

Harington Point Community Society Inc.

Mrs Fran Anderson,
Secretary,



We are an Incorporated Society that represents both permanent residents and “cribbies” within the Harington Point Community. We are a small community that love this place at the end of the Peninsula. We are all enjoying the improvements to both our beach and the Reserve, so would like to acknowledge the input DCC has made into the “Save our Beach Project”, our community and other partners have recently completed. These improvements have resulted with a significant increase in visitors arriving on bikes, cars, and campervans of all sizes, thus increasing the amount traffic to the area.

The footpath that runs the length of our community increasing our safety when interacting with residents as well as visitors and tourists, allowing everyone to safely enjoy our community. Our children can now safely scooter or bike to the reserve as well as older community members having a safe flat surface for daily walks and easy use for walking frames, push chairs, and wheel chairs.

Although we are grateful, we are also limited by the end of the footpath just after Fisheries Corner.

Due to the very narrow section of road at Ōtākou bus stop around Fisheries Corner and the 80km inland area that do not have completed bike paths, our families cannot safely bike or walk through to our neighbouring Harwood or Ōtākou communities. Also due to the unfinished section after Portobello School, can we safely connect as cyclists or walkers to Portobello or join up to Te Aka Ōtākou.

The place before Fisheries Corner where the footpath currently terminates is a very unsafe place for cyclists to move across onto the road. With the reappearance of tourist traffic, biking anywhere there is not a bike path is not a safe proposition for the majority of our community and Dunedin residents. Campervans and large buses are simply too wide and dominating. All cyclists are totally reliant on the traffic slowing down and not passing them otherwise an accident eventually will occur. We often discuss our options as cyclists and Pedestrians, that one day someone might have to decide to jump in the harbour rather than facing a car. We don't want one of our community members to be in a terrible accident.

Originally known as the Portobello/Harington Point Road Safety Improvement Project, it was designed to deliver significant safety improvements for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers travelling from Vauxhall to the base of Taiaroa Head. There would be significant benefits to the community if this bike path was fully completed, as initially planned, right around to the base of Taiaroa Heads. There are only three that have yet to be completed and all of these unfinished sections prevent our community from having full access to Te Awa Ōtākou and other communities.

Council needs to deliver on its promise to complete the remaining three sections of Te Awa Ōtākou, as per the consented designs and in the following order:

1. Ōtākou bus stop around Fisheries Corner
2. Portobello township past school to bus turnaround
3. Inland section to Ōtākou bus stop.

Frances Anderson, Secretary, Harington Point Community Society Inc.