

Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre at Emerald Glen Road

NZTA's plan for an industrial truck weigh station, (a 'Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre') planned for land at the start of Emerald Glen Road has locals concerned, and the Paekakariki Community Board has expressed its disappointment at the lack of consultation.

NZTA has identified land classified as recreation reserve land, currently part of Whareroa Farm 200 metres from the start of Emerald Glen Road, where the stockyards are located. This is one of 12 major Commercial Vehicle Safety Centres to be built around NZ as part of the NZ Police Weigh Right programme.



There are concerns about the site selection process and locating commercial activity within the recreation area joining Queen Elizabeth Park, Whareroa Farm Park and the bridle path/cycleway along Emerald Glen Road. The parks are connected by a narrow underpass which is used regularly by cyclists, pedestrians, horse riders as well as motorists visiting the two parks.

There will be a large 5.8 metre high and 4.5 metre wide compliance building, a weigh bridge, an office building, an area to off-load excess weighted goods and parking for 12 trucks.

“We see numerous safety issues and hazards around having up to eight trucks

an hour exiting the Expressway to be weighed, driving through this busy and tight thoroughfare used by other vehicles as well as horse, cycle and foot traffic,” say local residents. “We would like NZTA to look for another viable site that is not in the middle of this important recreational hub and conservation area. While we do want safe commercial vehicles on the roads, we do not believe they should improve the safety of one group while comprising the safety of another.”

We also do not want to see more chipping away of conservation reserve land especially for be used for industrial type structures and feel it is in conflict with the vision for Whareroa Farm and surrounding areas. Restoration projects are planned in the area and the site is adjacent to the Matata wetland where threatened fish species have been sited.

Local residents believe the wider community has not been adequately informed and that NZTA has been very slow and reluctant to engage with them.

NZTA is planning to have a package of information available to present the community at an Open Day in February-March.



COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SAFETY CENTRE ON EMERALD GLEN ROAD.

NZTA has identified land classified as recreation reserve land currently part of the Department of Conservation estate at Whareroa Farm for the location of a Commercial Vehicle Safety Centre (CVSC) on Emerald Glen Road at MacKays Crossing.

As this land is located between the entrances to Kapiti's two large recreation parks – Queen Elizabeth Park and Whareroa Farm - which receive over 500,000 visitors between them each year - we do not believe that this is the right place for a CVSC. Park users have no specific crossing area for foot, cycle or horse traffic and are required to cross the off-ramp where overloaded trucks will be exiting the expressway. The bridle path/cycleway on Emerald Glen Road will also cross directly in front of the entrance/exit to the CVSC.

The Mackay's Crossing area gives access to Kapiti's main hub for outdoor recreational activities and environmental conservancy. The proposed site is surrounded by earmarked land for wetland restoration and the small streams that run around and under the site currently support a number of threatened fish species including Giant Kokopu, Inanga and Longfinned Eel.

Is this the right place for a large industrial style CVSC? Let us know your thoughts below:

Please leave your comments at Paekākāriki Fruit and Veg, [on our Facebook page](#) or email to: turidkim@slingshot.co.nz