



## Marina to Marina Cycle & Walkway Path, Signage and Information

Picton Smart and Connected

Submission by the Bike Walk Picton working group of PS&C to MDC 2016-17 Annual Plan.

### **1. Marina to Marina cycle and walkway path & signage**

Picton Smart and Connected supports and has prioritised the further completion and upgrade of the Marina to Marina trail between Waikawa and Picton. This is a project that can be quickly and efficiently implemented in 2016/17 as an upgrade of an existing pathway, to greatly improve safety and broaden the usage of the track to a much wider range of community users and visitors.

Alongside this the signage and information must also be improved.

### **Background**

The Picton community gathered for a Smart and Connected meeting in August 2015. Over 100 people attended. It was clearly identified at that meeting that the main wish of the community was to further develop the Picton and surrounds biking and walking trails. A Bike, Walk Picton working group was established and some clear goals were identified. The Marina to Marina pathway completion was prioritised as well as the accompanying signage needed for visitors.

### **Benefits of improving the Marina to Marina pathway and signage**

Improved gradients and surfaces will create a user friendly off road link for locals between the two communities of Waikawa Bay and Picton. Cutting out some steeper sections would

increase the usage and create a valuable asset for all ages and in particular young families. The pathway surface should be of a standard that can be negotiated by mountain buggies.

Visitors to the town will be able to explore the area safely and independently with clear signage indicating times and distances along the route, along with safe exits to Waikawa Rd .In recent times there have been an increase in number of Cruise Ship visitors wandering along the trail but not knowing where they were going.

School students and other cyclists in avoiding busy Waikawa Road will be able to use the cycle/walk trail safely and be encouraged to greater exercise levels. Queen Charlotte College is enthusiastic about the prospect of a safer route for its pupils as traffic levels increase.

The Marina 2 Marina race event continues to grow in size and the improvements will enhance the event by removing bottlenecks and also remove confusion with the addition of clear signage.

There are two or more places where the existing trail is too narrow for safety of multiple users, eg cyclists and walkers or families to pass safely; and several areas that need levelling for ease of use of all ages.

This trail once completed will become a main arterial trail in Picton, which in turn would join up to a network of trails on the Snout and beyond Picton to the Link Pathway, Queen Charlotte Track and eventually through to Blenheim. This will enhance the visitor economy in the future.

Bike Walk Picton also supports the submission from Waikawa Residents and Ratepayers on the need for improvements in this trail and signage.

## **2. Making Picton more bike and walk friendly**

The provision of more bike stands in the town areas so people can park their bikes while visiting shops and cafes and stroll around the marinas and foreshore will also be required. Placement in locations where they will actively be used.

Review of what other services can be provided to encourage cyclist and walker to spend more time in Picton. Upgrade toilet facilities in key areas.