

Attachment 2: Links Avenue Submissions

Submission#	Support/Against	Feedback
1	Support	<p>I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns about the proposal to open links ave. to all cars during peak hours.</p> <p>The existing road setup has been functioning well for our community. However, I believe that opening the road to all traffic during peak hours could pose a higher risk for children. The access route to Golf Road is not conducive to heavy traffic, as it lacks a stop sign, making it difficult and unsafe to turn right onto Golf Road.</p> <p>Additionally, the recent changes to Links Road have proven to be sufficient for managing the number of buses. I feel that further adjustments could lead to unnecessary complications and safety issues.</p> <p>I appreciate your attention to these matters and hope we can work together to ensure the safety of our community. Thank you for your understanding.</p>
2	Support	<p>I'm contacting you regarding Links Ave, Mount Maunganui. I am a concerned resident like so many others who live in the area.</p> <p>I live on Concord Ave and I see near misses daily at the roundabout linking Concord to Farm Street. I see buses quite often riding the pavement or reversing across the roundabout because the roads are too narrow and the corners too tight. Talk about safety.</p> <p>There are so many people that use Links as a cut through and they speed along Concord to get ahead of the traffic on Oceanbeach Road, cars are still speeding between the bumps ,and there is no bus lane or bike lane and it is less safe now then it was three years ago when it started.</p> <p>I'm just furious that this project has cost local residents huge amounts in taxes and it's been going on for years now and we are no better off in regards to safety and the standard of living for local residents has worsened and yet we pay the rates in tax. We now live with increased congestion, increased noise and more pollution. There are more people driving their cars than ever!</p> <p>The recents rates are now crippling most middle income home owners and it's just wrong.</p> <p>Please voice my opinion at the table. I think that Links Ave should be closed between school hours - that actually seemed to work and deterred people from getting in their cars and speeding and improved safety at those times. Who and why did they decide to reopen?</p>

3	Support	<p>Kia ora, I am writing to express my desire to keep the road safety improvements in place on Links Ave. These are currently working very well to ensure the safety of youth and others using the street to get to school and move around. The restrictions have also led to significantly less commuters using the street as a rat run, returning it to a more quiet residential street. The improvements to the Bayfair intersection are working well so there is no need for people to cut through Links Ave as a short cut. Currently it feels like to opinions of those who live outside of the Links Ave area are calling for a return to the previous unsafe system. I would hope the opinion of those who live in the area carry more weight given they are most impacted by any changes - especially with regards to road safety. Nga mihi.</p>
4	Support	<p>Hi Council.</p> <p>Just to let you know how the new changes to Link Ave have effected us. Its such a better street for our family and our neighbourhood.</p> <p>I think I speak for everyone in the Links Ave community It would be a real shame to undo any of these changes for the rat runners of Papamoa. Papamoa is only getting bigger. The real issue is Hewlett's road.</p>
5	Support	<p>I understand there is another review of the Links Ave road design.</p> <p>Although the current design and use of the road is not ideal, it is a vast improvement compared to previous versions. It is now much safer and traffic numbers are consistent with a Local street.</p> <p>It cant be forgotten that many residents on Links Ave have been advocating for improvements for over 7 years, since the Councils decided to put in a bus lane.</p> <p>We definitely cannot go back to this road layout as it destroyed the function, safety and character of our Local residential street. My preferred outcome is to prevent through-traffic and to reduce the number of buses that use and service the street. Links Ave is one of the most over-serviced street in terms of PT.</p> <p>I personally did not mind having restricted access in order to have other gains but the recent introduction of access to residents is a fantastic solution.</p> <p>Since the street access was opened up, I have noticed that through-traffic has been increasing and my concern is that we will see the same volumes of traffic that previously congested our street in the mornings and saw speeding traffic in the evening, trying to beat traffic on Maunganui Road.</p> <p>I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councillors regarding Links Ave.</p> <p>Please do not publish my name as there are some vindictive people in our community who have been threatening others.</p>

6	Support	<p>We hear there is discussion of opening up links ave as a thru road again , I strongly oppose this for the below reasons Improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads on Links Ave A quieter street that feels like a residential street again No trucks or heavy vehicles using Links as a through road More kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars Better travel times for residents during peak times, especially with the opening of the new Baypark to Bayfair Link Better access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (i.e. they can use Links Ave in an emergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach Road).</p>
7	Support	<p>Hello, I am writing about Links Ave. I have seen from the council meeting a couple of weeks ago, there is yet again more discussion about Links Ave. I'm surprised at why Links Ave is even being discussed. It's been consulted upon, trailed and tested. It has reached this current design and it now works very well. As a resident using Links Ave to walk/run/bike/drive it is fine the way it is. The road is not closed (contrary to what some people are saying), visitors can see us at anytime, residents can come and go at anytime. Links Ave is only shut off for a small period of time during the week for the safety of the school kids. Before the changes I would not let me children walk or ride to school, but now I do. So much time and money has been spent on Links Ave, I cannot understand why more time and money is going into it. It feels like people who live outside of the Links Ave area are calling for a return to the previous unsafe system. People who live here and use Links Ave everyday have seen the safety improvements and general enhancement of Links Ave and prefer how it works now. Please stop spending anymore of the councils time and money on Links Ave, people and things have moved on and there are far greater concerns for the council to concentrate on (e.g. getting Hewletts Rd to flow better). I would also like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councillors regarding the status of Links Ave and surrounding streets.</p>
8	Support	<p>I have recently learned there is talk of returning Links ave to what it previously was before safety interventions. I would like to suggest that given the extensive community consultation, mass of money spent and the overall successful outcome of this street now, that there would be more pressing issues facing our councillors. I am now confidently allowing my three primary children to use this road to get themselves to school independently. They do this along with hundreds of Intermediate and college kids in the area that use this road. The safer space between paths and buses has made thos possible. I want to commend the consultation with our neighbour and community over the trial time and beyond to reach a solution that now works for many of our street users. And in avoiding a potentiality fatal incident with our precious tamariki</p>

9	Support	<p>I am just wanting to send some feedback regarding the current Links Ave bus lanes. I am all for the current set up of 2 lanes + a bike lane. The current set up promotes: Improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads on Links Ave A quieter street that feels like a residential street again No trucks or heavy vehicles using Links as a through road More kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars Better travel times for residents during peak times, especially with the opening of the new Baypark to Bayfair Link Better access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (i.e. they can use Links Ave in an emergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach Road) A good solution as there was wide consultation with locals and a long trial period It would be such a shame to go back to the awful traffic there was prior to the works.</p>
10	Support	<p>As a resident on one of the off shoots of Links Ave (Berwick place) I'd like to express that I want the road to remain as is currently - ie restricted hrs 7-10am and 2-4pm. It is a much safer, neighbourly street. On weekends when there are no restrictions, it feels busier and with little regard for the 30km. I wouldn't like to see that happen in the week when school kids (who are sometimes very blas about road safety - but they're kids so to be expected) are on their way to/from school. As a resident, the restrictions as they currently stand, have zero negative impact on me and my family - rather instead it's a positive impact. I was part of the community panel for links Ave and have heard neighbours all express the same views as me - positive comments esp now you can go in/ out much more freely. I have only heard groans from those outside the links Ave community who want to use it as a short cut or are perplexed / confused by it all.</p> <p>Golf/ Links Intersection It's the only thing I think needs changing on the road- crossing is too close to the entry of links. I've seen kids nearly hit by cars unable to see them due to buses waiting to pull out on golf and therefore blocking drivers view of the crossing, drivers just swinging in too fast, and chaos caused by traffic backing up and people cross.</p>
11	Support	<p>The work that occurred with Links avenue over the past few years has made a positive difference for many children and their families. I was against the closure of Links Avenue to begin with, but I was proven wrong. It had resulted in improved safety for cyclists and children commuting to school - we now let our two children bike to school, whereas previously with the traffic on Links Avenue, this was just too dangerous. It is so good to see Links avenue full of kids walking, biking, skating to school, rather than having Links clogged with more cars dropping kids to school. In addition, the arrangements that are currently in place with the opening hours provide sufficient access to/from Links at non peak times. As above, I was against this proposal to begin with. But the community consultation and final outcome has been great.</p>

12	Support	<p>I am a resident of Links Ave and I am very concerned to hear the council are discussing changes to Links Ave AGAIN. I am especially concerned that this has been raised by a councillor from Matua who does not understand my local community. The current road design is now much safer for the local community and for 3,000 school students that study within a 1km radius of Links Ave. We also have Links Ave returned to what it was always intended to be, a calm residential road and not an arterial route for heavy vehicles and commuters. There is now: Improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads on Links Ave A quieter street that feels like a residential street again No trucks or heavy vehicles using Links as a through road More kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars Better travel times for residents during peak times, especially with the opening of the new Baypark to Bayfair Link Better access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (i.e. they can use Links Ave in an emergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach Road) A good solution as there was wide consultation with locals and a long trial period. Please listen to residents and leave Links Ave as it is</p>
13	Support	<p>Hi, As a concerned resident of the area living off Links Ave I am concerned that there is discussions to change it yet again. With the cost of living crisis and many other projects I sooo understand why this is being brought up when the "goal" was to make it safer for the 3000+ children has WORKED!!! Pre changes I would not of let my kids ride to Omanu school. With less traffic, wider paths and good predestination crossings I can now let them bike to school which I know MANY other residents are also doing taking many more cars off the road. I hope that the kids are still the focus and wasting money is STOPPED !</p>

<p>14</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councilors regarding the status of Links Ave.</p> <p>I am a resident of Links Avenue, my whanau includes 2 young children aged 9 & 11. The current design of Links avenue is safe and I do not want any changes to the current design based on the below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety - the current design with 2 vehicle lanes only is safe for children of all ages, pedestrians, cyclists, cars and buses. • Bus lane timings - the current design and timings ensures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o There are no delays to buses and those bus commuters o The street is quieter like a proper residential street as it is classified o There are no 'rat runners' using the street for a faster commute during peak travel times, these commuters speed, are impatient and create an unsafe environment for school kids during their peak travel times. o Access for local residents is no issues as we can come and go as needed with the camera system in place • Usage of the street by school children has risen massively with the current design and it is safe for all modes of travel that kids are now using, including walking, biking, scooters, skate boarding, skating, and high school kids on motorbikes. • There are elderly users on mobility scooters who can use the road daily and bike path safely • There are residents with disabilities (accessible housing tenants) who use the street daily with their care givers and can do so safely • The design was created with input of local residents • People from other parts of Tauranga should not have a say what happens in our residential area, just as we don't tell them how they should do things in their neighborhood. • All of my neighbours have the same opinion as me, including my elderly neighbours. <p>I really do hope this is taken into consideration and no changes are made to the current design on Links Avenue due to complaints from people who are not residents of this street or local the streets. Kind regards,</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>We met once when I was working with xxxx on the Wed Challenge..</p> <p>Just letting you know how much easier and safer it has been to use Links Ave as a cyclist since the improvements. I understand feedback is important - so big thumbs up for making Links a safe usable street again. I am now happy to let my kids bike to bayfair - something I would never have felt comfortable with when the traffic was heavier.</p> <p>As a cyclist around the Mountain area, I really appreciate most of the cycle friendly upgrades. The bike path from crossroads to Mt Maunganui is nothing short of spectacular. What a beautiful and safe asset to our community!</p> <p>The one area I have had multiple near misses as a driver and a cyclist .The New World side of Maunganui Rd. The new cycle lane has been petrifying as a cyclist. The traffic turning right from Hull Rd to Maunganui needs some more consideration. I've even forbidden my kids from using that side as they cycle back from hockey, netball and the library.</p>

		<p>Please feel free to contact me if you would like me to fill out a more systematic form. Overall, I'm very excited to see Tauranga's progress in encouraging active transport. Well done</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Dear Councilors and TCC Staff,</p> <p>I am part of a group that has advocated and presented over the last 6 years on the topic of Links Ave and its transport design. As such I feel I am well versed in the topic and also have a deep understand of the local community viewpoints on the issue.</p> <p>It put it very simply we, the Links Ave community, are very much in favour of the current design that we have campaigned over so many years to achieve. Previous TCC councilors, such as Mr Morris, have met with us over this time and put their support behind our efforts to keep local kids safe, no matter what mode of transport they use, and when.</p> <p>This is a design has been widely consulted, trialed and evolved as the surround transport network has also evolved eg Baypark to Bayfare. The transport team under Mr Johanasson's leadership has given us a safe and punctual design, while also elevating the Links Ave and surrounds to what it was always meant to be, a residential street and not an arterial route. So it is both surprising and disappointing to hear that the topic of Links Ave is back on the council agenda.</p> <p>Collectively we feel there are more pressing matters for incoming councilors to be concerned with and better areas for budget to be allocated. However, if it will help bring this discussion to a swift conclusion, then I would be happy to meet with any members of council to provide context and background to help reassure them that this issue can be taken off the agenda for debate.</p> <p>I would also like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councilors regarding the status of Links Ave and surrounding streets</p>

I am a resident of Ascot Road who was involved 6 years ago in raising some of the safety concerns re Links Ave.

My family and I have been away in Wellington and have recently returned to the area and have been so impressed with the outcome seen on Links Ave and the improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads. My own kids are older now but I have one still at primary and as a year 4 I can now happily send her cycling to school secure in the thought that the new layout and restrictions allow her to do so safely. This was not the case when my eldest children were primary age.

Links Ave now feels like a more peaceful, quieter street, it feels like a residential street again where family's are out and about and kids can safely negotiate their neighbourhood.

Less trucks and heavy vehicles using Links as a throughfare has helped this tremendously and we see kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars

It also enables me to reach my work as a nurse without the previous delays and also improves travel times for residents during peak times, especially with the opening of the new Baypark to Bayfair Link

This effective flow of traffic also gives better, more timely access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (i.e. they can use Links Ave in an emergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach Road)

The solution to Links Ave safety concerns as it currently stands is something the local community are proud of and are strongly in support of staying as it is, there was wide consultation with locals and a long trial period and the outcome is working so well it is quite unbelievable that Links Ave is again up for debate, surely there should be no more time or money spent on this road to undo all that has been achieved. please don't let this happen, it would be such a shame to see your good work undone not to mention a gamble with the safety of the children in our community.

I would also like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councilors regarding the status of Links Ave and surrounding streets.

Many thanks

<p>18</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>I am a resident of Links Ave and just want to say how well my family and I think the trial has gone, and how it has positively changed the usage of our residential street. I wanted to make contact because it worries me when I see and hear people in the media who don't even live in our area, trying to return to what we had previously, just so they can have a shortcut.</p> <p>I will admit the roadworks weren't fun but now it is complete, the new road layout with all its safety improvements makes our street a great place to live. My children bike to school on their own every day, and I feel confident that they will get to and from school safely. We no longer have the busy-ness of early morning after work traffic using our street as a rat run, nor people speeding along like it's a motorway.</p> <p>So many people have put in huge amounts of time and energy getting Links Ave to what it is today and I think it would be a huge shame to revert back to what we had in the past.</p> <p>Many thanks for your time.</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Hi there, I would just like to share how satisfied we are with the outcome of the Links Ave roading changes. Prior to any changes being implemented the traffic situation prior to 9am was congested and as a resident of Ascot Place made going anywhere at that time - work, appointments, daycare & school a nightmare taking upwards of 20minutes to get from Ascot Place to Golf Rd.</p> <p>The congestion and the use of Links Ave as a commuter thoroughfare also created a very unsafe and unpredictable environment for many young children who reside in the area or use local walkways to access the area to travel to/from local and nearby schools. Cars would travel at excess speed along Links Ave in & out of peak times or excess speed until they reached the tail of the traffic. In peak times the congestion also stemmed into the surrounding roads such as Ascot Road where cars would back up trying to get into the traffic queue on Links creating dangerous situations for kids trying to cross the Rd. The changes, although as a resident were somewhat frustrating to go through at times have resulted in a fantastic result. I am confident that my primary age children can bike to school now as the reduced commuter traffic has resulted in a much safer environment for them.</p> <p>I've noticed the number of kids using the access walkways such as from Beerescourt through to Solway to Berwick to use Ascot & Links to get to school has increased likely due to this being a much safer option. Secondly the reduction in commuter traffic has significantly quietened Links Ave at an already busy time and residents are now able to access main rds much easier. The residents are also familiar with the roading changes such as the new pedestrian crossings and allow caution around these. I don't believe a commuter would give the same caution. I think the result the council have landed on is a great solution and I would whole heartedly support this remaining permanently.</p> <p>I would be seriously concerned for the safety of the hundreds of</p>

		children using the area if there were to be any 'opening up' of Links Ave.
20	Support	<p>After many months/years of Links Ave changing. As a local resident we are happy with the current access rules. It allows us locals to use the road to do all our day to day errands non restricted and it is also safe for our kids to bike/scooter to school and also cross links ave to go to the soccer park.I vote to keep the current solution and not to take the road back to full access with over 10,000 vehicles a day.Links Ave Goals: Improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads on Links Ave A quieter street that feels like a residential street again No trucks or heavy vehicles using Links as a through road More kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars Better travel times for residents during peak times, especially with the opening of the new Baypark toBayfair Link Better access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (i.e. they can use Links Ave in anemergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach Road) A good solution as there was wide consultation with locals and a long trial period.</p>
21	Support	<p>I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councilors regarding the status of Links Ave.</p> <p>I am a long time resident and property owner on Links Avenue and I am very happy with the current safety measures implemented on our street. I would hate to see them removed because people who don't live in our neighborhood find it inconvenient to use the main roads which are designed for high volume traffic.</p> <p>The current layout of 2 lanes & cycleway ensures safety of pedestrians & cyclists. Previously, when the bus lane was in place, traffic on the northeast side was forced to travel only a very small distance from the footpath (approx 300mm) this was very dangerous and I personally witnessed a number of near misses involving children misstepping on to the road and in one instance a child fell from his bike into the path of a bus (the bus driver was fortunately paying attention).</p> <p>The bus lane was put in place as a 'temporary' measure when the work on Maunganui Road commenced - residents were never consulted about it becoming permanent, so now that the Bayfair overpass is almost completed there is no need to reinstate it.</p> <p>While I am uncertain as to why such a high volume of buses use Links Avenue at least now they can run to schedule.</p> <p>It is important to note that Links avenue is classified as a residential street and with three schools in close proximity it will always be a family neighbourhood and there will always be lots of children traveling to school and playing. This includes my own children - I no longer worry about them biking or walking to school.</p> <p>There are also many elderly people and people with disabilities living in our neighbourhood (Accessible Properties owns multiple houses in the area) they often don't own cars or can't drive and so add to the pedestrian traffic.</p>

		<p>The restrictions in place have stopped the rat-runners in particular who caused the most danger due to high speeds and erratic driving.</p> <p>The current design was put in place with a panel of local residents - people who live in and around Links Avenue and are most affected. With the recent changes to access for residents and their guests the design is now operating exceptionally well.</p> <p>One final issue - people who don't live in the residential area around Links Avenue should not be deciding on changes to it. Those who think that traffic was better when it was freely open are sadly mistaken - they have forgotten the 850m queue to get out the Golf Road end in peak traffic times - we are at 86 Links Avenue and the traffic was backed up past our property every morning, it would take us 20 minutes to leave the street.</p> <p>Please leave Links Ave as it is now - removing safety measures recently put in place is akin to throwing money away. Seems like childish revenge because some didn't like the commissioners.</p> <p>Regards Links Avenue resident.</p>
22	Support	<p>I understand there is to be a review of the Links Ave road design being proposed in Tauranga City Council. I would like you to consider my viewpoint as a resident off Links Ave (and rate payer). And include this in any submission or report to Councillors regarding the status of Links Ave.</p> <p>My view after this long trial period is that the changes have been an absolute success. The road is now much safer for both pedestrians and road users. My kids can now bike to school safely and also without all the exhaust fumes of all the cars that used to be lined up down that street in a traffic jam. It is more pleasant and quiet to bike down and I see many more people opting to do this. Previously I used to drive my kids to school as I did not think it was safe for them and in fact I almost hit a child myself driving to school because the road was such a shambles I could not see him until it was almost too late. I also feel safer driving this street and I do not have to sit in a 20 minute traffic jam just to get 5 mins down the road.</p> <p>The whole neighbourhood feels nicer to live in without it being used as a thoroughfare. We did not buy in this area thinking it would be carrying an extended Papamoa's traffic.</p>

23	Support	<p>As a resident, I want the current Links Ave layout to remain the way it is currently. This is because it provides improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads on Links Ave, with a quieter street that feels like a residential street again. There are no trucks or heavy vehicles using Links as a through road, more kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars. There are better travel times for residents during peak times, especially with the opening of the new Baypark to Bayfair Link and better access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (i.e. they can use Links Ave in an emergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach Road). A good solution as there was wide consultation with locals and a long trial period, and is currently working well for all who use it.</p>
24	Support	<p>Dear Councilors, We are disgraced and very concerned to be advised that Links Ave may revert back to a busier road structure. Our 3 children utilise Links Ave to access Gwen Rodgers Kindergarten, Omanu School and MMI. We bike or scooter to school and kindergarten everyday. In the same essence that school zones are 40km/hr, it is paramount that Links Ave remains a safe zone for children to access school. During the peak times of before/after school there is a plethora of children moving through this zone, some with varying degrees of safety in mind as they rush to after-school sports practice or to get home. As a councilor I encourage you to witness the children throughout these times, and it will leave no doubt in your mind that this road should remain in the safe structure as it is currently. With Regards</p>
25	Support	<p>Please leave Links Ave as it is! It is so much safer for the hundreds of school children who use this road to get to and from school every day. As a local resident it is so much more user friendly for the residents. Please leave it as it is!</p>
26	Support	<p>I'm a resident living in the cul-de-sac on Links Avenue, our home is 25 Concord Avenue which is on the corner of Concord and Links avenue.</p> <p>At first we were upset about the closure outside our property but as time has passed and the restrictions aren't as tight we have found that the street has become much quieter and safer for our children.</p> <p>We have a 9-year-old and are much more comfortable that there's not too much traffic around so he's able to cross the road safely and bike to school. The traffic isn't as busy as it once was and the street has more of a residential feel than before the closure.</p> <p>I'd encourage the council to keep the current set up as it is and not open up the road. We noticed an increase in traffic when there were developments on Oceanbeach road so I'm concerned that if we opened up fully it would quickly revery to a busy highway road again which would undo all the good work people have put in.</p> <p>I was also on the Links Ave community panel so understand just how much time and effort has gone in to making Links avenue a much nicer and safer street to live in.</p> <p>Please will you include this email in any submission or report to councillors regarding the status of Links Ave. Please feel free to reach out if you need further feedback</p>

27	Support	As resident of Berwick place, I'm directly impacted by links Ave. I wish to express that I feel it works in its current state and don't want to see further change to be opened up further. One change I would like is the location of crossing at link Ave / golf road. It's too close to golf road and I fear a child will be hit as a result.
28	Support	Please leave Links Avenue as it is. It is much safer now for everyone who uses it and has it has cost far too much money already. Please spend our money wisely.
29	Support	<p>I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to counsellor regarding the status of links ave.</p> <p>I understand there is a review of links ave being proposed. As a resident I thoroughly oppose opening it. We went from having what felt like SH2 on our doorstep, to a quieter street that feels like a residential road again.</p> <p>We used to take our kids to school, seeing so many dangerous situations and fearing for the many kids taking that route. This alone should be a reason to keep it as it is.</p> <p>The wide and extensive consultation with locals over a long period of time should be considered. We're the ones that have to live here. The minor inconvenience to a few people should not open things to a very dangerous situation for the residents again.Thanks for your time</p>
30	Support	<p>I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councilors regarding the status of Links Ave.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As residents, we've been through a lot of disruption over the past 3 years and at times it has felt very tiresome. Especially when the majority of people have felt like they weren't being listened to by the previous council members • All and all the street feels safer and it feels like a residential road again • Improvements on the upkeep of the new layout needs to be key. Missing barriers etc from vehicles hitting them seems to be ongoing, along with graffiti, signage, curb & plant damages • People parking on the yellow lines needs to be better monitored (especially, when entering ascot at the north end) • Too many empty yellow busses going up and down the road • We do not support any additional restrictions that may affect resident access

31	Support	<p>Please leave links ave alone.</p> <p>I live on Ascot Road and while I may not like all the changes the difference that they have made to the safety of the kids getting to and from school is massive. I used to drive my kids to school as I was too scared for them to bike or walk to school due to all the traffic.</p> <p>Links Ave used to feel like a highway with all the traffic going through. From my house on Ascot Road, if I timed it wrong, it could take me forty minutes just to reach the Golf Road intersection to get to work. Now, Golf Road seems to flow freely.</p> <p>Prior to the changes cars used to race up and down Ascot Road to try and skip the queues.</p> <p>Opening up Links Ave on weekends and outside of peak school/work hours has been a great compromise.</p> <p>Will the solution ever be perfect? No, is it better than it was before? Definitely yes! Please just leave it how it is.</p> <p>"I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councillors regarding the status of Links Ave"</p>
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Dear council staff and councillors,

As a mother, cyclist and Links Avenue resident, I am contacting you to voice my concerns about potential further changes. When Links Ave had the 3 lane road layout in 2019, biking, scootering and walking to and from school with my children got very dangerous. I never saw so many incidences and near misses. We took the car on some days because it was the safer option.

On one morning we passed live power cables on a wet pedestrian crossing in front of the Intermediate school. A bus had taken out the power pole.

I met the girl and her father after she had lost control of her bike on the overcrowded path. She bounced off the side of the bus going 50km/hr, and her bike went under the bus which took considerable time to stop. Thankfully it was only her bike damaged. Children were often forced to be very close to busses going 50km/hr.

Links Ave feeds 3 schools with 3000 children. It is probably the most biked, walked, scootered and skated road in Tauranga. Free fares for children on school busses reduced the traffic significantly and helped hundreds of families.

I believe after years of battle and change the council has now achieved the best possible solution for the situation given.

Tauranga is growing too fast for the available road space and congestion will grow again as no new roads can be build in the Mount Area due to cost/space restraints.

The current design and closure hours provides:

- Improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads on Links Ave!
- More kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars
- Better access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (ie they can use Links Ave in an emergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach)
- Punctual busses for school children and other public transport users.
- Safe cycling for commuters towards the soccer field end of Links Ave.
- Good solution as there was wide consultation with locals and a long trial period
- Lower traffic resulting in less noise, and Links Ave feels like a residential street again
- No trucks or heavy vehicles using Links Ave as a through road

The design keeps the road as open as possible for cars and still provides all of the above advantages.

As a mother and resident I don't want any more changes, and certainly don't ever want to go back to three lanes again! Children and cyclists are so much safer on Links Ave now.

Links Ave is a residential road and traffic volumes should reflect that.

I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councillors regarding the status of Links Ave.

Kind regards

33	Support	<p>Hey there,</p> <p>We are residents of Links Avenue. We have been for the past 5 years hence we have seen all the changes that have gone on with this road. We have heard that there is potential for MORE changes and we wanted to let you know that as residents we feel it is finally at a good place and would hate for more changes to occur and potentially move backwards in terms of progress. It is much quieter and MUCH safer, yet still accessible to people with the most recent rules for the "cul de sac" (concord end). PLEASE PLEASE leave Links avenue as it is now. Also, as a growing family we do not want to see a bus lane put in right next to a curb as it is super dangerous.</p> <p>Thanks for taking the time to read our email. Kind Regards</p>
34	Support	<p>I would like this email to be included in any submission or report to councilors regarding the status of links ave.</p> <p>As a resident of ascot rd, I am happy with how we have finally ended up with a safe rd and an entry point at both points at all times for residents .</p> <p>I am not worried about my daughter scootering to school as now the traffic is greatly reduced.</p> <p>We have a nice quiet residential road again, before the changes cars would drive really fast through ascot to try to beat the traffic down links it was so dangerous for my kids and I did not feel safe. We had a long trial period and everyone is happy with the outcome.</p> <p>I would be very disappointed if it was returned to how it was before, not only was it un safe, but what a waste of tax payers money to then re do the road again.</p> <p>Leave links alone Kind Regards</p>
35	Support	<p>We are emailing re Links Ave in support of the exsisting changes Tauranga City Council has made to our street. We have noted the improved safety for everyone using footpaths cycle lanes & the road on Links Ave.The road design is now much safer for the over 3,000. School students in surrounding areas using the street. We also don't want it to revert back to be an arterial route for heavy vechicles again. The time restrictions are working really well for school children cyclists & walkers, still enabling residents & other drivers outside of restrictions times to use the road. The reduction of the volume of traffic has returned this street to its purpose as a residential street. We would like this to be included in any submission or report to councilors regarding the status of Links Ave.</p> <p>Regards</p>

36	Support	<p>i understand that changes are proposed to Links ave</p> <p>We very much support the existing layout for Links Ave, for the following reasons :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. There is improved safety for everyone, esp students , using the new footpaths and roads2. Links Ave now feels like a residential street - not a thoroughfare3. We now have a safe environment for kids and students going to and from school, along with general pedestrian coming and going, outside of these times, after Councils comprehensive consultation with locals over the long trial period <p>I would like this email and notification to be included in any submission or report to Councillors regarding the future layout of Links Ave</p> <p>Im happy to speak to Councillors/Committee or yourself about this in person</p> <p>Thank you Kind Regards</p>
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37	Opposition	<p>I would like this feedback included in any submissions or report to Councilors regarding the status of Links Avenue.</p> <p>I DON'T support the changes made to Links Avenue because of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I purchased a house on a residential street that was subsequently turned into a bus lane using the excuse it was being made safer for school children...I have asked many times for the statistics on accidents involving children on Links Ave but nobody from the council has provided them. Introducing buses to Links Avenue has raised the risk exponentially. 2. The road is now so narrow buses & cars have been crossing into the other lane it is only a matter of time before a serious accident will happen. 3. The concrete barriers installed to separate cyclist from the traffic are dangerous and have already caused accidents in one case flipped a vehicle - something i had previously complained about it only being a matter of time before a vehicle was flipped potentially causing death or serious injury. Plus they don't run all the way down the street. 4. Visually the multiple road signage is distracting, excessive & ugly & the two ugly flashing slow down signs are unnecessary and infer that the residents of Tauranga are stupid. 5. I object to having my movements recorded 6. Trying to remember all the rules around when & how to use the road is very difficult, inconvenient & hard to explain to visitors plus it is an infringement of my rights to use a road I pay taxes & rates to maintain. 7. I object to the restrictions applying to school & public holidays 8. The speed bump by Spur Avenue is excessively harsh & damaging to cars...totally unnecessary. 9. The changes to the speed limit add more inconvenience & don't even start on the hour absolutely ludicrous 10. I strongly object to the amount of fines collected from users of the road especially in these hard economic times. 11. The ongoing changes to Links Ave & lack of consultation has been an ongoing stress & taken away my right to enjoy & to live peacefully on what should be a residential street. 12. It is galling to me when I see multiple empty or near buses with one or two passengers knowing the buses will be using the street/bus lane I live on without any restrictions while I have to adhere to restrictions. One day I counted 11 buses at peak traffic time of which most were empty. 13. When I try to explain to others the ever changing restrictions for using Links Ave they are initially shocked, confused & then they laugh at ludicrous decision making & say they are pleased they don't live on the street aka bus lane. <p>As always signing off as a disgruntled resident & rates payer</p>
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38	Support	<p>As an offshoot resident of links ave I am relatively happy with the current arrangement of the road setup although I do have suggestions: 1. Keep the restricted access at the concord end of links ave, but I feel the time restrictions can be narrowed further. Say 7:30-9:30am, 2-4pm is fine. 2. I believe that it has always been about keeping the bus schedules on time, "child safety" was just a cover. Opening the road back up an adding a bus lane the whole length of the road will make it dangerous for cyclists and pedestrians and will undo all the hard work you have put in. Keep links ave as 2 lanes and leave the bus restriction there. 3. Continue the widened path the entire length of links ave, just like you have done for Maunganui road. It doesn't make sense to divert walking/cycling traffic down the offshoots and alleyways of ascot road etc. I am happy to clarify any of the above points if needed. Cheers</p>
39	Support	<p>I am writing in regards to the upcoming review of Links Avenue. We live on Berwick Place, off Links and Ascot Road, and need to use Links Avenue frequently.</p> <p>I was disappointed to hear that Links Avenue is again going to be reviewed by the council after a lengthy and probably expensive consultation process that involved resident consultation, a bit of trial and error and in our views resulted in a good compromise.</p> <p>We use the road and cycle path and feel that safety has been improved, resulting in more frequent use of the bicycle. I am pleased to see so many more children cycling to school since the changes and improvements of surrounding walkways which has lead to a safer environment for all road users.</p> <p>I again would like to voice my concern that the council might embark on another lengthy, expensive remodel when the current arrangement seems to be a good compromise. Yours sincerely</p>

Dan McLean, former Links Ave Panel member (*requested to be named in submission*)

I have been made aware of a proposal to change Links Ave again.

I am a resident and former member of the Links Ave Community Panel that was put in place by the commissioners to help get local residents onboard with proposed changes when the councils lack of communication failed.

I can't understand why this matter is being back tracked by the council.

- Traffic flow is not an issue
- Kids are safely using the bike lanes to get to and from school
- The buses are safely using the current setup
- There is a great opportunity to integrate some new technology that allows better circumstances for all local residents while potentially opening up the timeframes even further for those that don't live locally.

Who are the concerned groups...?

- Papamoa Rate Payers Association – What should it matter to them...? They can now use the B2B without the congestion concerns (even when Links was open)
- A councillor from Matua – He doesn't even live locally nor does he have a mandate here.

I'm certainly not in favour safety measures being installed everywhere but having been a witness to how it was...

- Dangerous bus lanes with a number of near misses with kids involved
- High volumes of traffic forced to use Links as a "rat run" from Papamoa (prior to the B2B)
- Which then caused high average speeds

My biggest concern for the Council, if this goes ahead is they listen to the voice of a few that don't live locally (1%) make the changes then cop the wrath of many that live in this area day to day.

Current traffic volumes surrounding the Links area don't justify this change to make it better !!!

More than happy to discuss further.

<p>41</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Prepared by: Teresa Killian (Links ave resident) Links Ave Community Panel member. Tauranga City Council Candidate 2024 – Arataki Ward. <i>(requested to be named in submission)</i></p> <p>With regard the discussion around FULL OPENING of Links ave which is currently in discussion with the new City Council. A couple of the councillors are pushing for this to fully open (they do not live or represent the Ward – which is Mount Maunganui ward)</p> <p>We are currently experiencing an increase in traffic on the road – possibly from closure of Oceanbeach Road. I live at 1 Links ave – virtually on the corner of Golf road – this is very busy with the school traffic and bus-stops.</p> <p>After a couple of years of working towards resident access and public access whilst addressing traffic levels and safety concerns for both residents/schools and public I feel we eventually landed at a good point. Especially with the recent advent of cameras each end to give full resident access to homes (not withstanding any rat- runs during the closure times) It was positive to see the comments from the children biking to school that they felt safer and this was one of our main targets. Certainly the speed limit also a factor in safety for the cyclists as well.</p> <p>I believe we have an optic issue with regards Links as most people I spoke to during my election campaign all said “its closed – I don’t go down there anymore” Whilst this is ultimately what we wanted to achieve it has also been a double edged sword as now everyone is pumping for it to OPEN UP – when in reality it is fully open 85% of the week and as stated above resident access much improved, including as Brendon noted full access now to the Football club.</p> <p>I think maybe the confusing comms re the new camera access may have contributed to some negative rhetoric (although I would say quite a few of them don’t even live in the area!)</p> <p>In conclusion I support the status quo for Links ave.</p>
<p>42</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>As a resident of the Links Ave and off-shoots community, my thoughts are that the changes made to Links Ave have been positive for our community. Some of the reasons as follows; Improved safety for everyone using the footpaths and roads on Links Ave A quieter street that feels like a residential street again No trucks or heavy vehicles using Links as a through road More kids walking, biking, skating to school rather than getting dropped off in cars Better travel times for residents during peak times, especially with the opening of the new Baypark to Bayfair Link Better access for emergency vehicles when they are most needed (i.e. they can use Links Ave in an emergency rather than Maunganui Road or Ocean Beach Road) A good solution as there was wide consultation with locals and a long trial period</p>

43	Support	Hello, I have heard that the council may want to make changes to the Links Ave road again. I think that the current road situation is good and does not need to be changed. I bike to work down Links ave (even in the rain) every day and it is great the way it is. I like the separated cycle lane on the Eastern side. The physical barriers at the north end of the street keep me from being run over by a distracted driver. I am a confident cyclist and don't mind biking on the road when it's safe and there is enough space. Unfortunately the behavior of some motorists means that I prefer using the footpath in some areas. I think that Tauranga has made some great improvements to cycle lanes recently, Links Ave being one of them. Please don't change the road again. Kind regards
44	Support	I would like to express my support for the current system in place for Links Ave. Through a lot of trial and error I feel that the current set-up is the best outcome. Residents are able to access and leave their streets at peak times, children getting to and from school are much safer without the rat runners cutting through Links Ave and buses have good accessibility. Thank you TCC for working through this.
45	Support	I am a parent of 3 boys who ride, scooter or skate board to school on links ave through to Mt Maunganui Intermediate and Omanu Primary School. My wife and I are very concerned that the council is considering opening up the links ave during the peak traffic times. The current restrictions are working very well to keep kids & other riders safe and avoid traffic bottle necking up at the end of links ave & golf road. The new bayfair round about and overpass is also working well so find it concerning that the main motivation of some people who are advocating for Links Ave to be opened is to avoid traffic else where. I also use the bus regularly which are now running to time to get into Tauranga CBD. There would definitely be delays if Links Ave was to opened up during peak times. This could encourage more people in the area to use their vehicles to get to school or work and would add more traffic to the street. I would also like this email to be included in any submission or report to Councilors regarding the status of Links Ave and surrounding streets and also liked to kept updated on further discussions regarding this in the future.
46	Support	While we have a horrendous few years coping with the often unnecessary changes / restrictions / confusion to Links Ave it finally seems to be working. This is mainly in part to removing the bus lane. There is much less traffic and no longer feels like a race track but a residential street which is safer for all of us. Residents being able to enter/exit at Concord makes life so much easier. It is pleasing there has been community consultation and that the council has taken ideas on board. Please leave Links Ave as is. Cheers
47	Support	Sounds great - thank you This really will adjust in a positive way our experience of living 'within Links' and being able to get from A to B, while still keeping Links a safe place for kids to travel.

<p>48</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Just sending a comment re the new access rules for Links Ave: If entering and exiting at different ends, 15 minutes between the two is probably too short. Why? Because a 15 minute delay is not enough time to discourage non-residents from using Links in peak time. Right now, they just are not aware of this new access rule. Once awareness of it grows, I suspect there will be a massive increase in peaktime traffic again.</p> <p>I know this because I live on Links Ave only 250m or so from Golf Rd, but prior to the cut-de-sac it used to often take me 20+ minutes to travel that distance. If the minimum 'time gap' between entering and exiting stays at 15 mins, eventually more and more people will take this option, leading to traffic congestion and safety risk to students again.</p> <p>A 15-minute delay is a small matter compared to the wait at peak time on Oceanbeach Rd... it would even be worth entering from Concord in the mornings, driving to the other end of Links and just waiting till the 15 mins have passed.</p> <p>My recommendation would be to raise the time minimum to 30 minutes if entering and exiting from different ends.</p> <p>Thanks for listening to residents,</p>
<p>49</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>I'm writing today as an Omanu resident who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. catches buses to the city from the Links Ave bus stop closest to Golf Road; 2. bikes along Links Ave to visit friends and Bayfair; 3. has a child at Mount Maunganui Intermediate; and 4. drives along Links Ave to visit the school, friends and Bayfair. <p>I support the current layout and operation of Links Ave as I have found it:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. much more pleasant to ride along whenever I'm heading that way; 2. way better for the timing of buses to the city, it used to be really frustrating to be standing at the bus stop watching the bus crawl toward the stop; and 3. less stressful to wait for the bus as I watch the kids going to school using the wide footpath on that side of the road, not breathing fumes from idling cars. <p>Thanks for persisting and trying different layouts for this road that has so much going on there.</p>