
A BYLAW; TO ENFORCE CYCLIST'S USE CYCLE LANES WHERE PROVIDED AT ALL TIMES

Primary Petitioner: Maria van der Meel
Total Signatures: 15 as at 15 June 2015

Presented by: Maria van der Meel
Contact Officer: Paul Barker
Director Responsible: Anthony Wilson

Recommendation

That the Transport and Urban Development Committee:

1. Receive the information.

Background

1. The ePetition "A bylaw; to enforce cyclist's use cycle lanes where provided at all times" was initiated by Maria van der Meel on 21 May 2015 and closed on 21 June 2015.
2. The purpose of the ePetition is to request Council create a bylaw to ensure cyclists use cycle lanes, where provided, at all times. The ePetitioner notes that a bylaw will ensure compliance as the need to share the road as per the Land Transport Act no longer applies. She also mentions that the overseas experience shows cyclist are required to use cycle lanes where provided and is embedded in their Road Code.
3. The ePetition was open to all members of the public with internet access to the Council's website. It received 18 signatures as at 15 June.

Officers' response

1. Wellington currently has a relative weak cycling network, where facilities do exist for cyclists they are of mixed quality but generally considered poor. It is accepted that there is an intention on part of the Council to increase both quality and quantity of network provision.
2. As new provisions are made, education, marketing and encouragement campaigns will be factored into scheme roll out to encourage uptake and the correct use of new lanes.
3. Cycleway provision will not always be appropriate for all riders and some may choose not to use facilities provided. For example, bunch rides of sports cyclists would choose not to use a shared path and probably wouldn't use a narrow protected cycle lane.
4. No legal advice has been sought if it is possible to create a bylaw requiring cyclists to use cycle lanes however officers believe that this may be ultra vires.
5. While this is open to review in the future, it is not appropriate that Council gives further consideration to this proposal at this time.

Attachments

Nil