

Pakuranga Rotary Shared Path

The ***Pakuranga Rotary Walkway*** is indicated on the ***Auckland Cycle Network*** map as being a completed *cycle metro* route as of 2013.

A *cycle metro* level route (between *cycle connector* and *cycle highway*) is a 'high quality, traffic free segregated route'.

The ***Pakuranga Rotary Walkway*** is a shared path - to be used by pedestrians and cyclists.

'Bicycles are permitted but need to share the walkway with pedestrians. If you are riding a bike, please give way to people walking and watch out around blind corners.'

It is 9 km long, running from Prince Regent Drive in the East, to Panmure Bridge in the West. It links the suburbs of Half Moon Bay, Pigeon Mountain, Farm Cove, Sunnyhills, Pakuranga and Panmure. The paved route is flat and follows the left bank of the Wakaaranga Creek, and the right bank of the Tamaki Estuary.

A shared path must be a suitable width to avoid conflict between users. General agreement seems to be that 3 m is the desirable minimum width for a shared path and up to 4 m is ideal for higher usage.

- *Austroads* Guide to Road design Part 6A: Pedestrian and Cyclist Paths (2009).
- *Sustrans* The Connect2 and Greenway Design Guide Guide (2009).

At no point does the *Pakuranga Rotary Walkway* meet this standard.

It should be mentioned that a wider path not only allows stressless overtaking and passing, but also helps visibility, and provides wobble-room on climbs and braking-room on descents.

I road the walkway from East to West on Wednesday 26 June in the early afternoon, fine overcast weather. There was light usage - compared to the

weekends for example. I make the following comments as a cyclist . . .

(Numbers refer to my photos, and maps).

Generally the path is very pleasant to use with good surfaces, plenty of interpretive and route finding signage, one toilet, a large number of seats and bins. It also is well connected into the neighbourhoods with many connecting links.

- 1 Start in Prince Regent Drive: no signage, no crossing from road.
- 2 into Pakuranga Domain: narrow path 1.4 m, very steep left turn
- 3 tunnel under road: 1.8 m width seems OK
- 6 intersection with Wakaaranga Creek reserve spur: narrow path, corner too sharp.
- 7 Start route from Curacao Place: no signage, no road crossing, pipe barrier.
- 8 path between walls 1.8 m wide
- 11 sharp right hand turn, path too narrow 1.4 m
- 15 path a bit low for the winter conditions
- 16 sharp right hand turn, path too narrow 1.4 m
- 20 timber boardwalk far too narrow 1.1 m

Pakuranga Rotary Shared Path

- 26 path too narrow for short steep hill 1.4 m
- 27 path far too narrow for sharp turn 1.4 m
- 34 corner approaching bridge too tight
- 35 bridge 1.7 m
- 36 corner leaving bridge still too tight, extra concrete triangle helps
- 37 at this point the path widens generally from 1.4 m to around 2 m, this is better, but most of the time still feels too narrow to be a safe and pleasant shared path.
- 50 the termination at the end of the Eastern route at Farm Cove Reserve is not very user friendly.
- 53 similarly the start of the Western route is rather charmless.
- 73 gravel sections are well signed, designed and constructed.
- 77 this part of the Manor Park cul-de-sac is the ideal width for a shared path 3.5 m. The curbs are a no-no - refer to the *Sustrans* design guidelines or similar.
- 78 the 2 m width suddenly seems ridiculously narrow!
- 84 good non-slip surface on the timber bridges 1.8m wide.
- 87 this is a sharp corner with a steep climb/descent and poor visibility due to planting - the path needs to be much wider here.
- 93 another blind corner with a tree narrowing the effective width of the path to about 1.2 m - too narrow!
- 95 an impossibly sharp corner - path needs to be wider and swept on the inside bend.
the curving path up the hill is too narrow at 2 m.
- 99 another crazy corner - path needs to be wider, and inside swept.
- 103 path jogs nicely around protruding trees - preserves full width.
- 113 very pleasant boardwalk section. Timber will get slippery with time.
- 119 this straight descent has a very slippery concrete surfaced corner at the bottom. Needs to be anti-slip texture on concrete, and path up hill needs to be wider.
- 120 all these timber surfaces will get really slippery.
- 122 corner could be swept on insides.
- 126 bollard?
- 128 gravel section is unavoidably narrow - works OK.
- 130 steep, straight descent, is OK but watch slipperiness.
- 131 unpleasant step in bottom of drive at boatyards.

Pakuranga Rotary Walkway



001_PRW_start spur Prince Regent Drive_1400.JPG



002_PRW_sharp left turn_1400.JPG



003_PRW_tunnel.JPG



004_PRW_tunnel_1800.JPG



005_PRW_path_1300.JPG



006_PRW_intersection with Wakaaranga Creek Reserve.JPG



007_PRW_start walkway Curacao Place.JPG



008_PRW_channel_1700.JPG



009_PRW_path_1400.JPG

Pakuranga Rotary Walkway



010_PRW_bridge_1400.JPG



011_PRW_sharp right hand corner.JPG



012_PRW_path_1350.JPG



013_PRW_flood.JPG



014_PRW_bridge_1100.JPG



015_PRW_mud_sign.JPG



016_PRW_intersection with spur, turn right.JPG



017_PRW_seat_1400.JPG



018_PRW_boardwalk_1160.JPG

Pakuranga Rotary Walkway



019_PRW_JPG



020_PRW_narrow boardwalk.JPG



021_PRW_path_1400.JPG



022_PRW_intersection with Galloway Crescent.JPG



023_PRW_JPG



024_PRW_kilometer marker_1400.JPG



025_PRW_JPG



026_PRW_curvey bit_1400.JPG



027_PRW_steep hill, sharp corner.JPG

Pakuranga Rotary Walkway



028_PRW_sign.JPG



029_PRW_descent_1400.JPG



030_PRW_bridge.JPG



031_PRW_intersection with Rapallo Place_1600.JPG



032_PRW_intersection with Estelle Place_1950.JPG



033_PRW_seat_1950.JPG



034_PRW_bridge.JPG



035_PRW_bridge_1700.JPG



036_PRW_bridge.JPG

Pakuranga Rotary Walkway



037_PRW_path_2000.JPG



038_PRW_seat.JPG



039_PRW_path_2000.JPG



040_PRW_intersection with Davita Place.JPG



041_PRW_path_2000.JPG



042_PRW_seat.JPG



043_PRW_seat.JPG



044_PRW_intersection with Bramley Drive_1980.JPG



045_PRW_seat_2000.JPG

Pakuranga Rotary Walkway



046_PRW_path_2000.JPG



047_PRW_playground_2000.JPG



048_PRW_sign, bin.JPG



049_PRW_Pakuranga Sailing Club_1900.JPG



050_PRW_bollards.JPG



051_PRW_sign.JPG