



People power: the path to low carbon transport  
18 -19 March 2024  
Tākina Convention Centre  
Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

## Tupua Horo Nuku: Navigating complexities of a coastal shared path

Marine Drive is a key transport route for the Wellington region, providing the only road access to the Eastern Bay suburbs. However, currently, Marine Drive provides very few safe facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. Generally, cyclists are not accommodated for. They are mostly expected to share the live traffic lane with vehicles, or use the very narrow road shoulder, adjacent to a significant drop off to the harbour. For pedestrians, only short sections of footpaths and shared paths are available. This lack of continuity for both pedestrians and cyclists is not conducive to encouraging people to walk or cycle.

The construction of a shared pedestrian and cycle specific path along the seaward side of Marine Drive has been an aspiration for Hutt City Council (HCC) and its residents for many years. The project forms a key part of the Te Aranui o Pōneke (the Great Harbour Way), a walking and cycling route around Te Whanganui-a-tara, the harbour of Wellington, as well as completing the circular link for the Remutaka Trail (a Great Ride of New Zealand). Equally, the Project improves, and provides the basis for future opportunities for protecting the resilience of the road and underground services by upgrading the supporting seawalls.

In this presentation, we will provide an overview of the Tupua Horo Nuku project, to construct a shared path along Marine Drive. We will be highlighting some of the key challenges faced on this project. These include consideration for the Coastal Marine Area, community feedback, pedestrian and cyclist best practice and resilience. The learnings from Tupua Horo Nuku are relevant for coastal pathways throughout New Zealand, providing understanding on how we can provide safe pedestrian and cyclist facilities in constrained coastal areas.



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