

Hon Simon Bridges

Minister of Transport

1 April 2016



Media Statement

Whangarei school on the right cycling track

Transport Minister Simon Bridges has announced the Government will invest \$500,000 to help establish cycle projects in schools in line with the Urban Cycleways Programme.

Through the National Land Transport Fund, the Government will make a funding contribution to the Bikes in Schools programme to help establish school cycle projects in towns and cities where the Urban Cycleways Programme is already underway.

Mr Bridges says making cycling a safer, more reliable transport option is a core priority.

“Over the next few years the Government will invest \$500,000 in helping to bring cycle projects to fruition in 35 to 40 schools. We want to help support schools to be part of the Bikes in Schools Programme to encourage all New Zealand children to ride a bike regularly,” Mr Bridges says.

St Frances Xavier School in Whangarei is the first school to receive \$15,000 in National Land Transport Funding to establish a new 500-metre bike track which opened today.

“This investment in St Frances Xavier School works well with the planned Whangarei cycleway network. It aims to support both increased use of the cycling routes, and encourage wider community support for cycling.

“The school will also receive new bikes and helmets along with storage facilities to ensure all children have the opportunity to learn to ride in a safe environment.”

Through the Urban Cycleways Programme central and local government are working together to deliver \$333 million of new cycleway projects throughout the country over the next three years - the single biggest investment in cycling in New Zealand’s history.

Over the next three years 54 projects are scheduled to be completed through the programme.

More information about the programme can be found at:
www.nzta.govt.nz/UCP.

Media contact: Kristy Martin 022 015 8039