

Engagement summary

We are looking to replace the Pepe Stream Bridge and adjacent walking and wheeling path in Tairua in the coming years.

To do this, we firstly need to consider and test the options for a bridge replacement. This is called a Single Stage Business Case (SSBC).

Part of this work includes talking with the community and key stakeholders such as local council, iwi, and road advocacy groups.

For this project, we started off by holding face-to-face sessions with iwi, councils such as the Thames Coromandel District Council and Waikato Regional Council and key stakeholders such as the Tairua Residents Association, Police and Fire and Emergency to get an understanding of issues with the current bridge.

Following this, we sought feedback from the wider community by an email survey which helped us decide on three possible replacement options and

also possible intersection improvements on Pepe Road and SH25.

We then held an open day at Tairua School Wednesday 11 August 2021 from 3pm - 6pm where we presented the bridge replacement options and the intersection upgrade options. Feedback was captured using post-it notes on illustrations of what each option would look like.

We wanted to find out what people thought of each of the proposals and seek any other ideas that may need to be considered. We also provided an opportunity for those who couldn't make it to make an online submission after the event.

We have a lot to think about while we plan the Pepe Stream Bridge replacement and its important we hear from the community.



Option one (most supported)

The outcome of the open day and feedback we have received to date is that option one is most supported by the community.

This is a two-lane bridge with an attached walking and wheeling pathway.



912 people took part in our survey and told us what mattered most to them when considering a new bridge replacement.



Around **80 people** attended the drop-in session providing 132 pieces of feedback.



32 submissions were received online.



We had some great conversations about how the community uses the existing bridge and what is important to them in a new bridge in the future.

View the submissions

You can view the submissions we received during consultation at www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/pepe-stream-bridge-replacement

Bridge replacement options

Option 1



Two-lane bridge with attached walking and wheeling path.

Option 2



Two-lane bridge with separated walking and wheeling path.

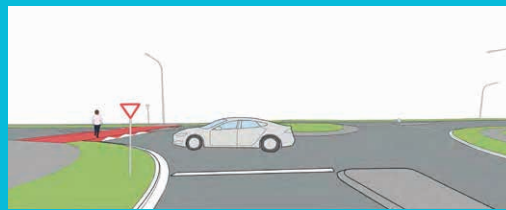
Option 3



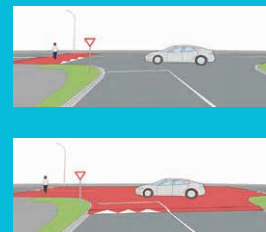
A single lane bridge with attached walking and wheeling path.

Intersection improvement options for Pepe Road and SH25

The majority of those who provided feedback were in support of a roundabout with a raised pedestrian crossing to improve the intersection of Pepe Road and SH25.



A roundabout with raised pedestrian crossing



Raised crossing on SH25

A raised intersection

Key themes raised during consultation included:

- A future bridge should include safety features to allow swimmers to jump off it into the stream below.
- A walking and wheeling solution to be considered as part of the new bridge design.
- Safe access for walkers and wheelers.
- Consideration should be given to lowering the speed limits on SH25 approaching the Pepe Stream Bridge and through the town centre.



What's next?

Funding for pre-implementation (consenting, property and design phases of a project) has been allocated within the 2021-24 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP). Once the business case has been completed and approved, Waka Kotahi will need to apply for this funding.

Funding for construction is possible within the 2021-24 NLTP period, if more funding becomes available. We will continue to work with Thames Coromandel District Council and the Tairua community to ensure this project is well placed if more funding becomes available in 2021-24, and to help ensure it is in the best position for funding in the 2024-27 NLTP.