheim.

Public drop-in session

An opportunity to view the plans and give feedback.
10am-2pm, Saturday 8 July, at Whitney Street School, Whitney Street.

Go online

To see the proposed consultation plans and to submit your feedback online, visit:
www.marlborough.govt.nz/recreation/walking-and-biking/elthambeaver-rd-cycle-link-project

Other instructions

File Ref: C500-007-001-B17
Alternative container (Must be completed)
Record No. 17167111

Council Page

Heading	Eltham-Beaver cycleway design gets thumbs-up
Sub-Heading	
Date of Advertisement	8 September 2017

Last week councillors endorsed the design of the Eltham and Beaver roads cycleway. This follows a community consultation which canvassed a number of design options, and included a public drop-in session and letter to local residents. Forty four people gave their feedback in writing or by phone.

As a result of the public input, a modified option has been agreed, which retains some car parking outside Whitney Street Primary School.

The 1.5 km cycleway is a north-south route between the Taylor River and the southern part of Blenheim. The partially separated cycleway will provide a safe route for Whitney Street School, Bohally Intermediate and Marlborough Girls' College students. It will also encourage more people to bike to the town centre via the Taylor River Reserve Path. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2018.

Other instructions