



Collaboration Paves the Way

Ohakune Mountain Road



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Problem

The road was in need of upgrading

- Major tourist road
- High crash rate
- Narrow
- Lined with significant trees
- Failing pavement
- National Park



Location - Tongariro National Park

- NZ's oldest National Park
- Dual World Heritage status
- Alpine environment

Works required consultation with three affected parties:



The Ohakune Mountain Road

- Connects Ohakune to Turoa Skifields
- Has a high traffic volume peaking at 4000 vehicles per day

Also used by

- Cyclists
- Pedestrians
- Sightseers



The Substandard Road

- Geometrically deficient
- Less than 5.5 m width
- No clear zones
- Trees up to the seal edge
- High crash rate
- Failing pavement



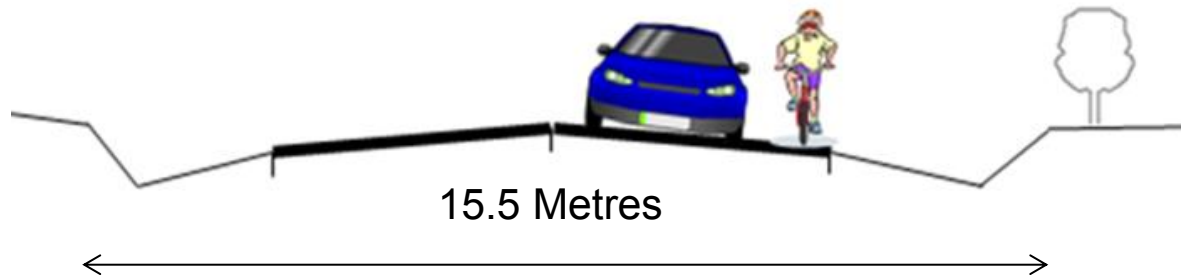
Needed Fixing

- The road needed widening and strengthening with an overlay
- The area was environmentally sensitive
 - The design needed to be agreeable to all parties with the least environmental impact

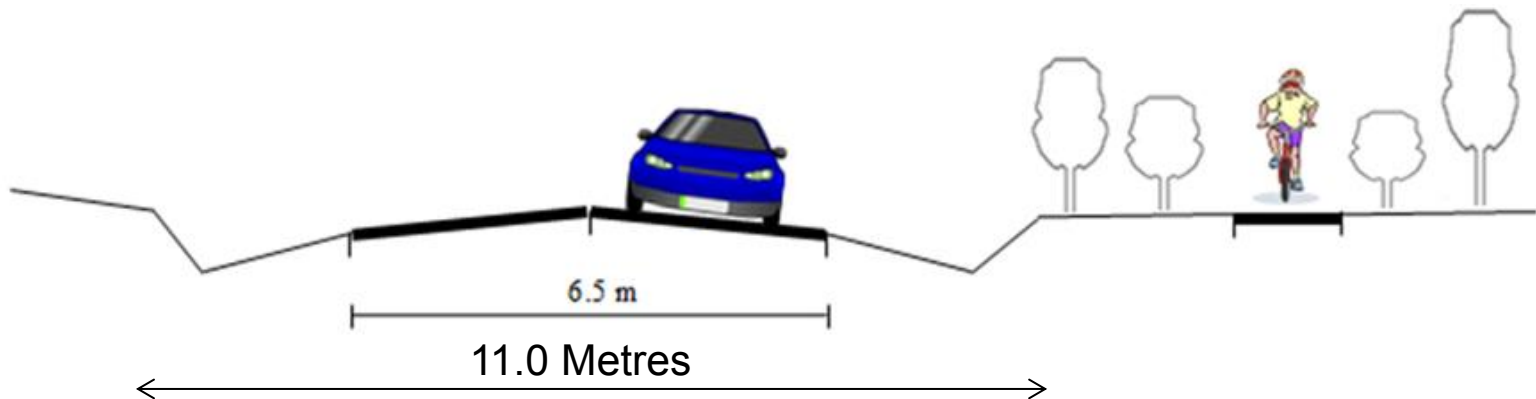


Design Options

➤ Standard design



➤ Modified Design

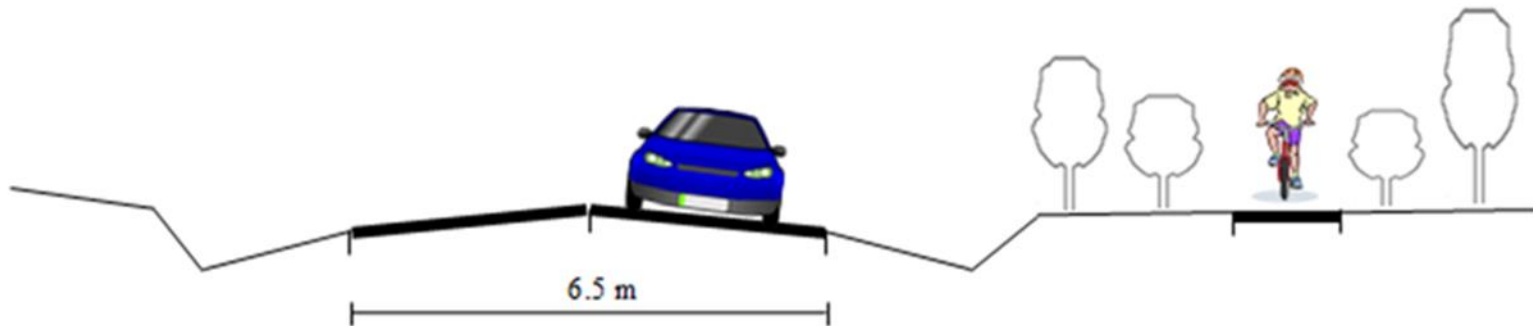


Design Consultation

Workshop with at local Mangamingi Marae



Agreement obtained on the modified design



Design Stage

- Tree hierarchy used to reduce environmental effects
- Advice sought from a respected Ecologist
- Consistent design standards maintained
- Extent of works pegged
- Discussions with affected parties



Commencing Construction

Cultural Induction at Mangamingi Marae

- Hosted by Ngati Rangi
- Significance of the area discussed
- Te Reo Māori pronunciation covered
- Site blessing by local Kaumātua



Construction

Trees within the extent of work removed

Formed stockpiles of whole logs and mulch for

- Carving and milling
- Site restoration
- Local communities



Sensitive Vegetation

- Tōī (mountain cabbage tree) valued for weaving
- Leaf of larger tōī salvaged for weaving
- Iwi are documenting the tōī process



Construction

Earthworks and pavement construction
Worked within the agreed area



Site Restoration

Site restoration included:

- Relocation of smaller Tōi
- Placing all of the duff back along the site
- Mulch placed over the duff in two sections
- Seedlings from the site replanted onsite



After construction

“The outcome of this project is a road where it is hard to recognise that the road has been widened.”

Ecologist Nicholas Singers



Before

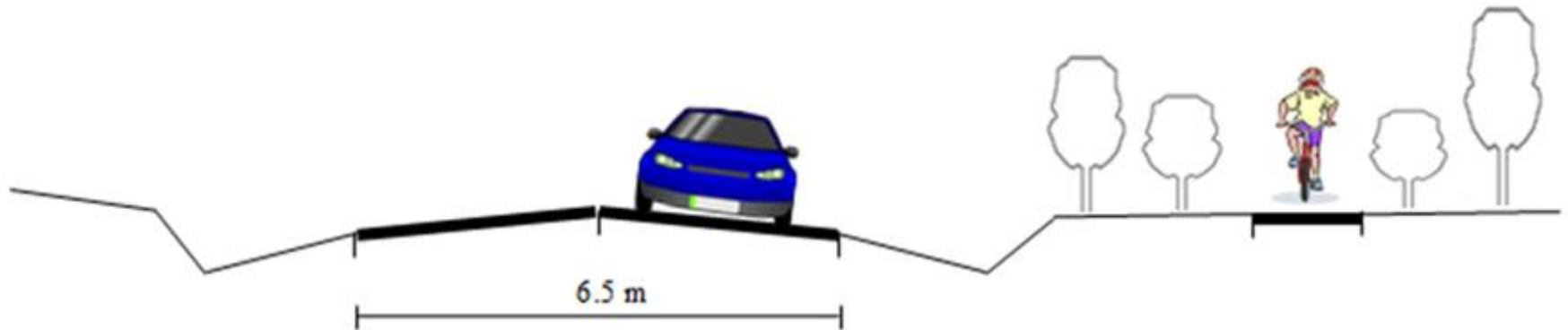


After

Another Positive Outcome

As a result of accepting the design alternative, the community has instigated work towards:

- A unique trail with 1000-metre descent
- The trail utilising mostly disused tracks





Paving the way with Collaboration

Ohakune Mountain Road

