

Walking and cycling

As part of the Whangārei to Port Marsden Highway project, we're planning a shared path for walking and cycling between Whangārei and the Port Marsden Highway intersection (SH15).

What is a shared path?

A shared path is separated from road traffic, intended to be used by people walking, cycling, scootering, skating and using mobility aids.

What the shared path could look like

- Through the urban section, between Tarewa Road and Toetoe Road, there will be a wide shared path on one side and a standard footpath on the other side.
- Through the rural section, there will be a wide shared path running parallel to the state highway. We are yet to confirm which side of the highway the shared path will be located.

What are the benefits of a having a shared path?

Making it easier for people to cycle and walk helps make our towns and cities more accessible and liveable, promotes tourism, reduces traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions and supports people to be active and contribute to healthy communities.

Shared paths provide a safe, off-road option for people exercising, commuting or just having fun, with the path being shared between people walking and cycling.

It's important for us to consider everyone's needs when upgrading our transport networks to provide more travel choice, as not everyone can or wants to drive.

The shared path between Whangārei and Port Marsden Highway (SH15) will provide:

- safer journeys for people walking and cycling by separating them from vehicles
- improved links to communities, attractions and businesses along this section of the state highway
- more recreational opportunities for people walking and cycling and a low-cost, sustainable travel option for commuters
- an opportunity to choose active transport for travel to schools in Whangārei and other destinations along the state highway
- tourism opportunities through improved cycling connections

The shared path meets the government's priority to create more transport choices for New Zealanders and will deliver a safe and direct walking and cycling link along this busy section of SH1.

