

getacross.org.nz

Show your

support!

Public walk/cycle

across the **Auckland Harbour Bridge**

Sunday 24 May 2009

9am

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 demonstration in support of the walk/cycle way, on the 50th anniversary of the Bridge opening!

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

Let's meet here!



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Will it be safe?

Yes. The Police are providing us safe passage across the Bridge. We have chosen a day and time to avoid interrupting the traffic.

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

There are several options. We've asked for access until 11:30am to give plenty of time to walk there and back (it's 2km in each direction). Otherwise, walk to Akoranga Busway Station to catch a bus, or bring your bike and cycle back via the Devonport or Bayswater ferries. See www.maxx.co.nz <<http://www.maxx.co.nz>> for details of the public transport options. We are requesting additional ferry and buses services be provided.

After our march, what if nothing happens?

Then we'll march again! It's not a matter of should there be walking and cycling access on the Auckland Harbour Bridge, it's a matter of when!



One day in May, 1959...

50 years ago the Auckland Harbour Bridge was opened to 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 cheapest (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 for 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 Edmund 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 think they can 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.

What else can you do?

- Visit <http://www.getacross.org.nz> to learn more and get the latest updates. Read about the NZ Transport Agency's history of broken promises and excuses for not allowing walking and cycling over Bridge
- **Donate!** Contributions to help cover printing and advertising costs are much appreciated. Please direct credit our ASB bank a/c: 12-3057-0824362-01
- **Pass it on** to your friends and family, and invite them along - we need as many people as possible
- **Print or photocopy this flyer** and put it around cafes, your gym, your workplace... anywhere you think people may be interested

To offer help or for further information that's not online contact:

Please contact us!... e-mail andy.smith@livingstreets.org.nz or phone 021 474 740

See you rain or shine at 9am Sunday 24 May!

