

Submission to Hutt CC – Ava Pedestrian Footbridge 2/7/2026

Good morning

My name is Stan Andis, resident at the Bob Scott Village.

The nature of my brief comments is to seek the reason why a Consultation Process has not been undertaken between the Hutt City Council and local residents in the vicinity of the Ava Footbridge.

I refer you to section 8 of the Hutt City Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee under the sub heading – Consultation, that the proposed walkway will not proceed due to cost.

When the proposal of the walkway is of great significance to the local residents, the process of Consultation has not taken place.

I quote from the “Essential Ingredients of Consultation” as stated by the Ministry for the Environment.

The Golden Rule:

“The more disadvantaged and removed from the decision-making structures a person or group is, the more effort you must make to reach them.”

A decision not to proceed it seems is recommended without any consultation whatsoever.

3 ESSENTIAL PROCESSES FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS OF CONSULTATION

Consultation:

- is an essential ingredient in identifying possible effects and the scale of those effects;
- can provide information to identify ways of mitigating or avoiding potential effects;
- can help identify any aspects of the project which need to be monitored and ways by which this can be done.

Essential Ingredients:

1. Be prepared to make changes in response to feedback.
2. Listen rather than promote. The person consulting should remember that the primary purpose of the exercise is to find out what the community thinks about the proposal, not to 'sell' the proposal by putting down or ignoring any concerns expressed.
3. Information about the proposal must be accurate and honest and should be presented as clearly and as simply as possible.
4. As much information as possible should be presented in visual form - maps, aerial photographs, drawings.
5. Make sure that those being consulted are representative of **all** the people who will be affected. At meetings, make sure that all the people present contribute to the discussions.
6. Be explicit about the constraints on the outcome of the consultation. It may not be possible to address all the concerns, to the extent some people want.
7. When the findings of the consultation are written up, whenever possible check back with those consulted that their opinions have been interpreted accurately.

GOLDEN RULE

THE MORE DISADVANTAGED AND REMOVED FROM THE DECISION-MAKING STRUCTURES A PERSON OR GROUPS IS, THE MORE EFFORT YOU MUST MAKE TO REACH THEM.