

# Presentation by BOP Community Trails Trust.

## Summary

There is a cycling wave sweeping across the country, with 22 trails constituting the NZ Cycle Trail.

The economic benefit of these trails are significant (\$3.5 generated for every \$1 spent). WBOPDC is working to complete a trail between Omokoroa and Bethlehem. We, under the guidance of Jonathan Kennet (NZ Cycle trails), have just opened up a track to connect Paengaroa to Okere Falls (and Rotorua).

Council needs to prioritise the connection from the end of the TEL cycle-way, so that we can offer the cycling tourist a multi-day ride, and get Tauranga onto the cycling map.

## Presentation by BOP Community Trails Trust cont.

### **Analysis**

- There are currently 22 trails that constitute the NZ Cycle trail. The Bay of Plenty, and in particular Tauranga, is sadly missing from this.
- The economic benefit of these trails are significant (\$3.5 generated for every \$1 spent). Rotorua generates between \$ 29 mil and \$ 47 mil per annum. Hauraki Rail Trail generates \$ 1.2 – 1.8 mil per month.
- Cyclist who spend a significant amount (both accommodation and meals) look for a multi-day experience. By way of example, Queenstown got an additional \$ 25 mil to complete a 514 km circuit (all estimates were exceeded).
- Last weekend we undertook a working bee to connect Paengaroa to Okere Falls and Rotorua. There is already a ride planned in 2 weeks from now to use this track.
- The Hauraki Rail Trail has already been extended to connect with Matamata, and from there to the Waikato River Trails. It will be a serious missed opportunity if a circular ride starting and ending in Auckland does not pass through Tauranga.
- The AA cycle guide offers free advertising for multi-day cycle rides in their magazine. We are naturally excluded from this due to the lack of facilities.

# Presentation by BOP Community Trails Trust cont.

## Solution

- TCC needs to acknowledge the importance of creating a multi-day ride, and that the connection from Paengaroa to Bethlehem is of high priority.
- We have been unable to establish whether there is in fact a plan in place to connect TEL with Papamoa. The TCC Planning Dept is unable to confirm that this trail is even on a planning map. Our main concern is that while we have been told on numerous occasions that the link will be in place by 2021, there is no evidence to support this milestone.
- NZTA has acknowledged that they should have completed the TEL cycle way all the way to Bayfair, when they were building the road, and had the machinery in place.
- Following steps are required:
  1. Firstly, complete the trail that is already there, ie complete the path from Parton Rd to paddock.
  2. Negotiate with this land owner to skirt the swamp across this paddock to 29 Mandalay Key
  3. Seal the grassed path from 29 Mandalay Key to the existing path (1 km)