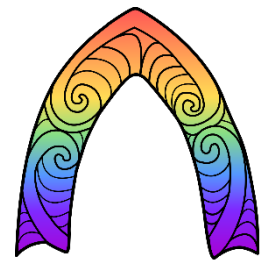




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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa



TATAU POUNAMU

**ROTORUA
LAKES COUNCIL**
Te Kaunihera o ngā Roto o Rotorua

Kia ora,

We're pleased to let you know about some improvements that will be happening in your neighbourhood.

We've been working in partnership with Tatau Pounamu Collective, Eastside hapū and the wider community and what we've heard is that people want safe, connected, sustainable and thriving communities. To help achieve this, a shared path is planned for Vaughan Road from Owkata Road to Te Ngae Road behind the Ngāpuna shops.

Some of the benefits of a shared path include:

- **Connecting communities:** shared paths connect neighbourhoods to schools, sports and recreation areas, shopping centres and the inner city.
- **Safe, caring communities:** shared paths and other road features encourage motorists to take more care as they drive in a space that also has pedestrians, bike riders and other users.
- **Thriving communities:** shared paths make it easier to access friends, work and leisure activities while encouraging physical activity that the whole family can enjoy.
- **Supporting residential growth:** as residential areas grow, so will the amount of traffic on the road. We know from data collected from other shared paths in town that having safer spaces encourages more people to choose alternative modes of transport.

This project also relates to the work we're already doing with the Homes and Thriving Communities Strategic Framework and the Eastside Structure Wellness Plan (pages 8 and 14 of the draft plan). Check out the Plan at www.rotorualakescouncil.nz/eastsideplan to see where other shared paths might go.

When will work on the shared path start?

We've identified a small portion of path that can be easily constructed without affecting homes and services.

- This section of the path will start at the culvert crossing near Carrol Place and finish at the Rotorua Forest Haulage site.
- Work to construct this section will begin in November and take approximately eight weeks.
- Design work for the full shared path is still in progress. This means which side of the road the path will be on, crossing points and side road connections are still to be decided.



What will it look like?

In Rotorua, shared paths are usually three metres wide and made of smooth, paved concrete. Where possible, the streetscape will be kept or enhanced (street trees, grass berms etc). Crossing points will be a mix of raised courtesy and pedestrian crossings. Where appropriate, the road upgrades may also include traffic calming features such as islands or chicanes. A similar project has been completed along Ranolf Street.



How is this project being funded?

Earlier this year, Council received \$20 million from the Government to make improvements in the Eastern suburbs of Rotorua to create employment opportunities and to enable future residential growth. The funding from the Government is specifically for shovel ready projects including stormwater improvements (\$15 million) and local road upgrades (\$5 million) to better accommodate alternative modes of transport. This work aligns with the Build Back Better economic recovery plan for Rotorua – starting capital expenditure projects to drive employment and partnering with the Government to find more economic investment options.

What's next?

Once all design work is complete, Council will share these in a further letter to residents along with expected timeframes for construction. Council is working with Eastside hapū, partners Tatau Pounamu Collective, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, and the wider community, to ensure any work in the Eastside is timed so that it affects residents as little as possible.

If you have any questions about the shared path or about what else is happening in the Eastside please contact Rotorua Lakes Council on 07 348 4199 or email info@rotorualc.nz

Ngā mihi
Rotorua Lakes Council

Find out more about Tatau Pounamu Collective at:

W: www.tataupounamurotorua.com

F: www.facebook.com/TatauPounamu

I: www.instagram.com/tatau_pounamu

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