

## Rotorua Cycle Action Submission to Rotorua District Council 2010

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### **Rotorua Cycle Action supports the direction of the Rotorua District Cycling Strategy**

Rotorua Cycle Action (RCA) generally supports the direction of the draft Rotorua District Cycling Strategy 2010 (RDSCS), and is in complete accord with the vision of “a district in which people from all sectors of the community cycle for transport and enjoyment”. RCA agrees that for this to happen “a safe, direct, attractive, and comfortable cycleway network that links all parts of Rotorua” is required.

RCA concedes that achieving this vision will take time and that the best approach is probably to;

- Develop a comprehensive plan for a cycleway network that meets the vision above (RCA hopes that the Councillors agree that this network should be to a very high standard),
- Adopt road maintenance and new engineering standards to conform to the cycle network, and
- Undertake the additional cycleway projects required year by year to step steadily towards completion of the planned network.

This is not inconsistent with the approach outlined in the RDSCS.

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### **Planned cycle network**

RCA is concerned that the cycleway network planned in the RDSCS is not of a sufficiently high standard to achieve our shared vision.

The planned network is patchy with many proposed cycle routes leading to the edge of town then stopping. For example the Ngongataha to Kawaha Point Rd route is likely to be an attractive link, but it's unlikely to result in significantly more cycle commuters if those commuters have to finish their ride into town via Lake Road.

#### **Lake Road Cycleway**



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**Road  
maintenance and  
engineering**

RCA is very concerned that, contrary to the RDCS, new engineering works are being completed with no apparent consideration for cycle safety.

The recently completed Malfroy Road roundabout has no provision for cyclists. The shared parking/cycle lane ends well before the roundabout where vehicles, still travelling at high speed, spread into two vehicle lanes that take up the full width of road available.

**Malfroy Road Roundabout**



There are other solutions available, that for no extra cost could have delivered a much safer passage for cyclists.

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**Cycleway projects**

RCA does want a comprehensive cycle network completed to a high standard. As outlined above, achieving this will require an upgraded cycle network plan, and on-going road engineering works that do conform with that plan.

In addition, there's a strong need for special cycling projects that build significant portions of the cycle network each year. To enable this the cycle network plan should identify, specify, and prioritise the series of projects required to complete the cycle network. Rotorua District Council would then be well placed to plan and complete these projects year by year in a logical sequence.

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**Eastside Schools  
project**

RCA has drafted a cycleway project for Eastside Schools, and would like to present this to Council as an example project that is consistent with our shared cycling vision.

The eastside schools area was selected by RCA as a high priority, based on the relatively low cost required to achieve relatively high gains in cycle safety and activity.

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**RCA submissions**

RCA submits that Rotorua District Council should;

- Develop a significantly more comprehensive plan for a high quality cycle network, that specifies and prioritises the annual projects required to achieve this cycle network within a stated time-frame,
- Engage someone or liaise with parties with cycling expertise to re-review road engineering standards and future projects, and to upgrade these to enable safe, direct, attractive, and comfortable cycling,
- Continue with specific annual projects to complete the cycle network to a high standard within a medium term timeframe (5-10 years), and
- Implement the recommendations in the RCA Eastside School cycleway project within the budget year currently being planned.

RCA would be happy to build closer links with the range of RDC staff involved with the cycling network, and work together to achieve our shared vision, where people from all sectors of the community do cycle for transport and enjoyment.

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