

# Island Bay cycling lanes - Fact sheet

August 2013



## Background

We have a great opportunity to improve quality of life in Island Bay.

Wellington City Council is planning to upgrade transport links to the city. No decisions have been made, but we expect improvements for all road users including those on foot, on bikes, on buses and driving. We also expect benefits for businesses and property owners.

WCC will consult on this later in 2013, but we want to start the discussion, to get maximum community engagement. Tell us what you think.

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## But we already have cycle lanes.

Existing Island Bay cycle lanes could be much better. They are too close to the door zone, they stop at intersections, and they don't offer the protection from traffic people on bikes deserve.

## How will protected (Copenhagen-style) cycle lanes improve Island Bay?

If you ride a bike, protected cycle lanes offer a safer and easier trip.

If you drive, there will be less traffic and more parking spaces available.

If you walk, you won't have to share the footpath with bikers.

If you take the bus, it won't be held up by people on bikes.

If you run a business, there will be less pressure on car parks.

If you live on the Parade, there will be no reduction in parking. Your house may increase in value.

**Can we afford it?** Cycle lanes are great value for money. NZTA covers half the costs. In comparison, the proposed Basin Reserve flyover could cost \$90 million for just 400m.

**What happens north of Island Bay?** There are several options through Berhampore and Newtown to the Basin Reserve. There are plans to upgrade Kent Tce and Cambridge Tce by adding cycle lanes. There's room for an attractive off-road path from Dover St across the golf course to Rintoul St, which would connect to SWIS.

## **Benefits**

**Residents** Quality of life: streets are quieter and safer, less chance of car getting side-swiped, better public space. No loss of parking. Property values rise.

**Business** More people on bikes is great for business. In New York city, 49% increase in retail sales for local businesses on 9th Avenue.

<http://www.treehugger.com/bikes/more-proof-bike-lanes-boost-business.html>

Lower fuel and health bills means more money is spent locally.

**People on bikes** Safer, convenient, direct

**Health** Lower health costs, healthier people. Wellington is bottom of the list for cycling safety in NZ – a shameful fact

## **Costs and Timing**

Depending on the design, a cycling route from Island Bay to the CBD would cost \$3-\$10 million, over 2-3 years. As a comparison, Christchurch is investing \$70 million on cycling in the next 5 years.

## **What's next?**

WCC plans to start community engagement later this year.

Local and Greater Wellington elections are coming up.

Let the candidates know what you want. And of course, we'd like to hear your views.

<http://can.org.nz/island-bay-meeting>



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