



Sustainable Trails

Is there such a thing?

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The Funding Journey so far

See the best of
New Zealand
by bike



The Nga Haerenga Great Ride network was **launched in 2009** as a partnership between the New Zealand Government and regional stakeholders, with goals to:

- Create jobs and economic development.
- Promote tourism and regional growth.
- Encourage healthy, active lifestyles.
- Celebrate New Zealand's natural beauty and cultural heritage.

The Funding Journey so far



Image: Otago Central Rail Trail

The Otago Central Rail Trail was a major inspiration for the New Zealand Cycle Trail.

Revitalising a quiet corner of the South Island, it had also become the second-largest income earner after farming.

The government, led by Prime and Minister of Tourism committed **\$50 million** to create a continuous touring route running the length of the country

The Funding Journey so far



Image: Hawkes Bay Trails

Central Government funding is largely matched by:

1. Local Body support
2. Community support
3. Volunteer support
4. Official Partner Programmes
5. Commercial Support
6. Philanthropic Support

and for some..

DoC support for some Trails on Public Conservation Land

And doesn't count the investment made by business owners in developing their product.

The Funding Journey so far

Central Government funding for the Great Rides:

- Is funded from the International Visitor Levy
- **\$8m per annum**
 - \$560K meets MBIE staffing and costs
 - \$500K meets NZCT strategic overheads and Service Level Agreement Delivery
 - \$1m is held for Emergency funding
 - \$1.035 is for Trail Managers (opex funding)
 - \$1.478 is for Trail maintenance – prorata on grade and length of Trail
 - Balance is for Trail infrastructure and existing grant commitments
 - (\$9m over next two years)



Image: Great Lake Trail



The Funding Journey so far



Image: Hauraki Rail Trail

Today, the Great Ride Network of 23 Great Rides generates

\$1,000,000,000

to the local NZ economy

Source: Angus and Associates



The Funding Journey so far



Image: Hauraki Rail Trail

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\$1billion

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Source: Angus and Associates



The Funding Journey so far



Image: Hauraki Rail Trail

Today, the Great Ride Network of 23 Great Rides generates

\$1billion

That's an **11.6%** Return on Investment

Source: Angus and Associates



Image: Motu Trails – Mandy Hague

The Government has further invested another

\$66.25million

As a rolling **\$8million per annum** to support the Great Ride network



Image: Twin Coast Trail

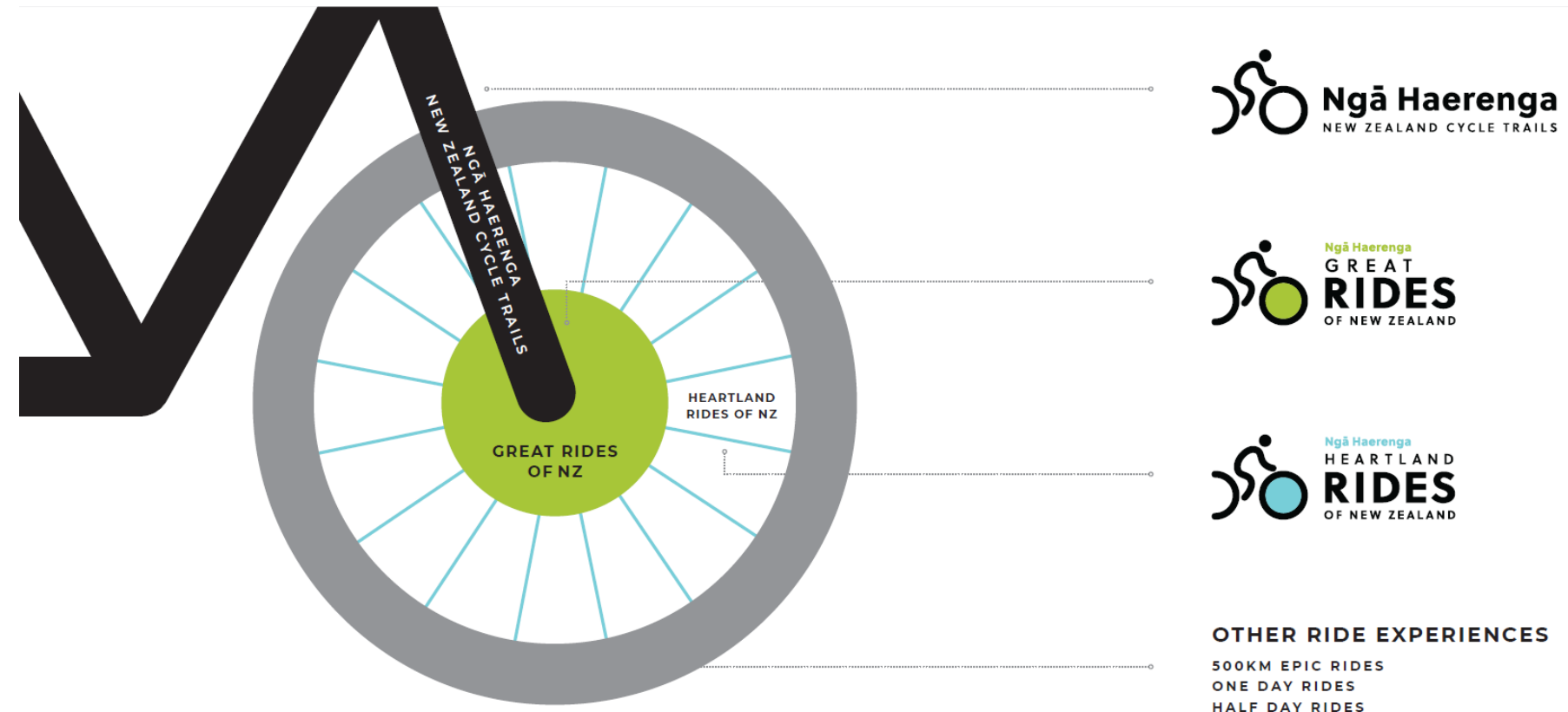
And yet..

Why Does it Feel so Hard to be Sustainable?



Image: Hauraki Rail Trail Office circa 2015

Understand which waka are you in



\$8m per annum from
central government
(MBIE)

(includes annual contribution for
each trail to Trail Management and
Maintenance).

Cannot charge for
access

Many different and
often complex
ownership and
governance models

Funded from IVL but
subject to political will

Require large amount of
local support to manage

NGĀ HAERENGA NEW ZEALAND CYCLE TRAILS

23 GREAT RIDES

NORTH ISLAND TRAILS

GRADE/KM

1. POU HERENGA TAI TWIN COAST CYCLE TRAIL	87
2. HAURAKI RAIL TRAIL	160
3. WAIKATO RIVER TRAILS	104
4. MOTU TRAILS	121
5. WHAKAREWAREWA FOREST LOOP	33
6. TIMBER TRAIL	85
7. GREAT LAKE TRAILS	88
8. MOUNTAINS TO SEA NGĀ ARA TŪHONO	231
9. HAWKE'S BAY TRAILS	200
10. REMUTAKA CYCLE TRAIL	115

- ✈ International airport
- ✈ Domestic airport
- 🚲 Cycle trail



The grade wheels alongside each trail show the approximate split of trail grades. This example indicates a trail with a rising surface and gradient that is 20% grade 1, 20% grade 2, 20% grade 3, 20% grade 4 and 20% grade 5.

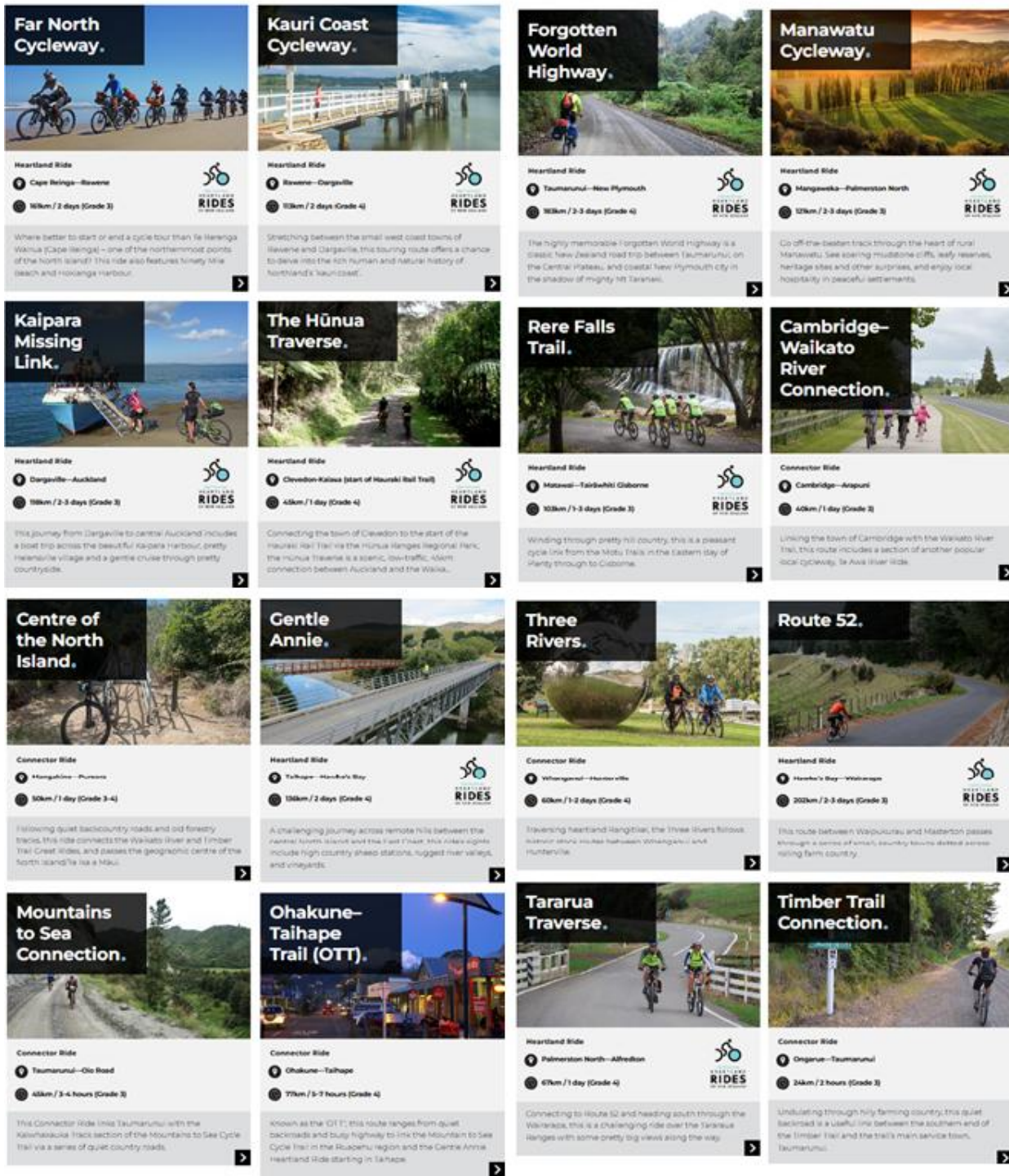


Funding support via
Waka Kotahi

Provide connections to
Great Rides

Predominantly on quiet
country roads

Lesser degree of
governance



Urban Rides

Funding support via
Waka Kotahi

Provide safe passage
through urban areas

Community Rides

Built by local
community/councils/clubs/
private funding

Often have aspirations to
be part of the Great Ride
family

Usually shorter rides



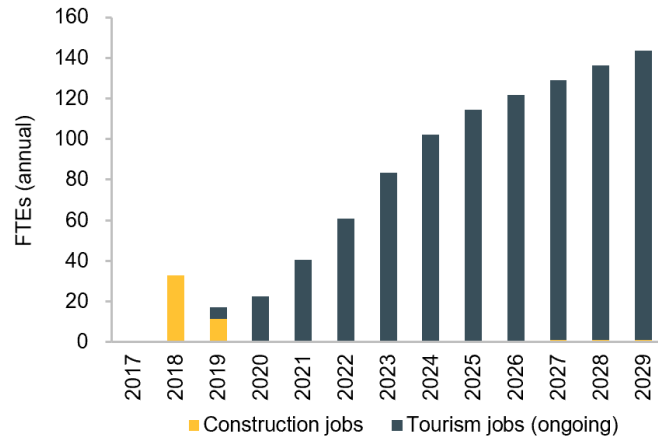


**Getting
past the
pain
point**

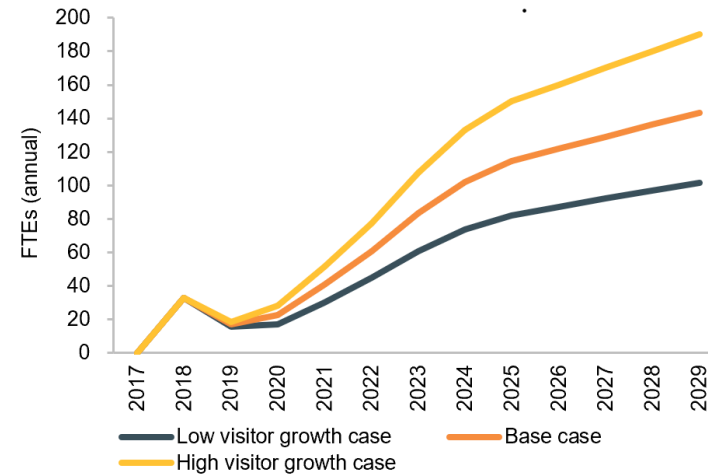
Science

Impact on regional employment

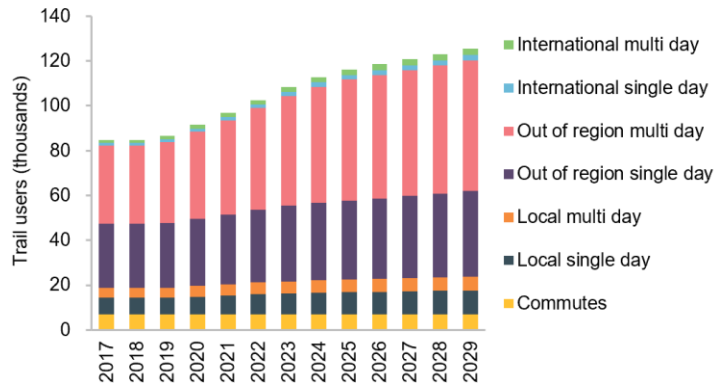
Base case



Total jobs generated



Trail users, by type (Base case)





Relationships

Political Allies

- Central government
- Local government
- Local Champion



Image: Area 4 Rotary Club Members building shelters for the Hauraki Rail Trail

Relationships



Image: Remutaka Trail

Good Governance

- High Trust
- Reputation of getting things done
- Heighten the Trust
- Lessen the Risk

Relationships

Official Partners

- Give social licence
- Are affected parties
- Invested in outcomes



Image: Waikato River Trail



Relationships

Local Community

- Philanthropists
- Service Clubs
- Business networks
- Local Grants
- Cycling Groups
- PD Groups
- 1000 cups of tea



Image: Lake Dunstan Trail

How squeaky is your wheel?



Image: Queen Charlotte Sounds

- Official Partnership!
- Advocacy
- Local Body Elections
- Central Government Elections
- Media Releases
- Participation in surveys
- Participation in research

Hauraki Rail Trail Case Study





New governance model introduced in 2017

- Fresh commitment by partner councils
 - New management structure
 - HRT Advisory Group
 - Commitment to funding





7 key principles

1. Recognised as shared local infrastructure,





7 key principles

2. delivers shared benefits to the Hauraki, Thames-Coromandel and Matamata-Piako communities





7 key principles

3. Must be managed, developed and maintained to pre-determined standards





7 key principles

4. The settlor councils agree to reasonably contribute to the fixed underwriting costs





7 key principles

5. That strategic overhead costs associated with operating the Hauraki Rail Trail funded are apportioned equally between the councils





7 key principles

6. Maintenance costs are apportioned, where possible, based on the length of Trail within each district council boundary





7 key principles

7. That above the costs above, councils will, where possible, contribute to and facilitate the enhancement and promotion of the Trail in their local areas

