

17 December 2015

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District Plan Team  
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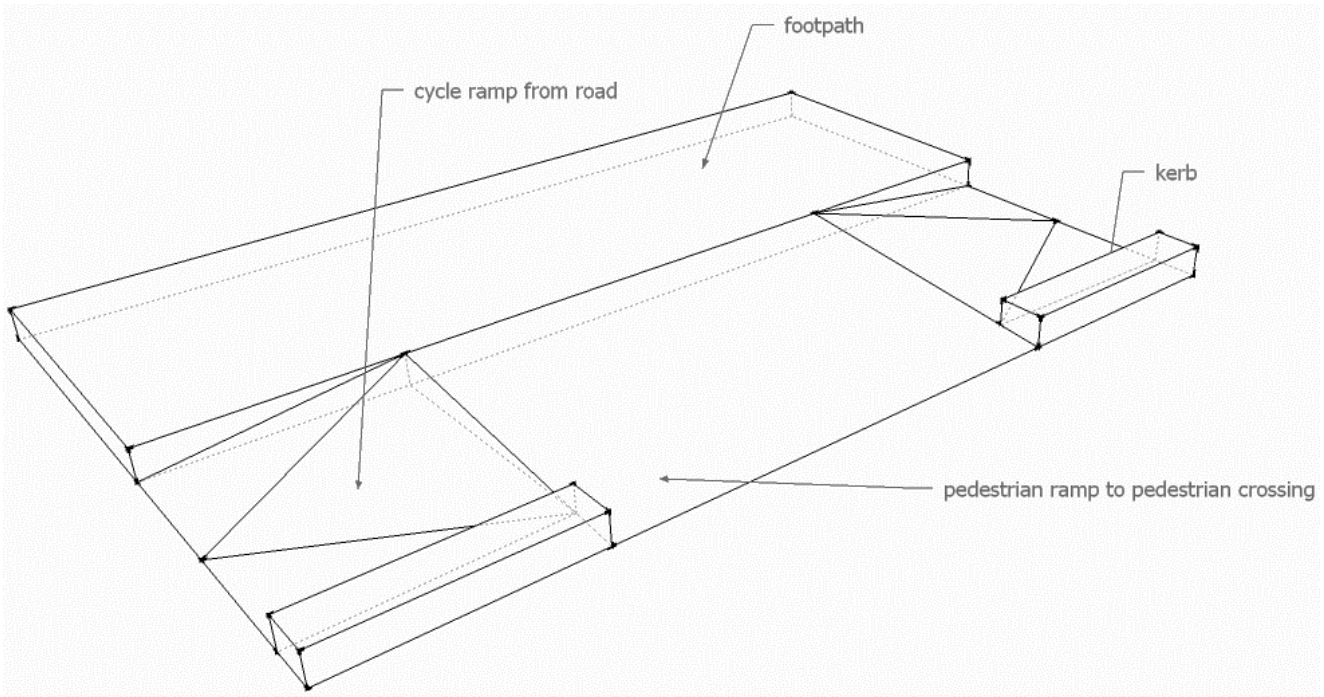


the architectural centre inc.  
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**Re: WCC Tawa Town Centre Plan**

This submission is from the Architectural Centre, an incorporated society dating from 1946, which represents both professionals and non-professionals interested in the promotion of good design.

1. We strongly recommend that the Council **commission the Sculpture Trust** to organise at least two large-scale sculptures rather than attempt any town centre identity-branding exercise.
2. We highly recommend that the Council **rework the proposed Tawa Plaza**, and extend the plaza across the Main Road and the intersection with Essex Street. This should be a shared space in a meaningful way.
3. The **street proportions** shown in the "Cross-section:raised pedestrian crossing, plaza and footpath," (i.e. ratio of road to footpath) appear very good to us, and ought to be the standard throughout the Town Centre.
4. We are extremely surprised, given Council strategies and policies regarding **sustainable and active transport**, that this Town Centre Plan appears ignorant of these issues. We consider this inexcusable and frightening.
5. We strongly encourage the Council to remove one side of angle parking and replace this with two-way (counter flow) cycling lanes.
6. We note the widening of the footpath at strategic points. Such widening constrains the road at the point where cyclists might be. These intrusions into the roadspace need to be designed so they both facilitate pedestrian crossing and don't interrupt the path of road cyclists. [see diagrammatic explanation]



7. Provision for cycle parks is needed.
8. We encourage the use of strategically place dropped kerbs for cyclists in order to improve and increase the number of potential cycle routes.
9. There appears to be **an immense number of car parks**. Is this greater than other parts of Wellington? Can the number be reduced? At the very least we strongly encourage the displacement of carparks from the main street - there appears to be many carparks (or potential for carparking) away from the main street.
10. The train station is not far from the main road. The Town Centre Plan **must strengthen the connection between the main road and the railway station**. We also wonder if there is potential to redesign the land between the station and Porirua Stream.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Tawa Town Centre Plan proposal. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



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