

12 June 2026

Nic Lane  
fyi-request-34747-a6aab7af@requests.fyi.org.nz

REF: OIA-22262

Dear Nic

### **Request made under the Official Information Act 1982**

Thank you for your email of 20 May 2026 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*Congratulations on building a new public multi-user route between Te Whanganui-a-Tara and Te Awa Kairangi.*

*Can you please provide: **Design information around Te Ara Tupua's pedestrian ramp Te Wharepōuri, including:***

***Longitudinal profile drawings***

***Gradient calculations of its rise, as well as its landings; internal discussions around NZS 4121***

The following documents fall within the scope of your request and are enclosed:

- Attachment 1 - Design Summary Report\_ Geometrics
- Attachment 2 - Issue for Construction drawing (longitudinal profile)

Information relating to NZS 4121 is included in section 3.4.5.1 and Appendix D of Attachment 1.

Certain information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons. I do not consider that the public interest in release outweighs the need to withhold this information.

***How did Waka Kotahi formally, or otherwise, engage in partnership with the disability community, what guidance was received?***

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) as part of Te Ara Tupuna Alliance, engaged with the disability community through several channels during the design and construction phases.

A Project Liaison Group (PLG) was established to keep walking and cycling stakeholders informed. This group included representatives from organisations such as Living Streets Aotearoa. Targeted engagement was also undertaken with:

- Wellington City Council Accessibility Advisory Group

- Hutt City Council Wheels and Canes Accessibility Forum

In addition, an independent accessibility audit of the detailed design occurred. Feedback from the accessibility auditor was also sought on specific construction matters as they arose.

***How much was budgeted for independent accessibility reviews, and who was contracted to undertake these?***

An independent accessibility audit was undertaken by CCS Disability Action.

The total budget for combined assurance activities (including Safe System audits, accessibility audits, and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) reviews) was approximately \$75,000.

***Did you create any user profiles in the design process; does Waka Kotahi's have Access Standards or strategies***

Specific user personas were not developed for this project.

The design was informed by recognised guidance, *Austrroads Guide to Road Design Part 6A* and *NZTA Pedestrian Network Guidance*.

***What is your commitment to Universal Design?***

Te Ara Tupua was delivered in accordance with the project's Minimum Requirements, which incorporate accessibility considerations and align with relevant design guidance.

***What is your definition of a pedestrian?***

NZTA's definition of a pedestrian is set out in *Walking in New Zealand: Pedestrian Network Guidance (1 February 2025, version 1.1)*.

While this definition is not reproduced in the attached documents, it is publicly available on the NZTA website here: <https://nzta.govt.nz/assets/Walking-Cycling-and-Public-Transport/docs/pedestrian-network-guidance/docs/1-Walking-in-NZ-Feb-2025.pdf>

In line with NZTA policy, this response will soon be published on our website, with personal information removed.

Under section 28 of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review the decision to partially withhold information. The Ombudsman's contact details are available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

If you would like to discuss this reply with NZTA, please contact Ministerial Services by email to [official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz](mailto:official.correspondence@nzta.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely



**Josh Driscoll**  
Manager Ministerial Services