Knights Road Connection Project



The Knights Road Connection Project is part of Auaha Evolving Spaces, a movement to co-design spaces with communities.

What is it?

The Knights Road Connection Project is co-designing a temporary pathway along Knights Road connecting Waterloo Station to the Lower Hutt CBD. The aim of the project is to make the journey a safer and more attractive active connection regardless of how you choose to get around.

This trial pathway will create better connections between the Lower Hutt CBD, local schools, homes and workplaces and the public transport and active transport facilities at Waterloo station.

This project is funded by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's Innovating Streets for People pilot fund and Hutt City Council. It uses temporary trials to test out solutions co-designed with the groups of people that use Knights Road the most.

Find out more at auahaevolvingspaces.nz.

Why do we need it?

Hutt City Council have prioritised building shared pathways that make it safer and easier to walk, bike and scoot around Lower Hutt. The Beltway which runs from Taitā to Waterloo is currently under construction and is due to be finished in the first half of 2021. Creating connections between shared pathways and the places people want to go is the next step to building an effective and efficient transport network.

The Knights Road Connection project aims to create a safe and attractive connection between the Beltway and Waterloo Station and the Lower Hutt CBD. The connection will make it easier for people to actively get to school, work, shops and public transport destinations.

What has happened so far?

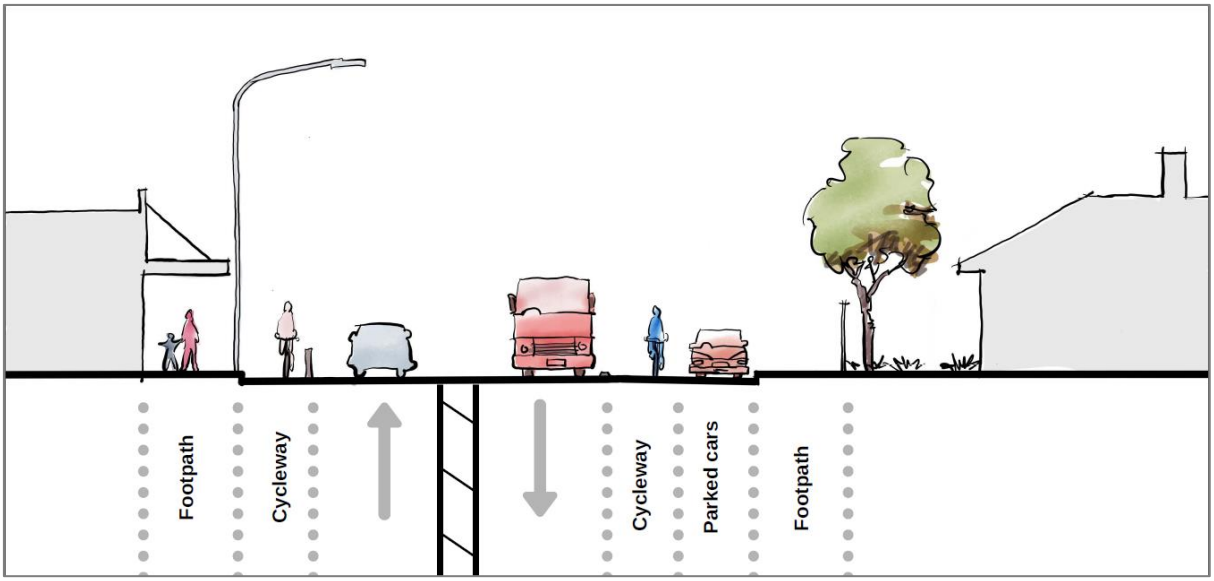
In August and September the Knights Road Connection project team ran a series of workshops and engagements with residents, schools and the local community to better understand their experiences on Knights Road, what is working well and what might need to change to make the connection work better for more people.

One of the themes of the early engagement was the community's desire for a physical space featuring local art, native birds and seating that could act as a place to stay informed about the project. The Birch Street pop-up park is the first step in fulfilling this request.

In October and November the project team worked with experts in road design to translate the views and ambitions of those we engaged with into a design that can be safely trialled on the road. This is the layout that will be tested between Waterloo Station and Willoughby Street early in 2021.

What is happening next?

The five week trial from February 2021 is our first opportunity to really test the layout.



The trial will include:

- Two temporary lanes for cycling, scooting and other active transport modes
- Speed cushions and signage to encourage slower speeds around the Waterloo intersection
- Reduced parking on the south side of Knights Road
- Median strip to allow for turning vehicles into streets and driveways.

The solutions being tested have all been informed by the feedback and engagement with the people that use Knights Road. They include elements that can be safely tested in a temporary way.

We want to hear what works well and what isn't working from the trial layout from everyone that uses Knights Road. The feedback from people that use Knights Road alongside ongoing real-time traffic monitoring during the trial will inform what might be trialled on a longer stretch of Knights Road.

About the Birch Street pop-up park

The Birch Street pop-up park came about from community wanting a physical space featuring local art, native birds and seating that could act as a place to stay informed about the project.

Artwork has been created from students from Hutt Intermediate School, Sacred Heart College and MIX. Materials have been donated from local businesses and are recycled or upcycled.

This space is for community to use and over time will include updates about the project through signboards and events.

Local Birch Street businesses are showing their support by offering discounts during the pop up park celebration on 4 December 2020.

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$3.00 OFF