



COMMUNITY NEWS

Late March
2014

This community newsletter is sent out usually twice each month on behalf of tawalink.com, Tawa's community website which has been supported by the Tawa Residents' Association since 2002.

WHY DOES SH1 NEED TO BE WIDENED FOR P2G?

- from the perspective of Takapu Valley resident Bruce Flett

The original purpose of a link road from Petone to Grenada (P2G) was to relieve pressure on the junction at the bottom of Ngauranga Gorge. For ten years all plans were based upon building a road that joined SH1 near Grenada/Churton Park. In February this year NZTA sprang two new solutions on an unsuspecting public. Both of which require massive additional road works north of Grenada – Why?

The two solutions that NZTA call options C and D, will cost considerably more than any of the previous schemes which terminated at Grenada and did not require any road widening.

The apparent and unsupported first new reason for these schemes is that with the introduction of Transmission Gully traffic at Linden, and with a link road to Petone, the traffic on SH1 will dramatically increase. However by the scoping study's own figures, they predict a peak traffic flow south of Linden on SH1 of fewer vehicles per day than does the Transmission Gully project. The latest plans from the Gully consortium

have the Linden junction of the two roads merging down to just 4 lanes 500 metres south of Collins Avenue on SH1 (and north of the Intermediate). That project believes that a 4 lane motorway can handle the traffic volume, but the P2G project believes that 8% less traffic will need a 6 lane highway!

Option D is proposed because they believe it provides the most efficient way to get trucks from Seaview to the north. That route, they say, will take 7,500 vehicles per day off SH1 at Tawa and obviate the need to widen the road. However the P2G project has missed the opportunity of using a better alternative to take that traffic, namely SH2 and SH58 to Pauatahanui and thence up the Gully road to the north.

Why do we think that route is better?

Well, the distances via either route are 19kms. That is, whether you go from Petone via SH2 and then SH58 to the new Pauatahanui/Gully intersection, or go via P2G, then Option D to Cannons Creek and then the Gully Road, it's the same distance. However the gradient on the SH58 route is 50% less than that of the P2G link road, and the height you have to climb to on SH58 is only 160 metres, as opposed to 290 metres above Horokiwi on P2G.

SO, PLEASE NZTA, go back to the original scheme. Terminate the P2G link road at Grenada; don't widen SH1, and take the extra 7,500 vehicles down SH58 and SH2. Oh yes, and use the \$150m saved by not building option D to (a) widen SH58 to a 4 lane road, and (b) build a full interchange on SH2 to SH58 at Haywards. This will provide real resilience for the Hutt Valley.

WE CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT by expressing a view to NZTA by 17 April. It can be as long or as short as you like, there is no set format. Send your wording by post to: Petone to Grenada Link Road Team, Freepost 225938, PO Box 5084, Thorndon, Wellington 6145; or email petone2grenada@nzta.govt.nz.

Petone to Grenada Link Road
Issue 01
February 2014

We are considering a potential new transport link between Tawa/Porirua and the Hutt Valley to improve travel on two of Wellington's main highways and to resolve some critical issues that affect both day-to-day travel and our ability to manage major events.

The Petone to Grenada Link Road (Link Road) has been talked about for many years. A Transport Agency Scoping Study and included in the 2010/11 Consideration Plan. The diagram on this page shows the existing route travelled and the potential new route options being considered.

Over the past year we have been looking at the benefits of the Link Road more closely. Not only does it have the ability to reduce congestion on State Highway 2 (SH2) and State Highway 1 (SH1), it also has the ability to:

- Make peak morning journeys between the Hutt and Porirua around 10 minutes faster and 20m shorter.
- Provide another route to/from the Hutt Valley when SH2 is blocked or Wellington City when SH1 is blocked.
- Support better public transport access (particularly for buses) between Wellington, Petone and the Hutt Valley by improving traffic flow and creating the opportunity for new and existing services.
- Support more walking and cycling opportunities, particularly if combined with the Wellington to Hutt Valley Walking and Cycling Link.
- Make travel times on SH1 and SH2 more reliable.
- Open up an residential or business growth opportunities by making Porirua, Wellington and the Hutt Valley better connected.

Last year we considered the key issues and held meetings with partners at Hutt City Council and Wellington City Council, as well as other key stakeholders, before considering potential route options in more detail. The implications for future road use in the region were noted as a key consideration. Discussions on land use opportunities will be led by the local authorities.

Which has now reached the point where we want to share our ideas with you and get your views before making any decisions about the options we have developed. This newsletter explains the key issues, outlines the proposals we have developed so far and asks questions about different aspects of the options we are considering. It also provides some information on how the Link Road fits alongside with the Wellington to Hutt Valley Walking and Cycling Link proposed along SH2.

Please take some time to read the newsletter and familiarise yourself with the information. Then come along to find out more about the Link Road at one of our information days in February. Members of the team will be on hand to discuss our proposals. You'll find details about information day dates and locations on the back page of this newsletter.

NZ Transport Agency Page 1

THE TAWA COMMUNITY BOARD'S VIEW

The Tawa Community Board's primary role is to advocate for the residents of Tawa and it must be careful to ensure that it does just that. It cannot be seen to advocate for just one group within Tawa. However in respect of the current Petone to Grenada Linkroad proposal, the board:

- supports the Petone to Grenada Link road.
- strongly opposes the addition of another roundabout, attached to the southbound motorway onramp at Tawa.
- believes that the use of State Highway 1 to provide resilience for State Highway 2 in the event of blockage is questionable. State Highway 1 south of Churton Park is already at capacity in peak hour, and forcing State Highway 2 traffic onto it is clearly unworkable.
- is not convinced that the widening of State Highway 1 between Takapu and Linden, or that a road through Takapu Valley, is needed at this stage.
- strongly recommends that State Highway 2 and State Highway 58 be upgraded and feed Hutt Valley traffic, wanting to go north of Wellington, to Transmission Gully at Pauatahanui. We believe the cost, mainly on SH58, would be no more than the cost of proposed Tawa options C & D.
- strongly opposes Hutt Valley traffic, wanting to go north of Wellington, using Grenada, Tawa and Porirua as a route.
- prefers some form of onramp interchange for the Petone Link road, in the vicinity of the current Churton Park onramp or slightly north of that point, in conjunction with a State Highway 2 and State Highway 58 upgrade.

The Tawa Community Board, as a result of meetings with NZTA, has ensured that all Tawa residents should now have received the NZTA Petone to Grenada Link Road newsletter (Issue 1) in their letterbox, and the closing date for submissions extended to Thursday 17 April.

The Board will be making a submission to NZTA and has asked the process to be followed once submissions close.

We encourage all Tawa residents to have a say on the proposed road, given:

- the impact that another roundabout, attached to the southbound motorway onramp, would have on the whole Tawa community. It has the potential to cause delays and traffic jams at times of peak traffic.
- the main roads of Tawa will likely be clogged with traffic as motorists try to avoid the roadworks on the motorway associated with option C.

Send your wording by post to: Petone to Grenada Link Road Team, Freepost 225938, PO Box 5084, Thorndon, Wellington 6145; or email petone2grenada@nzta.govt.nz.

The Tawa Community Board contact person for roading issues is Graeme Hansen who can be contacted on 232 4360. The community board team working on this proposal is Graeme Hansen, Robert Tredger and Councillor Malcolm Sparrow.



BUILD-UP AT THE ROUNDABOUTS

These photos of the build-up at one of the three roundabouts at the southern entrance to Tawa were supplied by Peter Layne.

In regard to NZTA's proposal to see thousands of vehicles from the yet-to-be-built Petone2Grenada link road going on to use the easternmost of the existing roundabouts, he writes: "I think the more that people are aware of the queuing of cars from the Tawa off-ramp the better. Let's hope someone in the right place can see the potential problem and does something about it. I'd hate to think that there would be a big pile-up on the final curve where the Countdown lane commences. The potential for it has already been put in place."

PLEASE NOTE that the correct email address for submissions to NZTA is petone2grenada@nzta.govt.nz.



NEIGHBOURS' DAY ALL GO IN TAWA

45-50 streets/neighbourhoods in Tawa are taking part in Neighbours' Day get-togethers of some sort or another – a barbecue or afternoon tea or similar – this month (March 2014) or last month.

By the end of Sunday 23 March around 30 events had already taken place. A Neighbours' Day get-together is one of the best ways of meeting your neighbours and building up connections that will make your neighbourhood more friendly, safer, and much more "effective" in any sort of emergency.

Here's some of the feedback we have received in recent days:

"Everyone enjoyed their time and we have some more plans to keep in touch as neighbours. A good initiative."

"We did welcome one lot of new neighbours, tho' they have been here a year!"

"Everyone appreciated the opportunity to gather together, and it was an easy way for newcomers to meet neighbours."

"Those who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Some neighbours had not met before."

"..... an updated list of contact details is being circulated to all homes today."

"Our neighbourhood has been enjoying [our] annual event since 1992. Many of the original neighbours are still attending and it gives us all the opportunity to meet and welcome our new residents."

"We welcomed a new face from number 6 who popped in and we caught up with lots of old friendly faces."

Read about various Tawa get-togethers here:
www.tawalink.com/neighbours_street_list2014.html



Everybody needs good neighbours

DominionPost Tuesday March 25, 2014



TAKE CARE IN TAWA

The following was received from a local resident before Christmas. It is still very relevant.

“Our house got burgled on the 22nd November on Chester Road during daylight hours between 8am-7pm. The house is very open and visible from the road. The thieves went to the side of the house and used a crowbar to get in through a side window and took all jewellery and electronics. My fiancé and I are getting married in February so we were less than impressed to see our wedding rings taken.

During the experience we have learned a few things:

- Make sure you have nothing stacked or nearby the house to allow easier access for thieves
- Get to know your neighbours and have their phone numbers
- If you spot anything suspicious, call the police
- Do not leave any keys inside
- Have alarm and security warning stickers easily seen from the road
- Be wary of any “work” vans. It is common practise for thieves to use a fake workvan to load your goods into
- Take note/report of anyone knocking on your door during the daytime within the working week (we had someone claiming they were picking up a package from our address the day before)
- Record serial numbers (police will track these). You can do this for free on www.snap.org.nz.
- Store receipts/packaging for insurance purposes ... Don't rely on digital photos or data – they steal your hard drives, flash drives and PCs!
- Keep a (secured) safe for your passports and irreplaceable items
- Make sure all PCs, phones and portable devices have passwords

It is a shame that this is going on in Tawa but I feel we can combat it if we are all aware it is happening. Most of the stuff is common sense but you always feel that it would never happen to you and it would never happen in a lovely community such as Tawa!”

29 March 2014

Greenacres School
Mad Hatter's Gala

GREENACRES SCHOOL
62 Raroa Terrace
Tawa

Saturday 29 March
11AM – 2PM

Easter hunt LUCKY DIP GARAGE SALE
AIR MARBLE RUN MYSTERY BOTTLES TOYS
Trains Merryground PLANTS
BOUNCY CASTLES FACE PAINTING CAFE
Hair Braiding SMASH PALACE CAKES
GIANT Slide Fill-a-bag clothes
CLASSIC CAR RIDES Football Hot Rods
Spin the Wheel SILENT AUCTION Pony RIDES GAMES ALLEY
1.30pm EASTER HAT PARADE

Come and enjoy the short
“Autumn Concert”
in support of the

presented by the
Tawa BB Learners' Band
and guests, with musical and other items

3.00 p.m.
Saturday, 12th April
at **Tawa Union Church**
6 Elena Place, Tawa

Admission: donation to AIT
(NZ Registered Charity)

www.autisminterventiontrust.org.nz

TAWA TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The club had to move from the Tawa Intermediate School Hall last year because they could no longer store our tables. There was no other suitable hall available in Tawa but we were fortunate to find that the Porirua East School could accommodate us. However it is still called the Tawa Table Tennis Club and is fairly close to Tawa so is easily accessible for Tawa residents.

This winter we will be playing on Tuesday nights from April 8th until at least the end of September. The hall is opened at 7pm. Players are welcome to play up to 10.30pm any Tuesday night. The cost each night is \$4 for adults and \$2 for school children.

POPPY DAY COLLECTION

Poppy Day this year will be on Thursday 17 April. All monies from the sale of poppies are used exclusively for welfare purposes for Returned Service veterans in the area which the monies are collected, in this case Tawa. It is therefore very much for the benefit of our community.



ANZAC DAY OBSERVANCE FRIDAY 25 APRIL 2014

This year's Tawa Community ANZAC Day observance will commence with a parade which will assemble at the New World carpark at 9.30am and march off to the Tawa RSA at 9.45am. The Civic Service will be held in the Tawa RSA Hall, 89 Oxford Street, at the completion of the parade (approximately 10am).

This is a Tawa Community commemoration and the public are most welcome to march in the parade, attend the service and pay tribute on this special day of remembrance.




Manaaki Montessori Education Trust
c/o Tawa School, Oxford Street, Tawa
secretary@tawamontessori.org
Tel 04 2323787 a/h

Montessori @ Tawa School
OPEN DAY
Saturday 5 April, 11am - 1pm, Room 13, Tawa School

Meet the teacher, ask questions, and see the Montessori class environment for 6-12 year olds.

www.tawamontessori.org



Buggy Walk

Starting Weekly from Friday 7th March 2014

Time: 10.15am
from Tawa Community centre
(Walk lasts about 1 hour)

- Free morning tea
- Safe area for babies to play and mums to chat

For any enquiries call Tina Elsdon
04 8311204 or 021 0433920

sponsored by Plunket and the Tawa Community Centres



60 SECONDS WITH Jonty Boyd

Jonty is this year's deputy head boy at Tawa College.

Where were you born? Wellington Hospital, Wellington

Where did you grow up? Tawa, Wellington

What schools have you been at since you first started school?

St Francis Xavier School, Tawa Intermediate, Tawa College.

What subjects are you doing this year at college?

Biology, Health, PE 301, PE 302, English.

What are you hoping to do when you leave school?

Do a sports coaching degree at Canterbury University.

What does being a deputy head student actually involve, any particular responsibilities?

Representing the school, organising events, helping Junior Students, attending school events and outside of school events.

What are your interests/hobbies?

Rugby 1st XV, music, softball, exercising, basketball.

What do you like about Tawa College?

I love the people and teachers.

Favourite sports team and/or sportsperson?

The All Blacks; Richie McCaw or Sam Cane.

Favourite musical group and/or style of music?

Techno and House Music.

Favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?

I would have to say Foxton Beach because I've been going there with friends for years and have so many memories.

Any accomplishments/achievements in your life (to date) that give you much satisfaction/pride?

Becoming deputy head boy; being part of rugby 1st XV; trialling for under-16 Wellington rugby.



Tawa Community Centre

A friendly place to pop in during the hours of 9am-1pm on weekdays,
or hire a room or hall for your community group / birthday party /
meeting at reasonable rates.

Like us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/TawaAndLindenCommunityCentres>
or email mandy.russell@wcc.govt.nz and put 'Join'
as the subject to receive regular updates.

TAWA RECREATION CENTRE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Registrations are now open for the Tawa Recreation Centre April School Holiday Programme and Sports Clinics. We have an exciting offer in conjunction with Tawa Pool.

If you book your child in for 5 days on the holiday programme, then you are entitled to receive 50% off your swimming lessons at Tawa Pool!

Please go to <http://wellington.govt.nz/recreation/school-holidays-and-birthdays/school-holidays/recreation-and-sport-centres/tawa-recreation-centre> to register. By registering online, you can get a 5% discount.

Remember to check that all your details are current at the time of registration.

Contact jessica.bolwerk@wcc.govt.nz at Tawa Pool to receive your discount.

We also have our Football and Volleyball Holiday Sports clinics running on the Tuesday and Wednesday of each week. See flyer for more details.

Contact me if you are a new customer and would like to take up this opportunity. I will create an account for you.

Anjna Maisuriya 232 2260 | 021 227 8358 | anjna.maisuriya@wcc.govt.nz

Team Leader Tawa Rec Centre | Parks, Sport & Recreation | Wellington City Council

Adios

Malcolm Sparrow

On behalf of TawaLink.com (supported by the Tawa Residents' Association)



"I hear good things happen to people who wait. That's why I'm always an hour late."

"Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain."

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination."

– Jimmy Dean

Items for this newsletter should be sent to info@tawalink.com. Queries to 232 5030 or 027 232 2320. Please type in email Subject Line: "Item for Tawa newsletter".

This newsletter is emailed to around 1200 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa), usually in the first and the third weeks of each month. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting that your name be deleted from our list.

Back issues of the newsletter are available at www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html.

PLEASE BE AWARE that many of the items/articles in this newsletter have been sent through by members of the Tawa community and have been published "unedited". They may not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.