



16 November 2020

Dear submitter,

## We've considered your views, what happens next?

### Ngapipi Bridge widening project

Kia ora,

In 2017, you shared your views on our plans to improve walking and cycling facilities on Ngapipi Bridge, Tāmaki Drive. Several years have passed since this consultation, but we are delighted to tell you that we are progressing this project with the aim of starting construction (subject to funding) from July next year. Thank you for taking the time to respond and for playing an important part in shaping the future of our city.

This letter is to give you an update on the project and explain the next steps.

### Background and context

The Ngapipi Bridge widening project is part of a wider programme of walking and cycling improvement projects along Tāmaki Drive, and from Tāmaki Drive to Glen Innes, to make it easier and safer to cycle and walk between the city centre and eastern suburbs.

As Auckland's population grows, we need to provide more travel choices and find ways to make it easier and safer for people to walk or ride a bike in our city.

We want to create a future where everyone feels comfortable riding a bike – we can only do this if there are safe, connected places making it easier for people of all ages and abilities to ride and walk – whether it be to school, work, the local shops, for recreation or to visit friends and whānau.

Ngapipi Bridge currently represents a pinch point, with the 3m-wide footpaths shared by people walking and cycling. Widening the bridge will expand the area available for people on foot and on bike and create a seamless connection between cycleways to the west (Tāmaki Drive Cycle Route) and east of the bridge.



Image 1: Connected network of walking and cycling improvement projects

The original proposal for widening the bridge was to

- install 2.5m-wide clip-ons to both sides of the bridge to provide new footpaths and
- convert the existing 3m-wide footpaths into cycleways: a separated two-way cycleway on the north side and westbound cycleway on the south side.

### What your neighbourhood told us

We received 221 responses to our 2017 consultation, showing good support for the proposal overall (72%). People felt that widening the bridge was an important continuation in the development of walking and cycling infrastructure on Tāmaki Drive. We also received feedback about the design, with people asking us to

- ensure smooth transitions on and off Ngapipi Bridge for people on bikes and integration with cycleways on either side,
- maintain boat clearances under the bridge and
- retain any historic façade/features of the bridge.

## How we're moving forward

After reviewing all the feedback, we took a closer look at the plans with a local boating club to understand more about boat movement under the bridge. We found that the clip-ons and associated support structures would impact boat clearances. To avoid this, we changed the design to footbridges that are not connected back to the existing bridge.

The existing 3m-wide footpaths will be converted into cycleways as per original plans. The project does not involve any changes to the vehicle lanes.



Image 2: artist impression of Ngapipi Bridge pedestrian and cycling improvements. Note: Ngā mahi toi (cultural artwork) is an example only

### Project details:

- New standalone foot bridges will be added (3m wide on the northern sea side and 2.5m wide on the southern side).
- Existing 3m-wide footpaths will be converted into a bi-directional cycleway on the northern side (tying in with the Tāmaki Drive Cycle Route) and a westbound cycleway on the southern side.
- Ngā mahi toi (cultural artwork) will be incorporated into bridge elements.
- The existing traffic lanes will be untouched.
- Vertical and horizontal clearances for boats in the navigational channel will be maintained.
- Cycleways and footpaths will tie into existing and future facilities at either end of the bridge.
- Building out approximately 3m (up to 25m in length of seawall) on the northwest corner to allow a narrow section of footway to be widened.
- The original bridge elements and façade are retained.

Image 3 (on the last page) shows the arrangement of the new walking and cycling facilities. The design and appearance of the new pedestrian bridges will be in keeping with the Pt. Resolution footbridge now being constructed as part of the Tāmaki Drive Cycle Route project.



## What happens next

We are progressing with our plans and will be obtaining consents, with the aim of starting construction (subject to funding) in July next year.

## Contact us

Get in touch if you have any questions or concerns about this work or if you think there is anything we should be considering before finalising the design.

- **Phone:** 09 355 3553
- **Email:** [projects@AT.govt.nz](mailto:projects@AT.govt.nz)

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Honwin Shen', is positioned above the printed name.

Honwin Shen  
Senior Project Manager  
Investigation & Design Central

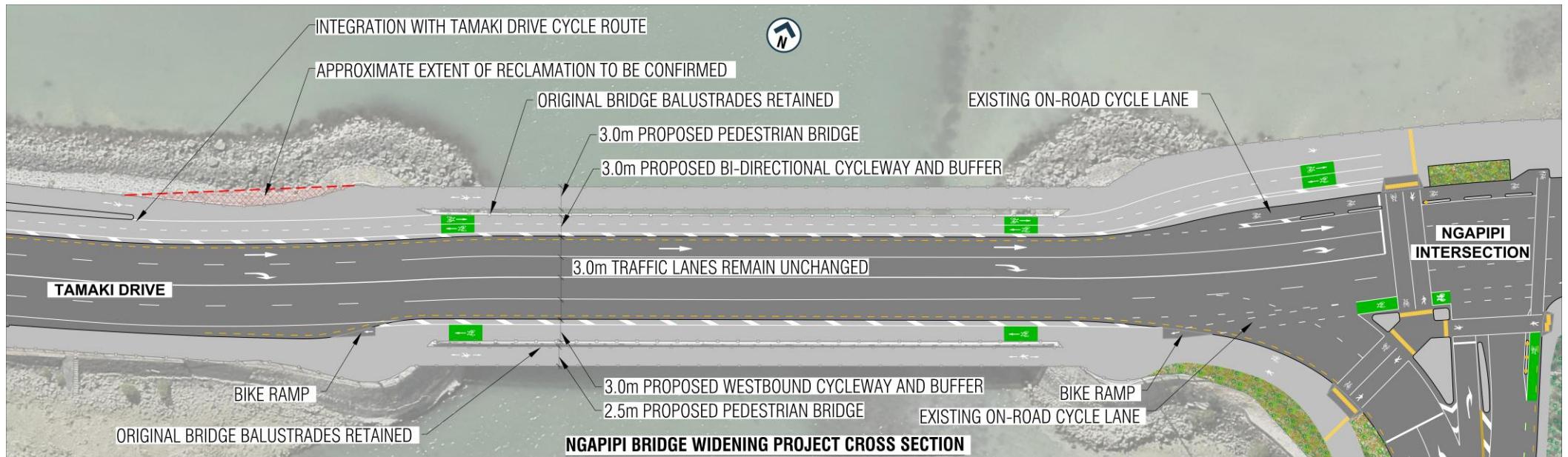


Image 3: Ngapiipi Bridge widening project cross section