

Submission on Dunedin City Council's Draft 9 Year Plan 2025–2034

From: Robbie & Kevin Moginie

Topic: Completion of the Te Awa Ōtākou / Peninsula Connection – Years 2, 3, and 4

Strong Support for Completing Te Awa Ōtākou in Full

We strongly support Council's decision to include the remaining three sections of the Te Awa Ōtākou / Peninsula Connection in Years 2, 3, and 4 of the Long Term Plan. This is a milestone in a 20-year community and mana whenua-led effort to deliver safer, more resilient, and accessible travel for all users between Vauxhall and Taiaroa Head.

Council's commitment reflects the values of Te Taki Haruru and honours a promise made to the community and to mana whenua. We commend this principled and future-focused decision.

Safety, Resilience and Climate Action

The priority order proposed makes excellent sense:

1. **Ellison Rd to Ōtākou Fisheries Wharf (2026/27)** – the most dangerous and climate-vulnerable section;
2. **Tidewater Dr to Ellison Rd (2027/28)** – straightforward but increasingly flood-prone;
3. **Portobello to Weir Rd (2028/29)** – using the inland option that is safer and more cost-effective.

These upgrades are essential to ensure safe access to homes, the marae, schools, globally significant wildlife habitats and tourism destinations. They directly support Council's climate resilience, emissions reduction and safety goals as outlined in the Infrastructure and Zero Carbon strategies.

A Wise and Efficient Investment

Bundling the final stages into one procurement package is a sound move, saving ratepayers money while ensuring continuity. At \$18.5 million total cost, this is a relatively modest investment compared to the wide-ranging benefits across transport safety, tourism, heritage, biodiversity and equity of access.

This project is already part of the city's identity and success. Completing it would amplify the economic and social value already delivered by the earlier stages.

Appreciation

As new residents to Dunedin we have been surprised and delighted by Te Awa Ōtākou which makes Dunedin stand out amongst the cities of Aotearoa. We want to thank the Council and staff for the determination and effort as well as progressive, forward

thinking action which must have been needed to bring this project to this pivotal point. The detailed staff work, and Council's willingness to act on submissions and mana whenua input, is something we can all be extremely proud of.

We offer our full support and appreciation for the council ensuring the Te Awa Ōtākou / Peninsula Connection is delivered in full in Years 2–4 of the Long Term Plan.

Ngā mihi,

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