

F A Q's

Why build the trail?

We have all seen the success of the Hauraki Trail for Te Aroha, Paeroa and Waihi and Katikati would benefit equally from a trail that came linked up with the Hauraki Trail and eventually carried onto Tauranga.

What benefits will there be for Katikati?

Increased tourism, increased investment, increased retail – these are all things that the other small towns on cycle trails have experienced. Local opportunity for residents to be active in their community through walking and cycling.

Where will the route go?

There is a proposed route around Katikati township and maps are available on www.katikati.org.nz and www.westernbay.govt.nz or from the Katikati Information Centre. For the route to Waihi Beach, this is in the feasibility stage which will involve looking at the best route and then obviously there will have to be agreement with any affected land owners.

What will the trail be like?

The best option for cyclists is a 1.5 – 2 meter wide gravel track. In some areas this will not be possible. There will be some boardwalk type track over wetland areas and bridges where required. The plan is to make it a user friendly to as many as possible. Existing pathways through reserves will form part of the trail network.

How will adjoining land owners be affected?

Most of the trail will be located on existing roads or reserves and take into consideration adjoining land owners.

Some landowners have expressed concerns about increasing rates of crime in rural areas; however, there is no evidence of a link between recreational access to land and increasing rates of crime in rural areas. On other trail networks, the increase in cyclists and walkers in an area has been known to deter the risk of any criminal activity.

What are the time frames?

In the short term we would like to see the Katikati trails completed by the end of 2015. This is largely dependant on funding. The route to Waihi Beach will be subject to the outcomes of a feasibility study and dependent on land availability. This route would be a medium to long term priority.

How will it be funded?

We envisage applying to different funding organisations for support. We will also approach local service groups and businesses for assistance. Western Bay of Plenty District Council does have limited funds that they can put towards this project.

Who is responsible for the development and maintenance?

The Katikati Trails Development Group has been established as a sub committee of Katch Katikati. They have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with WBOPDC on the development of the trails. The maintenance of the completed trails will be covered by WBOPDC contractors for the trails around Katikati that are on Council land

What are the expected number of cyclists?

This will start off slowly and build up and the work spreads about the trails. The local trails should be well utilised by local people. Once the trails to Waihi Beach and eventually Tauranga are completed we envisage them to be very popular with both locals and visitors to the area.

Who will use the trail?

The main purpose of the trail is for cyclists, however, a well designed trail is also likely to be popular with other users (such as walkers). The majority of the track will be suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs, with access points provided for these where practical. Horses and motorbikes (except for maintenance purposes) will be prohibited.

How will the behaviour of trail users be managed?

Only a small proportion of users are likely to abuse their right of access to the trail. Once the trail is established, management will consider ways to publish and promote information about acceptable conduct on the track and in rural areas. The use of the trails will be subject to Council By-laws.

What information and signage will be provided for cyclists?

Both informational and directional signage will be provided on the trail. This will include information signs about local history, local attractions and farming practices, as well as distance signs, and "Give Way" signs at every road intersection.

A Code of Conduct has been developed for the Trail.

- Motorised vehicles and motor cycles are not permitted on the Trail.
- Move to the left when you meet other users.
- Leave gates as you find them. Do not disturb stock along the Trail.
- Dogs are permitted on the trails must be controlled on a lead at all times.
- Open fires, and firearms, are not permitted on the Trail.
- Take all your rubbish away with you.
- Always use toilets where available. Do not wander from the Trail. Land surrounding the Trail is privately owned.
- Share with care principles apply.
- Cyclists to give way to pedestrians.