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To: admin@chings.co.nz
Cc: [Mark Lile](#); [Margaret Parfitt](#)
Subject: Attn. Andrew Spittal re Kaka Valley direct cycle route
Date: Saturday, 7 November 2020 11:15:32 a.m.
Attachments: [Kaka Valley Pref. Cycle Access Route.jpg](#)

Hi Andrew

I am writing to you regarding walking /cycling connection to the proposed Kaka Valley development.

Previously I had suggested you go around the back of Dennes hole with this and you suggested it was too steep and too visible from Dennes hole. Before I respond again to that I'm sure you would agree that for a good uptake of cycling and walking commuting into town, the route needs to be all three of safe, pleasant and convenient. I hadn't thought this through before, but if you put a bridge across just upstream of Dennes Hole that is convenient there, but what about the rest of the route? It would result in an uncomfortable dogleg over the existing Jickells Bridge and then what? Or if you stayed on the river track and went around the narrow path around the back of Black hole, that is a very indirect route into the city. We are not talking about recreational riding here where pleasant deviation might actually be positive. For residents living in the Kaka valley, they will just want a direct route into town, ideally completely away from any road crossings and with only gently ramping up and down over slopes.

So I really think we need to think of a more complete route getting into town for cycle commuting from the Kaka Valley and going around the West of Dennes hole along the edge of Branford Park without crossing the Maitai Valley road and over a new cycle route directly into the botanics, rising much less than the present footpath (from the old letterboxes) to Hardy St East.

I know this leaves you with an issue of getting services across the Maitai - perhaps you could still do that and just incorporate a narrow footbridge access, if siphoning under the river bed is not a realistic option.

And just on the effect of having a pathway on the other side of Dennes hole on the people using Dennes hole; the swimming holes above and below this one have paths on the other side of the hole that do not seem to be to the detriment to the enjoyment of the holes. And really I don't think creating a 2.5m wide path around there is such an issue using blasting or heavy equipment.

So I would like you to reconsider this path around the West of Dennes hole as the access for cycles to the Kaka valley and further consider the route the rest of the way in the most direct and pleasant way directly to the city by way of the botanics.

Cheers

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