

**Tasman District Council
Tasman Regional Land
Transport Plan (TRLTP)
2018**

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Submitter details

1. Nelson Marlborough Health (Nelson Marlborough District Health Board) (NMH) is a key organisation involved in the health and wellbeing of the people within Te Tau Ihu o Te Waka a Maui. NMH appreciates the opportunity to comment from a public health perspective on the Tasman Regional Land Transport Plan (TRLTP) 2018.
2. NMH makes this submission in recognition of its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and the Health Act 1956.
3. This submission sets out particular matters of interest and concern to NMH, particularly in relation to promoting cycling, walking and public transport.

General Comments

4. NMH continues to support the following Tasman District Council (TDC) objectives and strategic responses shown in Table 5 (pages 29):
 - a. Communities have access to a range of travel choices to meet their social, economic, health and cultural needs.
 - b. Enable access to social and economic opportunities by investing in public transport.
 - c. Deaths and serious injuries on the region's transport system are reduced.
5. NMH is supportive of the Walking Policy and the Cycling Policy contained in the TRLTP. There are numerous benefits in promoting active transport. Increased numbers of walkers and cyclists can stimulate economic activity, promote accessibility and community cohesion, reduce congestion, improve safety, reduce transport emissions and improve public health¹. For children, using active transport to and from school is an important way to get some physical activity each day. With the high child obesity rate in New Zealand, this is a relatively easy way to increase physical activity in children.
6. TDC has highlighted the issue of cycling demand noting that there is a strong community desire to increase the number of trips taken by people on bikes however, there is not a current cohesive network. The resident's survey found 32% want the Council to place greater emphasis on improving walking and cycling

¹ Ministry of Transport (2008) Raising the Profile of Walking and Cycling in New Zealand. Retrieved from <http://www.transport.govt.nz/assets/Import/Documents/RaisingtheProfileWalkingCyclinginNZ.pdf> on 3 January 2018.

infrastructure. NMH encourages the Council to continue to investigate options to increase walking, cycling and passenger transport travel choices.

7. NMH supports the proposed Champion Road cycle/pedestrian underpass as this will improve connectivity and make this intersection safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
8. NMH supports additional bus services in Richmond. Richmond is experiencing consideration growth, it is important that the bus service caters to the demands of the community. Additional bus services will provide more transport options for those on low incomes or who are unable to drive, cycle, or walk long distances.
9. NMH supports the installation of a park and ride facility that allows commuters to link into the bus service. This gives commuters greater transport options therefore easing congestion which reduces air pollution.
10. *Recommendation*: that Council continues to investigate active transport options across the Tasman district, in particular around schools.

Conclusion

11. NMH thanks the TDC for the opportunity to comment on the Tasman Regional Land Transport Plan. NMH is pleased to see that TDC plans to invest further in active and public transport as this will have positive health outcomes for the community.

Yours sincerely



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