

# Bike campaigners find more room on bridge

By Mathew Dearnaley

5:00 AM Thursday Mar 6, 2008



Cyclists and pedestrians have supplied Transit NZ with new measurements to show they could fit comfortably across Auckland Harbour Bridge without undue sacrifices by motorists.

An amended plan by Cycle Action Auckland and Walk Auckland would leave buses and cars with more space on its clip-on lanes than suggested by Transit as a price of creating a 2.4m cycleway on one side of the bridge, and a walkway on the other.

Bus operator Ritchies Transport feared narrowing the lanes to 3.1m may not leave enough clearance for new buses expected to be 2.6m wide. But Cycle Action chairman



Walking advocate Andy Smith (left) and Cycle Action's Bevan Woodward. Photo / Martin Sykes



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Bevan Woodward said yesterday, at the launch of an online campaign to build public support for cycling and pedestrian crossings, that the new calculations would leave buses with 3.4m on the outside clip-on lanes.

# getacrossorg.nz

Voice your support to get across the Auckland Harbour Bridge! Click here to have your say.



#### HAVE YOUR SAY!

Prominent Auckland architects, Copeland Associates, are about to start work on design concepts for the Auckland Harbour Bridge Pathway. We would like your input, please take the short survey <a href="here">here</a>. You can read more <a href="here">here</a>.

Please e-mail us for a copy of the tolling proposal or to get more involved.



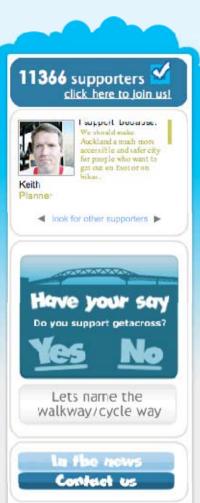








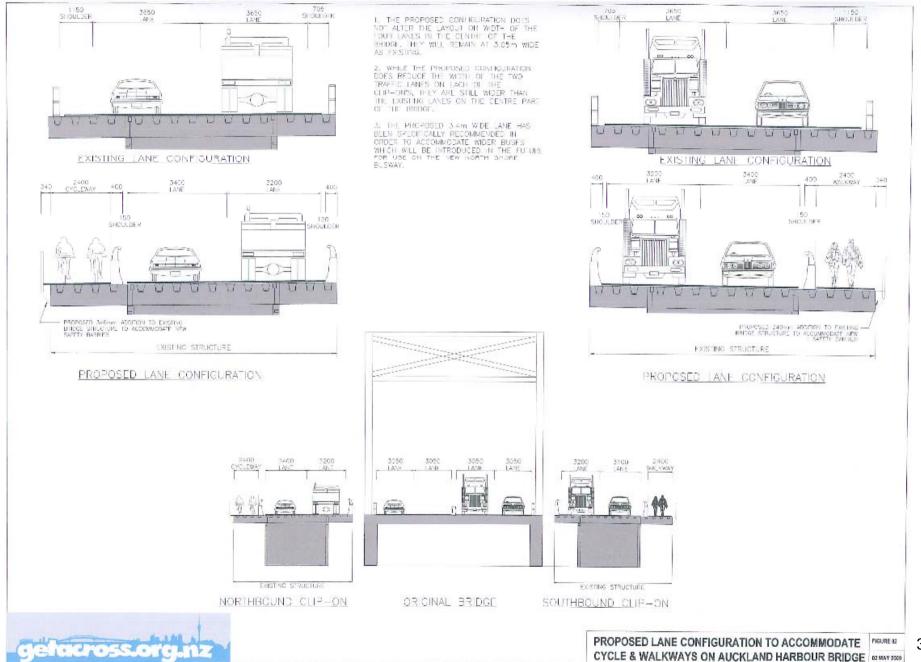


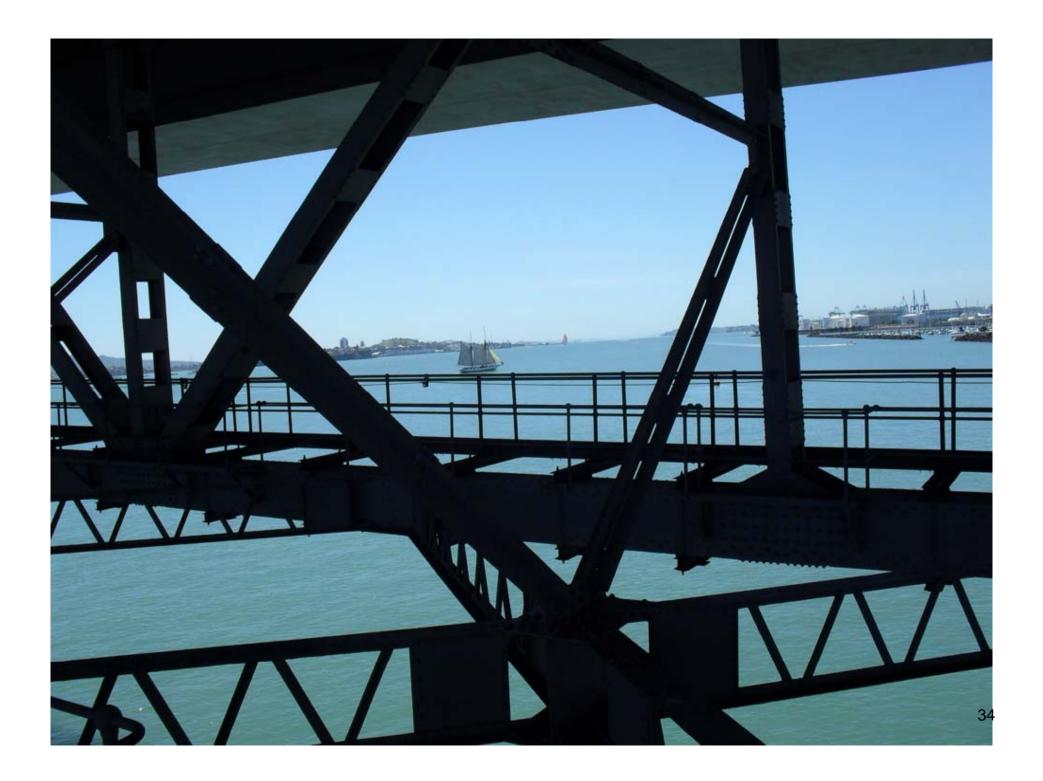
















### Cycleway for bridge could prove too pricey

By Mathew Dearnaley

4:00 AM Wednesday Sep 3, 2008









Cycling and pedestrian links across Auckland Harbour have been priced at between \$24 million and \$43 million, heralding a difficult debate among regional and city leaders over their worth.

Consultants have given five project partners, including three Auckland councils and the Government's Transport Agency, a shortlist of options ranging from reallocating space on the bridge's clip-ons for \$23.8 million to widening them by 1.2m for \$42.7 million.



Cycle Action Auckland chairman Bevan Woodward (right) is furious about the city council's stance after he and Walk Auckland advocate Andy Smith this year gained support online for alternate access across the bridge, Photo / Martin Sykes

They say all options would leave "acceptable" widths for general traffic - ranging from 3.09m for each of two lanes for the cheapest proposal, to 3.4m and 3.1m respectively for the most expensive solution.

But their preference is for the latter option, because of the extra space left for buses and trucks.

### vour views

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It's time to show the council that we want to WALK and CYCLE over the HARBOUR BRIDGE

Come and show your support for

# gercessorg.n

Meet others who share our vision to **GET ACROSS** and join us for a group photo

Gather in the park below the Auckland Harbour Bridge - at the city end

access from Curran Street (Herne Bay) or Westhaven Drive



WORLD CARFREE DAY

Ride to the event free with www.nextbike.co.nz



### Pedal protest sprints over bridge

By Mathew Dearnaley

4:00 AM Monday Sep 22, 2008



Dozens of cyclists staked a claim to the harbour bridge yesterday by riding across it to a rally of 400 pedallers and walkers on the other side.

Organisers of the Getacross rally, called to push for bridge cycling and pedestrian paths, said the illegal dash over the southbound clip-on at 1.20pm was by a "rogue" faction.

"I didn't know anything about it -I'm jealous," said Cycle Action



Cyclists ride across the southbound clip-on on their way to yesterday's rally. Photo / Martin Sykes

Auckland deputy chairman Graeme Knowles before fulfilling a promise to police to urge the riders to find other ways of getting home to North Shore.

The *Herald* drove past 42 cyclists in a long bunch on the bridge's outside lane, which reduced traffic on the clip-on to a crawl although

# Bridge forbids activists'protest crossing plan

By Mathew Dearnaley

4:00 AM Monday Apr 27, 2009

Walking and cycling campaigners are preparing their own 50th birthday bash for the Auckland Harbour Bridge next month - a protest crossing the weekend before the official anniversary.

"It's time to get our marching boots ready," says the Getacross Campaign on a website which has registered about 10,300 supporters.

The campaigners plan to march or pedal north across the bridge from 9.30am on Sunday, May 24.

They say the event will be a protest, rather than a celebration of the bridge's 50 years,

given the barrier they believe it represents for Aucklanders wanting to reduce dependency on cars.



Aucklanders get an early look at the bridge before it opened in May 1959. Photo / NZ Herald



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"But rather than commiserate half a century of denied access, we invite

# Editorial: Bridge walk fitting way to celebrate

4:00 AM Tuesday Apr 28, 2009





The end of next month will bring
the 50th anniversary of the
opening of the Auckland Harbour
Bridge, a symbol of the city and
the key to its northward
development ever since. Quite how
the city will mark the occasion
remains unclear and has become needlessly contentious.

The bridge's administrative body, the Government's Transport Agency, is thought to have not yet completed any plans for the day, May 30, but it has ruled out one obvious idea: allowing people to walk or bike over the bridge for a few hours that day. That was how Aucklanders celebrated the construction of the bridge shortly before its opening in 1959 and many of today's citizens would no doubt relish an opportunity to do the same, particularly as the anniversary falls on a Saturday.

National Next Art

# Brian Rudman: Outwit bike protest with bridge walk

By Brian Rudman

4:00 AM Monday May 4, 2009



It does seem a shame that through the lack of anything better, the 50th birthday of the Auckland Harbour Bridge at the end of this month, is likely to be remembered solely for the anti-celebration of a bunch of bike fanatics. Hopefully the bikers' threatened mass invasion of the bridge on Sunday, May 24, will persuade the bridge authorities to have a rethink.

Reading through the reports, the big issue seems to be cost. Apparently, letting pedestrians on to a clip-on for a few hours



will cost \$1.2 million - though there's no breakdown of this cost. But even if this exorbitant sum can't be pared back, this is still less than \$5 a head for the 320,000 pedestrians the officials are predicting, could turn up. So why not dig out the old toll booths or borrow some plastic buckets and charge accordingly. The fee could include rides on buses to and from the bridge and a donation to Starship or some other worthy cause.

# List of pamphlets, flyer, postcards

- Postcards of 1974 bridge walkers, 3500 black and white
- Flyers printed both sides, 5000 A4 colour
- Facebook invitations to May 24 march -1500
- Flyers Invite front and design on back, 3000
   A3 colour

Aucklanders want to walk and bike across the Harbour Bridge\* but the Government and the NZ Transport Agency aren't listening!

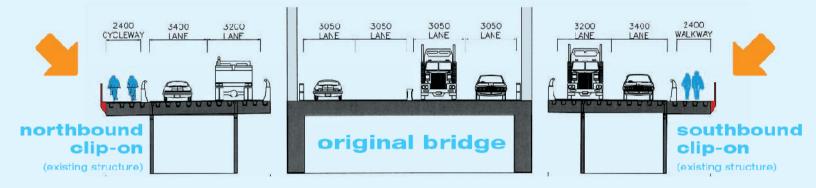
178% of Aucklanders surveyed support a walk/cycle way on the Harbour Bridge





### take action now & help make this happen!

One possible layout to get across!



come to our next protest: outside the "Bridge Linking Communities" Conference next Wednesday, May 27 at 8:30 am at the Sky City Convention Centre on Federal Street, CBD. contact the Prime Minister: email john.key@national.org.nz or write: FREEPOST, Parliament Buildings, Wellington or contact your local MP's: Nikki Kaye (MP for Auckland Central) Ph (09) 378-2088 or e-mail: nikki.kaye@national.org.nz / Jonathan Coleman, MP for Northcote, j.coleman@ministers.govt.nz or ph 09-419 8021, write letters to the newspapers: Herald: letters@nzherald.co.nz Auckland City Harbour news: edcl@snl.co.nz or North Shore Times: nsnews@snl.co.nz & ask your friends and family to sign up online to www.getacross.org.nz - we'll keep you up to date!



We need to show the NZ Transport Agency and our new government that Aucklanders strongly support walking and cycling across our Bridge.

The NZ Transport Agency refuses to let Aucklanders walk and cycle over the Auckland Harbour Bridge. But their reasons just don't stack up (see over for the facts). After years of trying to negotiate with them, it's clear that they just want to build more roads for more motor vehicles. So join community leaders and Walk Auckland for a peaceful march over the Bridge.

Come along, rain or shine! Bring your family and friends for a fun time and take part in a unique demonstration of support!



Point Erin (south side of the Bridge) at 9am for a 9:30am march



#### Will it be safe?

Yes. We've asked the NZ Transport Agency and Police to help make this a safe event by keeping the Western elip-on lanes closed for the morning. (These lanes are currently closed each night for major strengthening work on the Bridge.) We will not force our way onto the Bridge. But we will be very clear that we want to get across. We have chosen a day and time which will interrupt motorised traffic as little as possible.

#### What if they don't let us across the bridge?

We hope to get across. But if we don't, we'll still be showing the NZ Transport Agency and government that many Aucklanders strongly support the walk and cycle way. This demonstration of people power will help overturn NZTA's longstanding opposition. And if we're turned back, we can always try again noxt month!

#### Once we're across, how do we get back?

There are several options. We've asked for the western clip-on lanes to be closed to traffic until 11:30am. This gives plenty of time to walk the 2 km in each direction. Otherwise, walk to Akoranga Busway 15 to be closed a bus, or bring your bike and cycle back using the Devonport or Bayswater ferries. See www.maxx.co.nz for details of public transport options.



#### One day in May, 1959...

50 years ago the Auckland Harbour Bridge was opened to the pedestrians for one day; since then only motor vehicles have been permitted.

(Photo: NZ Herald).

#### The walkway and cycleway

#### Can we afford it?

Yes. The Government's just announced an extra \$1 billion over the next three years for the State Highway network, so the money's definitely available. In these tough economic times, people need low-cost transport. Walking and cycling are the chappest (and most environmentally-friendly) options.

#### Why is this a priority for the region?

The Auckland Harbour Bridge has been a barrier to walking and cycling in the Auckland region to 50 years. Opening up access will boost walking and cycling in the region. The walk/cycleway will make Auckland's harbour much more accessible and enjoyable for all.

#### Could it be part of the National Cycleway?

Yes! The walk/cycleway will create many jobs while it's being built and will generate long-term tourism. It will make for a spectacular day trip and encourage visitors to spend more time in Auckland.

#### What would we call it?

The 10,000 who have already registered their support at www.getacross.org.nz strongly prefer naming the walkway and cycleway in honour of Sir Edmurd Hillary. This seems appropriate: Sir Ed loved the Hauraki Gulf and encouraged people to be physically active.

#### So why does the NZ Transport Agency oppose it?

The NZ Transport Agency are fundamentally road builders who solve transport problems with bigger roads. They have a long history of giving motor vehicles priority over walking and cycling. Their opposition to walking and cycling access on the Bridge goes back many years and there is a history of excuses and broken promises – see www.getacross.org.nz for details and how each excuse can be addressed. Their latest excuse is that the walk/cycleway would affect the clip-ons ability to carry heavy trucks in the future. But their recent decision to ban trucks from the clip-ons means this reason no longer stacks up.

#### More information

- Web: www.getacross.org.nz. Learn more and get the latest updates. Read about the NZTA's broken promises and history of excesses for not allowing walking and cycling over Bridge.
- E-mail us: andy.smith@livingstreets.org.nz

#### What else can you do?

Voice your support at www.getacross.org.nz and encourage your friends to do the same. Donations are much appreciated to cover costs (e.g. printing, meeting room hire) to the GetAcross bank a/c: 12-3057-0824362-01 (Walk Auckland, ASR Wyndham Street)



### Security on bridge ramped up for protest

By Mathew Dearnaley

4:00 AM Friday May 22, 2009



Walkers and cyclists planning a protest crossing of Auckland Harbour Bridge on Sunday morning will find it defended by a new security fence as well as by police.

The Transport Agency, which has put up the 1.8m fence this week along the Curran St on-ramp, is also concerned that schools have been among recipients of a mass email invitation by the Getacross Campaign to "a public walk/cycle" over the Waitemata.



The 1.8m fence at the Curran St onramp. Photo / Paul Estcourt

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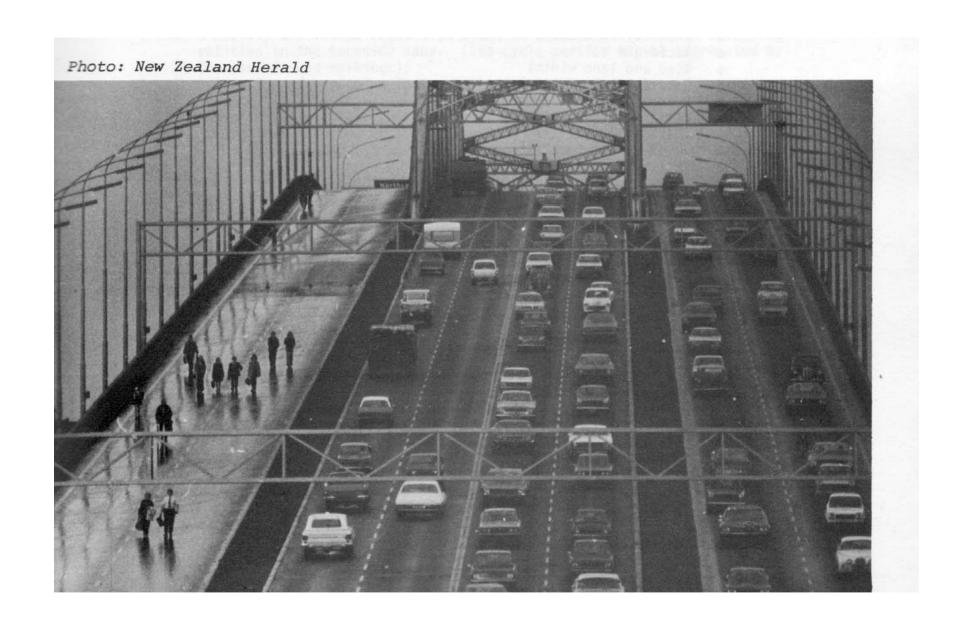
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Be part

The agency said yesterday that it had emailed almost 50 schools believed to have received the invitation, to warn them off on safety grounds.

Getacross spokesman Bevan Woodward said the campaigners had no intention of putting anybody's safety at risk, particularly that of children.





### New Harbour Bridge proposal gives room for cyclists

By Mathew Dearnaley

4:00 AM Thursday Aug 20, 2009



Auckland's harbour bridge clip-ons could be candidates for "orthopaedic surgery" which would enable walking and cycling paths to be added and could improve their longevity.



The Transport Agency has been given a proposal by engineering consultants working with the Getacross campaign to find ways of adding walking and cycling links without shortening the life of the 40year-old clip-ons.



The proposal from the award-winning Holmes Consulting Group - for two "orthopaedic diaphragm" beams to be slung under the main arch section of the bridge to support the clip-ons running along both sides of the structure - is being examined by the agency's bridge engineering specialists in New Zealand and Britain.

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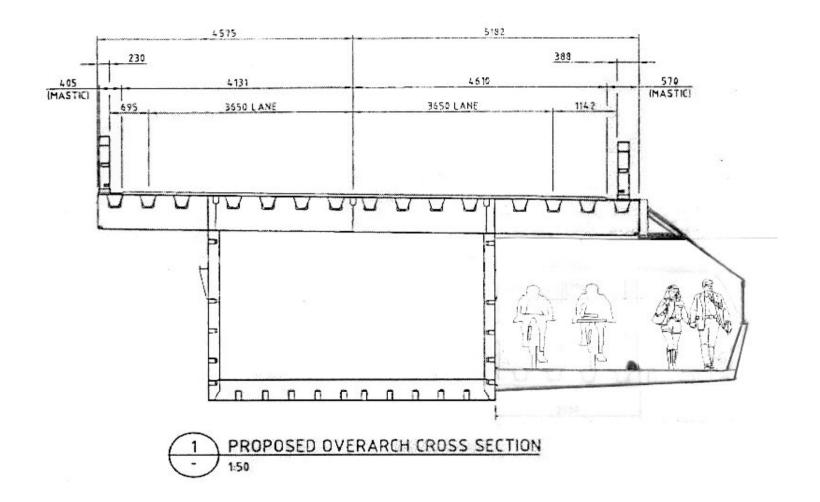
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It features a load-sharing mechanism by which the main truss bridge would support proportions of peak loads on the clip-ons, reducing metal fatigue by limiting their vertical movements.

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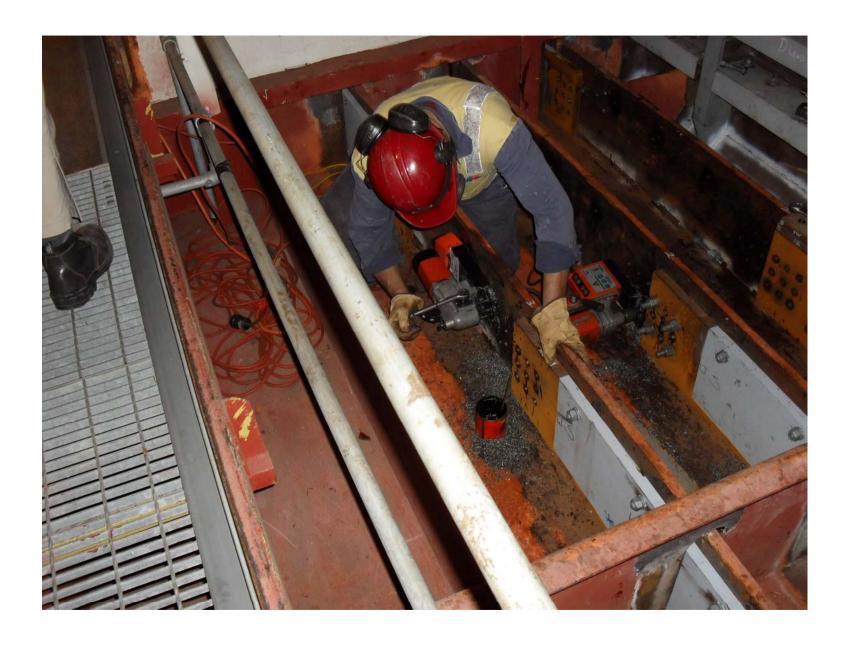
Getacross spokesman Bevan Woodward said last night that he understood the diaphragm beams would cost no more than about \$10 million to install, although he acknowledged that would be in addition to the price of adding extra structures on both edges of the bridge for walking and cycling











### Toll could pave the way for pedestrians

By Mathew Dearnaley

4:00 AM Friday Nov 27, 2009









Walking and cycling campaigners are proposing a novel user-pays tolling scheme to blaze a pathway across Auckland Harbour Bridge in time for the 2011 Rugby World Cup.

The Getacross Campaign, supported by the Holmes Consulting Group of engineers, is today unveiling a proposal for a \$12 million shared walking and cycleway it believes could be tucked under the outside cantilevered edge of the bridge's southbound clip-on.

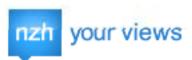
That differs from an early proposal to widen the bridge's two clip-ons for a cycleway on one side and a walking path on the other, for what the Transport Agency said would be a prohibitive \$43 million.

Although pedestrians and cyclists would be sheltered from vehicle emissions and bad weather, they would still gain sweeping views of Waitemata Harbour and the Auckland waterfront behind a perspex screen which could be opened in summer.

The campaigners say they are lining up potential providers of a loan of \$10.5 million, to be repaid through a 25-year tolling scheme.

They are also seeking Transport Agency support for an application for \$1.8 million from the Government's national cycleway fund.

Tommy Parker, the agency's northern highways manager, confirmed to



Is it worth putting a cycleway on the Harbour Bridge?

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# Bridge-path campaigners win developer's backing

By Mathew Dearnaley

4:00 AM Saturday May 1, 2010

Campaigners for a tolled pedestrian and cycle path across Auckland Harbour Bridge have attracted a leading coastal development company to build and

Orewa-based Hopper
Developments - with pioneering
projects such as canal housing and
marina schemes at Pauanui.

operate it as a joint venture.



Like

Photo / Steven McNicholl

Whitianga and Marsden Pt under its belt - has signed a heads of agreement to work with a walking and cycling charitable trust on a \$16 million pathway over the bridge.

Architects and structural engineers have already produced a concept design for a shared pathway beneath the bridge's southbound clip-on, which the Getacross Campaign presented last week to the Transport Agency as custodians of Auckland's 51-year-old transport lifeline.

The concept differs from a proposal by Transport Agency consultants, rejected by the agency's board in 2008, which was for separate paths to be cantilevered at road level off each edge of the bridge for up to \$43



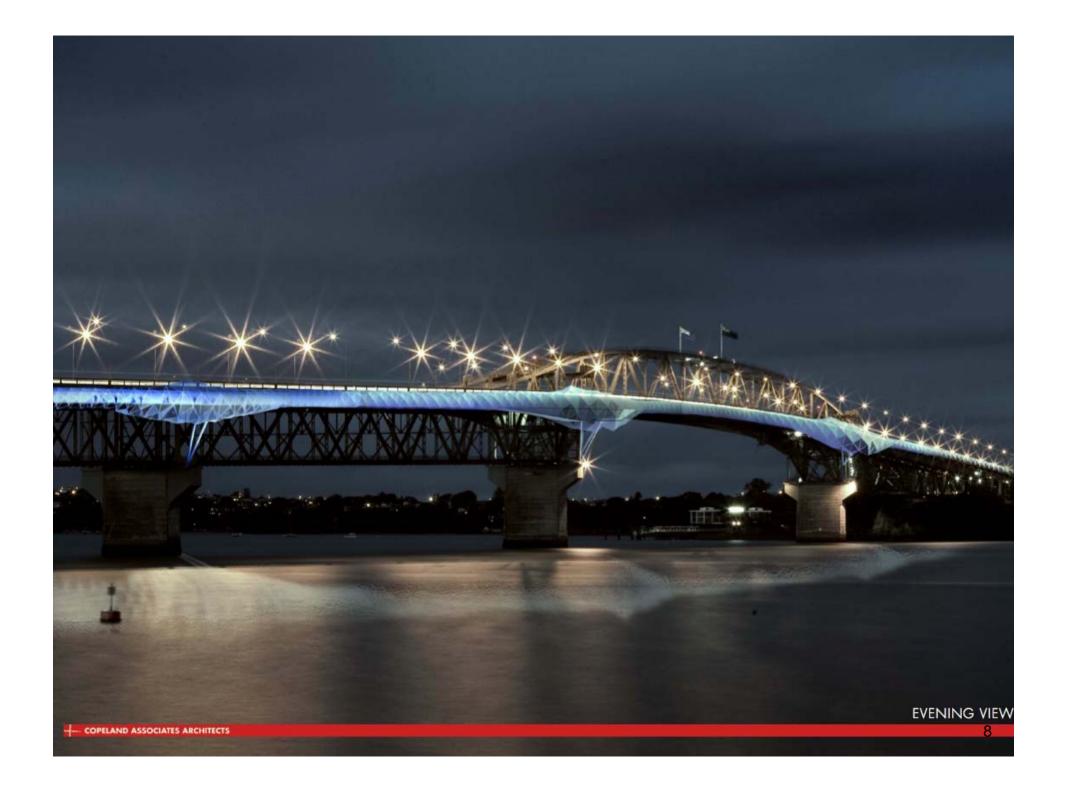
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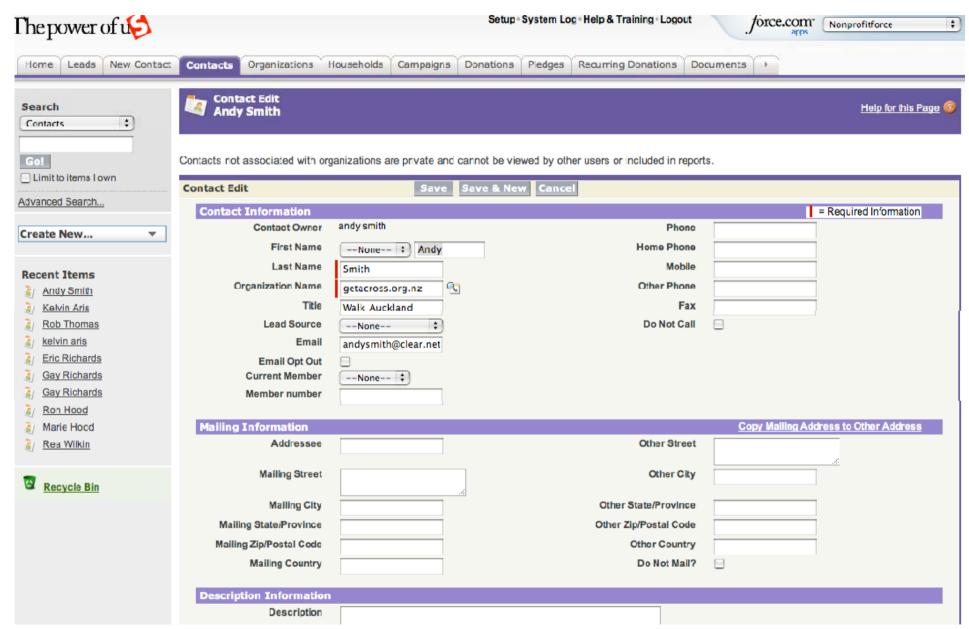


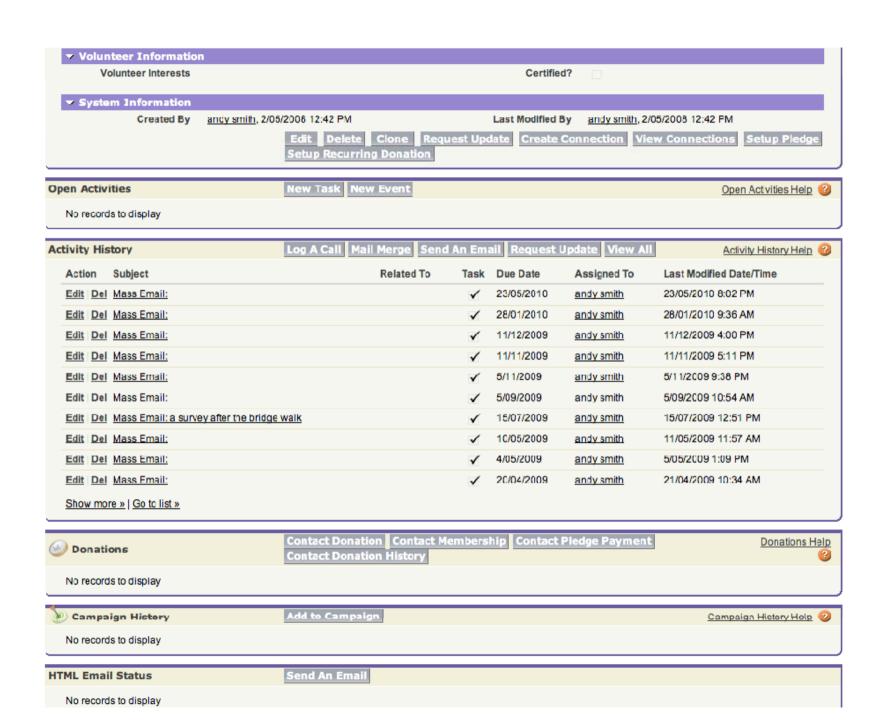
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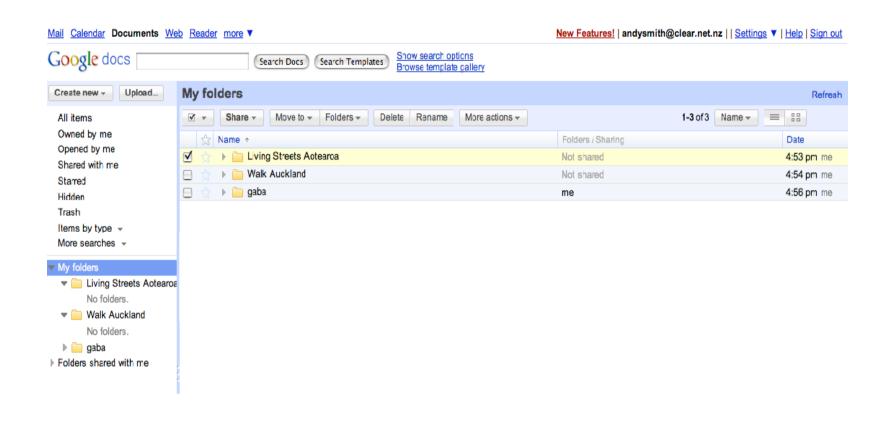
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- Heart of Auckland City
- Local Government
- New Zealand
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Computer Software used	Cost		
Salesforce.com	Free for NGOs		
OpenOffice.org	Free		
Survey Monkey	Free but restricted to 8 questions		
Other Free software			
Google documents	Google.com		
Accounting software	www.responsive.co.nz		

Mass emails to supporters	Subject		
6 May 2008	Getacross delgation to NZTA Board, get your friends to register on getacross.org.nz. Current count 5000.		
28 June 2008	Update on NZTA Board meeting. Current count 8000, lets go for 10,000.		
3 September 2008	We ask our members give opinions to NZ Herald article feedback. This generates 57 pages of comments in the NZ Herald website		
10 September 2008	Gather in the park below the Harbour Bridge at the city end at 2 pm on Sunday 21 September.		
24 February 2009	Survey, would you support a protest march?		
24 March 2009	Survey results, Come to a meeting to plan the protest march. Can you donate money?		
14 April 2009	Telling of planned Bridge March May 24		
2 May 2009	Asking to distribute attached flyer		
10 May 2009	Reminder that its 50 years old.		
8 July 2009	Video of protest march and another survey		
1 September 2009	NZTA now wants to work with us. 88% will march again.		
5 November 2009	Survey would you pay a toll.		
11 December 2009	95.5% will pay toll. Path can be on City side of bridge.		
20 January 2010	Survey and our architects starting work.		

	Website supporters
2 May 2008	5300
14 May 2008	7623
24 June 2008	8361
30 June 2008	9296
23 May 2009	10430
27 May 2009	11009
10 November 2009	11170

## Questions

