

Old Caversham Rail Tunnel Usage

Should it be re-opened?

We are asking the Dunedin City Council to re-open the old Caversham Tunnel as a flat walking and cycling connection between Kaikorai Valley and Caversham. [Location map.](#)

1. If the Old Caversham Rail Tunnel was a walkway / cycleway, would you use it

Daily	 6.6%	(38)
Once or twice a week	 22.2%	(128)
Once or twice a month	 19.8%	(114)
A few times a year	 26.3%	(152)
Occasionally	 24.3%	(140)
Never	 0.9%	(5)
TOTAL	100.0%	577 (577)

2. If you use the tunnel, would you

Walk (including jogging)	 17.2%	(99)
Cycle	 31.7%	(183)
Both walk and cycle at different times	 51.1%	(295)
TOTAL	100.0%	577 (577)

3. Would you use the tunnel for

Commuting (work / school / university)	 20.6%	(119)
Travelling (go shopping / meet friends)	 16.3%	(94)
Recreation	 89.9%	(519)
Other: cubscout activity	 0.2%	(1)
Other: cycle touring out of town	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Dog Walks	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Dope Smoking	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Exercise	 0.2%	(1)
Other: geocaching	 0.2%	(1)
Other: history/geology	 0.2%	(1)
Other: just a walk	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Just for the hell of it!	 0.2%	(1)
Other: part of a touring route, or to get to the airport	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Rail Transport	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Railway Enthusiast	 0.2%	(1)
Other: reminscencing	 0.2%	(1)
Other: riding to Otago Races	 0.2%	(1)
Other: showing my kids	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Showing others the great structure	 0.2%	(1)
Other: sight-seeing	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Thing to do with out-of-city visitors	 0.2%	(1)
Other: To connect to rail trail	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Tourism	 0.2%	(1)
Other: Training	 0.2%	(1)

4. Do you think lighting should be put through the tunnel or left dark as it is at present.

Full lighting	 74.5%	(430)
Left dark as it is	 22.7%	(131)
TOTAL	97.2%	561 (577)

The following demographic questions are to give us some indication of who you are. Fields are optional.

5. Sex

Male	 55.5%	(320)
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Female	 30.7%	(177)
TOTAL	 86.1%	497 (577)

6. Age Range

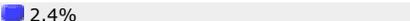
Under 18 years	 2.6%	(15)
18 - 40 years	 46.3%	(267)
41 - 65 years	 41.9%	(242)
over 65	 7.5%	(43)
TOTAL	 98.3%	567 (577)

7. Town / City

#	Response
1	MacAndrew Bay
2	Momona
1	Mornington
1	Mornington / Dunedin
45	Mosgiel
1	mosgiel - but work in Dunedin
1	Mosgiel North Tieri
3	Mosgiel, Dunedin
1	Mosgiel,DUNEDIN
1	Mosgiel/Dunedin
1	Mosgiel/Outram
1	Napier
5	Nelson
1	New Plymouth
1	North East Valley
1	nth taieri
1	Oamaru
1	ocean view dunedin
1	Ocean View, Dunedin
2	Port Chalmers
1	Prior St Leonards resident, visit annually
1	Queenstown
2	Rangiora
1	Roslyn
1	Rotorua at present
1	Saltcoats
1	South Dunedin
2	Sydney
1	Sydney (temp) usually of Dunedin
1	The Cove, Dunedin
1	Tokoroa
1	Toronto, CANADA
2	town
1	Waihola
1	Waikouaiti
1	Waikouaiti Dunedin
1	Waldronville
1	Wanaka
6	Wellington
1	West Harbour - dunedin
1	Westport
1	Whakatane
1	Wingatui

1	Lower Hutt
1	MacAndrew Bay
2	Momona
1	Mornington
1	Mornington / Dunedin
45	Mosgiel
1	mosgiel - but work in Dunedin
1	Mosgiel North Tieri
3	Mosgiel, Dunedin
1	Mosgiel,DUNEDIN
1	Mosgiel/Dunedin
1	Mosgiel/Outram
1	Napier
5	Nelson
1	New Plymouth
1	North East Valley
1	nth taieri
1	Oamaru
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1	Waikouaiti Dunedin
1	Waldronville
1	Wanaka
6	Wellington
1	West Harbour - dunedin
1	Westport
1	Whakatane
1	Wingatui

8. Country

New Zealand		95.5%	(551)
International		2.4%	(14)
TOTAL		97.9%	565 (577)

9. Please add your ideas and comments

As a teenager in 1950's the tunnel was a very useful way for me getting from Anderson's Bay to Brighton by bicycle

2 on survey

? beside Full Lighting (meaning undecided?)

A "working BEE" for labour and I am sure some Businesses would Donate materials. A community Project involving all Dunedin

A cycle lane linking Dunedin with the Taieri would help overcome one of Dunedin's biggest cycling drawbacks - 'The Hills' many are put off cycling as a form of transport as hills are hard work this tunnel would open up the flat zone considerably.

A good idea glad someone is getting the ball rolling. The proposed route would be ideal.

A great idea that would be really good for Dunedin.

A great opportunity to add to both Dunedin's public transport infrastructure (particularly cycling) and a great tourist attraction

A map on your website would be useful

A superb infrastructure resource not presently being used. Remove the gates, install lighting, give it a clean and a new life, for walkers and cyclists

A tunnel in the dark is fun to go through, and people can always bring a torch if they want light! I have walked through the tunnel before and if I could I would cycle it for fun every now and then.

a very good idea, especially for commuters who are not too fussed on the hill.

absolutely must be opened up again and funding found to bring up to scratch for public use - at least for walking. Volunteer labour would help Rotary clubs could adopt it as a project for Dunedin -including volunteer labour. Need to know the cost of bringing it back to 'just open' so any additional things - eg lighting can then be considered. Ground can be just gravel, doesn't need boards

Although not living in Dunedin at the moment, when I was/am I would love this to be available. Creating a safe cycling network such as this is a fantastic opportunity. It also allows further development of the Rail Trail, which could increase tourism to the area.

Always great to have something different you can do. I recommend lighting for safety from taggers and the unsavoury elements likely to frequent it with no lighting.

Am eagerly looking forward to this venture being completed - what an asset!!!

An annual race could be run from Mosgiel to Dunedin through the tunnel

An opportunity to make Dunedin special ...!

Any idea of cost of getting tunnel to state where people can bike and walk through it (aside from lighting)?

as a one time Caversham person, it is a fantastic idea....

As a West Harbour resident the tunnel is too far for me to use on a regular basis but a good network of tracks for both commuting and recreational use would be a huge asset for Dunedin. The huge use the very short new path from the Leith to Ravensbourne gets gives some indication of the potential, which would only be increased with a more complete network. Our Victorian heritage is increasingly at risk and to retain and use this tunnel in as original condition as possible would be a marvellous thing.

As an ex-Cub Scout Leader, we took the opportunity (when open) to take our Scouts through the tunnel as an outdoor activity. We even cooked pikelets on little hobo stoves. This was a great experience for the kids and i think the tunnel should be made available for travelling through. It would be a waste not to use it as it is a very good travelling path between Kaikorai Valley and Caversham.

As it is here, it ought to be used. Seems a waste to have it unused.

As long as the surface is good, dark would be fine.

As Secretary of the Auckland Cycle Touring Association I can comment that the plans outlined on these pages would be most welcome by touring cyclists. It would definitely add to the OCRT experience. The ride through the tunnel in the Karangahake Gorge is always a popular one on our ride programme.

As someone who lives towards Brighton I would love to see the tunnel open to make the ride in (and home) easier!

Be a very safe way to ride to the Taieri, most of Cycling Otago races are out that way

being nose

Biggest concern I would have would be about security for those using the tunnel. I would suggest that the tunnel be off limits at night to limit violence, graffiti and damage and using cameras to deter loitering when the tunnel is open.

Brilliant idea. It's the big hill that stops me cycling to work

Congratulations on raising this as a possibility. Don't live close enough for it to be any use for regular getting about, but -together with the Chain Hills Tunnel- sounds like it could help encourage more people out of their cars. Lighting just seems like a necessity to make it feel safer, but structural safety may be an issue too. I'll follow the issue with interest

Considerations of timings for use would need to be made, ie after dark etc as well as some security considerations for the safety of users such as emergency telephones, cctv etc...

could be part of the tour circuit with a tunnel themed cafe at one end. T-shirts, photo opportunities,

Could be used as part of an annual MTB or running race, duathlon, etc.

Do it Dunedin, don't talk about it for 20 years like everything else gets done, just get it done. Anything to create more interest in Dunedin.

Does not need huge bright lighting. Preferably some sort of solar collected from the KV side?

Even if a small toll was put on it to pay for cleaning, sealing waterproofing and lighting. I still feel it would be extremely popular for commuting from outlying suburbs.

EXCELLENT PROJECT

Excellent recreation for everyone to enjoy. Something we could use and enjoy. It would be different as well.

Excellent!

Excellent, would love to walk through at some time

Fabulous idea. I use the rumatuka rail trail frequently.

Fantastic and safe way to get people more active

Fantastic idea - I hope it works. I do heaps of tramping and walking and always looking for somewhere different to walk.

Fantastic idea to get it reopened but it will be a major battle due to the pipes etc that have been put through there. I find it hard to believe that the council closed it not so long ago when with a bit of foresight it could be already in use. Possibly need cameras installed as well to stop it becoming a muggers haven?

Fantastic idea to open the tunnel. Being able to cycle under the hill rather than over it would encourage me to cycle to work rather than take my car. Especially with the price of fuel. Would even be happy to pay a small toll to assist with upkeep etc.

Fantastic idea, makes good practical use of some of our city's heritage.

Fantastic idea. In the day's of high oil prices, and the need to reduce the amount of pollution and traffic in the inner city this is a great way to encourage an alternative method of transportation.

fantastic opportunity for Dunedin people to get out and exercise and commute

Fits in with the Council's desire to encourage more walking / cycling. Would help preserve history and increase knowledge of the area's history, adds a novelty value to journeys via the tunnel.

Full lighting obviously for safety issues

Good for recreation, tourists, history, excellent for Green Island and Dunedin area a real must.

Good idea, save me cycling over Corstorphine

great adventure for kids

Great idea, I hope it goes ahead.

Great idea - Make Dunedin a forward thinking city and go ahead with projects like this

Great idea and unique

Great idea Dunedin needs to keep promoting and opening up old and new areas especially tourist related projects this is a growth industry

Great idea in an age where cycling and fitness importance are returning. This would provide a link out to the suburbs from the city without the hard hill climbs. Linking Abbotsford to Wingatui, Mosgiel would form a great round trip if you also included the old stone viaduct which connects the fields at the bottom end of Abbotsford with Flower St in Fairfield. Under the main trunk line. This also was until recently a common route used by locals and was put in for farm stock access. Doubt you would run into too much difficulty with the private dwelling at Wingatui

end of chain hills tunnel (which I was in recently), as looking at council web site looks like his section doesnt include the old permant way down magazine alley from the mouth. As this is listed as a road reserve since track was lifted.Good luck.

Great idea linking with rail trail

Great idea to link areas and encourage exercise

Great idea to make cycling (and walking) tracks safe and segregated from busy road which are sometimes too narrow for shared use.

Great idea to open and make these sort of resources available to the community.

Great idea to open it! Will be awesome for both cyclists and walkers.

Great idea to open this up. Completely agree that it is currently a wasted resource. Even with minimal lighting and a gravel surface it would be great to use. This would also be a large step in helping cycle safety around the city.

great idea to re-open the tunnel. The more cycle routes the better in Dunedin!

Great idea!

Great idea! Good luck.

Great Idea, Pity the drones at the DDC have no foresight.

Great idea, I used to play in the tunnel when I was a child. It would be another great asset for Dunedin. Go for it.

Great Idea, if you can spend millions on a professional rugby ground this should be easy.

Great idea, make it happen!

Great idea, would be a valuable asset for the city, given how popular the rest of the rail is.

Great idea,we need more off road cycle tracks.

great idea. i think it would be a big attraction.

Great idea. Would get huge amount of use as an environmentally friendly alternative transport option.

Great idea. Would make cycling around Dunedin a lot safer and it would make driving around Dunedin a lot less stressful for those people that don't ride bikes! Biking up Saddle Hill and South Road to get to Mosgiel can be quite tight at times, and often when there are cars coming both ways, there is not a lot of room for bikes. It would also be a great idea to restore part of Dunedin's rail history :)

Great idea.....

Great place to take the kids biking

Great to extend the cycle tracks in New Zealand which provide safe exercise in beautiful places.

Handicapped access? Separation of pedestrians and cyclists?

Have often thought of this & think it's a huge asset for the city. (3 people on this survey)

Having used tunnels in other places, I would not use it if it didn't have lighting. Bike lights are just not bright enough to give a sense of the surrounding walls in a really long tunnel, and I can't keep my balance in those circumstances. The shorter tunnel would be fine with no lighting.

How about a circular scenic path around Dunedin that can be cycled

I am in a running group who would use the tunnel on a regular basis, and it would be a big tourist drawcard for the cycle route to/from the south to be routed through there. It would be safer travelling and really novel compared with K V Rd. You would need vandal proof lighting in the tunnel for peoples safety, day and night, and possibly random patrols also, but I believe these are all positive things and this should go ahead. To not do anything would be a huge mistake.

I am not sure of the lighting as have never been in this tunnel but it sounds like a great safe route and in keeping with the council's push towards more cycling and walking for commuting and leisure.

I am president of St Kilda Community Club and we have a walking group that is always looking for new places to walk close to the city.

I believe it fits with the Council vision for the city. It is a "must have" for Dunedin.

I believe the city council should be trying to do more to encourage cycling and walking, and this tunnel gives an excellent opportunity to provide an easy access to the south of the city.

I believe there is a sewer pipe and a mains water pipe going down the middle of the tunnel. Is this a major obstacle for biking

I bike to work 2 - 4 times per week, all year round, to keep fit and to save petrol. I'd love the choice of going through the tunnel and not over the hill every day (I live at Green Island, work in an office in the Octagon). I would probably bike more often if the tunnel route was an option. I certainly would consider walking to town too, if the tunnel was open. The hills really slow you down, even if you are a fast walker! The tunnel would cut quite a bit off travel time. Currently it takes me 30 min G. I. - Octagon by bike, about .30 walking. What a difference the tunnel would make! Anything I can do to help further the tunnel opening project? Email me kath.bond@dia.govt.nz - community development funding advisor.

I currently live on the city side of the tunnel so would not use it for daily commuting. I did live on the other side for a number of years and rode the bike over the top - the tunnel would have been an excellent alternative, but in terms of access to the city and safety. If the tunnel were opened and I were to shift back to that side of the city I would certainly use it daily.

I guess it could be cleared up a bit.. but do take the silly padlocks off. I was going to take my kids thru with a torch one evening and its all locked up :/

i have 3 kids and think this would be a great for us as a family

I have experienced similar re-opening of dis-used rail tracks, e.g. in Aberdeen district, Scotland and they are used extensively both for commuting and recreation.

I have MTB'd through this tunnel to Burnside 2 - 3 times [and once with my then young children] before it was closed off / more accessible. Would use it for access to Green Island / Taieri / coast road regularly if opened up to the public.

I have walked once through this Tunnel: way back in 1992/3. This is an essential part of the

local Caversham History, and features in "The Edge of the Town" by Lois Galer, in 1978. If this is left to 'rust away', so to speak, we would be doing a grave disservice to local Archaeologists in years to come. As an old resident of Caversham, myself, I feel that the old Caversham Tunnel ought to be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

I just think it would be a fun experience to walk and cycle there, an experience that would appeal to tourists. OTOH, considering we've entered the bumpy path across the Hubbert Peak and will soon be going down the other side at an increasing rate, perhaps this tunnel will again be used for rail traffic. All the costs incurred in creating it have been paid off long ago so using it again would create no new costs for the city. It's all good:)

I love this idea, but do wonder about safety concerns - perhaps it should be closed at night, certainly lit. I grew up in St Leonards and still come home to visit with my now husband - I love finding things like this to show him. Good luck with the project and I look forward to seeing it on my next trip. :)

I remember going through the tunnel when I was a kid. I don't live in Dunedin now but would love to show my kids something from my childhood while on holiday

I remember walking through the tunnel as a kid. We loved it. Recently my husband and I went to take our 5 year old daughter through as an adventure, and we were gutted it had been blocked off. My family and I love cycling and have done the Central Otago Rail Trail many times, often taking groups of children with us. They love the darkness of the tunnels because its something different to every day life. To open up the tunnel to public use would be fantastic as we are always looking for an good flat(ish) ride to do around the city.

I strongly support more accessibility and travel safety for cyclists and walkers to help reduce the significant topographical and road safety barriers to active commuting. If lighting the tunnel was viewed by DCC or Transit as a barrier to access, then this modification could be forgone in the meantime (i.e., cyclists and pedestrians could use lights, as cyclists already do). Would be fantastic if it could be linked with cycle ways at both ends, allowing more active transport from & to South of the city.

I think developing the tunnel for walking and cycling is a great idea. I don't live locally so would only use it rarely for recreation but I look forward to the day when I can do so.

I think it has a novelty about it that makes it an attractive recreational proposition, taking the kids through with torches would be a fun activity. I think its historical significance would make great material for school activities and projects about early Dunedin. I think it would also be wise to consider restricting access to the tunnel to daylight hours.

I think it is a great idea to utilize an existing tunnel of early Dunedin.

I think it is such a wonderful idea and a great piece of history to have open to everyone, and i live in mosgiel and would definatley use it for cycling to work, beats paying these high petrol prices

i think it will be great for increasing the cycling population of dunedin, especially if a full loop can be established. giving beginners cycling routes that are easy, interesting and most importantly safe will bring a lot more people into the sport and they can acquire the bike handling skills that will keep them safe on the road.

I think it would be a great idea to open up the tunnel for use to promote cyclists and / or walkers to commute more safely without the hazards of traffic. It would also be an interesting thing to do as a recreational activity...nothing but good will come out of this!

I think it would be a wonderful idea to use these disused tunnels for recreation and travel. We are always heina told to exercise more and use vehicles less but aren't given the onnortunitv

to do this safely.

I think it would be great to re-open the Caversham tunnel as it used to be a good recreational trip for school children when I was growing up. It can be fun to go through it in the dark with torches but some lighting would be an advantage also.

I think it's a great idea - almost as valuable as the proposed Dunedin Port Chalmers cycle link, and much cheaper!

I think it's a great idea, it would tie in with the OCRT quite well :)

I think that this is a fantastic idea, and has the opportunity to add a unique and exciting flavour to the city. I truly hope that this can go ahead.

I think the idea of using the old tunnel for a walkway and cycle way is brilliant. Especially if the used in conjunction with the chain hills tunnel. Indeed, I feel an initiative like this would be of far more value to the city, both in providing amenities for its citizens and attracting visitors, than the proposed stadium. The Central Otago Rail Trail has proven the attraction that such facilities have to bring visitors to this area and just imagine the link this tunnel would provide to the Central Otago Rail Trail. Go for it Dunedin, don't lose this precious piece of heritage which could be put to such good use for the benefit of so many people. The DCC were prepared to spend enormous amounts of money to save some pieces of old timber, yet here is a project worthy of investment that wouldn't be just to look at but could be used for healthy pursuits. I truly believe it would improve the dynamics of the city tremendously.

I think the tunnel should have motion-activated lights. This would reduce the overall power consumption required, but provide a safer-feeling environment when there are people in the tunnel. An emergency phone should perhaps be provided in the area, or checks made that cellphone networks covered the area. Reopening the tunnel is a fantastic idea, and I will be telling everyone I know about this site.

I think this a great idea and a good possible tourist attraction. I hope you are successful in your endeavour.

I think this is a fantastic idea to increase cycling and running as a way of commuting and also to encourage exercise. Many people cite road safety as a barrier for them not cycling.

I think this is a good idea so parents can take their children on a bike ride where it would be safe as opposed to the road

I think this is a great idea. I would love to see it happen.

I think this tunnel would be a great recreational asset and also a great commuter opportunity for cyclists and pedestrians but I think it has a high potential for abuse, without suitable lighting and policing it could be a place for violence and bullying amongst some of the less "enlightened"

I think this tunnel, as the only non-rail connection between Kaikorai Valley and the City, has the potential to once again be a useful passage and a valuable piece of Dunedin's heritage.

I think this would be a great idea, thou it's a bit dangerous.

I used to bike through the disused, dark and at times damp but certainly atmospheric tunnel on weekend bike rides from St Clair to Brighton as a teenager in the 50s. While I indicated a preference for the tunnel to be lit, this was to attract a much bigger clientel. I would still use the tunnel if unlit but from what I remember in the 50s it was not light enough to attract the faint hearted - at that time the ground was not that even and it was quite dark with some dripping / dampness in some places so improvements would have to be made re tunnel path's

evenness, the odd damp areas and light wise, to attract the wider client base and faint hearted. With upgrading and signposting and a linking with a city bikeway I have no doubt at all that it would become very popular both with local runners and cyclists and also prove an attraction with tourists. All the best with your campaign. Pete Ruhen, Dunedin

I used to love walking through here with friends as a pre teen in the 70s when it was just an old tunnel. My dad worked beside it at what was Burnside engineering and my best friend lived beside it on the other side of the car sales. I also helped out cycling club run a triathlon that included a run through the tunnel in the early 80s = fun! My hope is that it would be used again and that it would be a good way for commuters and recreational users to experience another part of Dunedins great old buildings.

I used to walk through this tunnel as a child with friends (1970s). It would be great to be able to see it opened officially. I think the long term goal for this tunnel is great, I think it would be popular, especially with cyclists.

i used to walk thru this tunnel every week when i lived near by

I walked through this tunnel in 1982, at age 14, (rather muddy, good thing I had gummies and a torch!). But so often I have thought what a perfect idea it would be to have this tunnel drained, sealed and with some lighting. My mother and brothers live in Mosgiel and Green Island respectively, I simply can't be bothered 'cooking' going over the hill. I don't have a car since i travel overseas often. As a footnote, I travel around 5 days a week through the current Caversham tunnel, since I am loco crew for Taieri Gorge Railway! This is a city of heritage for heaven's sake, and as has been said, it's crazy this bit of history sits away from the limelight, and \$750 000 to utilise it is nothing compared to the costly stadium farce. They should get on with this, having already made a good start with the cycleway beside the railway north of the city.

I went through this tunnel when I was in primary school, have wanted to go through it again my whole life, would love to see it open to the public, its a waste if not!

I would actually prefer dim lighting as full lighting would somewhat ruin the character of the tunnel.

I would especially use this tunnel a lot if it was linked to the chain hills tunnel and allow commuting to Mosgiel by bike

I would hope that the tunnel would be suitable for pram or wheelchair access and free of pests/vermin if at all possible. I think this would be great for Dunedin, I have never been through it myself but am very intrigued by it.

I would imagine broken glass could be a problem for cyclists

I would love to have the tunnel opened again. I think everyone will walk the tunnel of Caversham

I would only use the tunnel if it was fully lit due to the personal safety of myself and family

I would use the Chain Hills tunnel for commuting. I don't mind biking over 3mile Hill but I can't do it every day. The chain hills tunnel would make biking to mosgiel every day a reality.

I would visit Dunedin more regularly if the cycling oportunites were there, and better advertised. Recreational cycling is big business and I believe that Dunedin has an opportunity to tap into this market and create something that could be marketed as an adjunct to the Otago Rail Trail. Some of us older blokes have rediscovered the joys of cycling that we enjoyed as boys, and have the funds to travel to seek recreation.

I would love to see the Caversham Tunnel open as a pedestrian cycle route with the Wingatui tunnel to follow. I have many times dived with death and cycled from Mosgiel to Dunedin to work. With the rising cost of petrol I'm more than confident that this route would be well used. Have you contacted that police to gain support, eg safer routes for cyclists high priority at present..

I'm amazed this is sitting there and not being used! This is a fantastic idea. I can't wait to see it happen.

I'm not sure about lighting - depends how long the tunnel is I think my kids would like some light

I'm sure there would be a veritable army of volunteers (including local business sponsors) prepared to do the bulk of the work on preparing this tunnel for cyclists and walkers to use. Given the global warming situation and the price of petrol, opening this tunnel up for walkers and cyclists should not only be a no-brainer it should be a priority initiative for the DCC!

I've chosen full lighting, but it should be subdued - just enough to avoid bumping into the sides. If this becomes a tourist attraction (and I see great possibilities for this), the Caversham shopping area could receive a much needed shot in the arm. A great idea for encouraging cycling and reducing motor traffic to/from Dunedin city. I strongly support the idea of linking tunnel use with the Taieri Gorge train and the Rail Trail. I used the tunnel often in the 1940s, in the dark, and was sorry about its closure.

I've wondered about this tunnel for years, would be much easier, my legs aren't what they were!!

Ideally it would be lit, but if budget is an issue then unlit is fine.

If it can't be drained then a gutter needs to be made

If it was connected with the Chain Hills tunnel I would use it more frequently as I live in Mosgiel

if lit - light from sides or floor. Possibility of cycleway from Railway station to Mosgiel

If the council and Transit can do it on the Port Highway why not out south? Both a walk and cycleway all the way to Wingatui could even be a tourist activity for the city (who needs the rail trail when it's in the city). But all good for community & recreation, all for it

If the council are committed to environment issues this would be a good project for them to support not hinder. Would be good for tourists and locals alike and would be quite a unique biking experience. I wholly support any moves to get this re-opened and useable for both cyclists and walkers.

If the DCC are serious about encouraging less use of motor vehicles then they should be strongly supporting alternatives such as this

If the DCC can spend \$14.5m to railroad us into a new stadium, it can afford a few hundred thousand to make the city more usable. This would really help! Maybe the rail trail should start at Port Chalmers!

If they can spend \$ 750k on preserving a few sticks of manuka under the Wall St development in the CBD because it has historical value then the same amount on this tunnel seems a far better option.

I'm a tutor at salvation army employment plus always looking for inexpensive things to do with our youth programme this would be a perfect outing. Would also use it with my own family. we

have done the tunnel at the manuka gorge it was exciting scary and a whole lot of fun

Instead of full lighting, perhaps sensor lighting for safety

it is a good idea to get this tunnel opened as i often walk from greenisland to caversham and with the motorway right there is isnt the safest place to be walking with children the tunnels would be so much better and i think you should add sum light as anytime can happen in dark tunnels/ alleys.

It is important to encourage a diversity of transport modes and to encourage cycling.

It is part of our history and should be shown off. things like this should be promoated not hidden away i would rather see money spent on this than a new stadium

It sounds like a great idea. I am very passionate about promoting cycling, but I can understand how it is slow to catch on given the difficulties/dangers associated with cycling on the road. Getting away from the dangers, noise and pushyness associated with cycling on the road by providing some cycle-and-walking-only areas would increase the likelihood of people taking up cycling. YEAH go the CYCLING REVOLUTION, WHOOP WHOOP!!!!

It was once said that the disused Central Otago Railway could not be used for recreation...Now look at it! How about a bit of vision DCC, take the lead, a succesful tunnel walk/ride would add to the already impressive Otago and Dunedin tourism mix.

It would be a brillian asset to have this opened to allow cycling thru the hill

It would be a great asset to Dunedin to have this cycleway active. Cycling is becoming more and more dangerous between Mosgiel and Dunedin due to heavier traffic flows. This cycleway would be a much safer option

It would be a great idea but there would need to be some serious money put into it. Maybe a toll both or some thing like that to pay for it.

It would be another great tourist pull to Dunedin. And we know how successful the rail trail is.

it would be fantastic in an ideal world but it may attract the attention of undesirables especially if unlit

It would be great if supporters of re-opening the tunnel point out how useful it would be as part of a larger, city-wide network.

It would be great to link up with lots of other biking around Dunedin

IT WOULD BE GREAT TO SEE SOME SPENDING OF THE PUBLIC PURSE IN THE SOUTHERN AREAS OF DUNEDIN. THE HEALTH BENEFITS WOULD FAR EXCEED THE COST OF ELECTRICITY TO LIGHT THE TUNNEL PER ANNUM. THEN AGAIN, BY THE SHAPE OF OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS I DON'T THINK MANY OF THEM WOULD ATTEMPT SUCH A WALK OR RIDE A BIKE THROUGH. NO CARBON FOOTPRINT BY THE USERS WOULD BE LEFT

It would be great to see this reopened. Who would have thought the rail trail would be such a success. We should use every opportunity to promote Dunedin that we can. Surely it would not be a biggy.

It would greatly improve the safety of cycling over to mosgiel! As a competitive cyclist-most racing is over that way, and dodging cars isn't all that fun, in particular the aggressive drivers who swerve TOWARDS cyclists!

It would have to be done un alot - stabilised and the around sealed. That mud is dangerous

and smells!

It would make me feel much safer, instead of having to cycle on the busy roads

It's a great potential asset. I've explored a fair way in from the Kaikorai end in the past. Would be great to see it more used.

It's a wonderful idea - good on you for attempting to re-open this tunnel for walkers/cycle use - we can only hope that the DCC will be fully receptive to the idea. I should like to point out, that the DCC's action of installing gates on the tunnel openings is the epitome of being mean - they only gated it off after Mr. Hyland brought the fact that the tunnel was being used, to the attention of the DCC - how petty is that? Never mind the fact that it has been open for about 70 years with no problems, the DCC then feel it is necessary to gate it off after someone hints that it is being used... Basically, they are upset that people might be using it for free passage, rather than use their much vaunted bus service. Anyhow... As for your question on lighting - this is a good idea, but the cost of installing the lighting could be expensive, so I can only hope you can make this work. First thing to do, would be to get the council to open the tunnel as a walkway/cycleway, but(not wishing to be negative or pessimistic) does not seem that likely, when they just went to the spontaneous expense of installing the gates... :(

It's very seldom you get the chance to walk or ride through a large tunnel like this. It's extremely short sighted of the DCC shut off access. For a relatively small amount of money the tunnel could be tidied up and form part of a very convenient commuting route. It could also become a popular tourist attraction in it's own right.

Its a part of our local heritage and we need to embrace it with all its beautiful history

Its an excellent idea and difficult to know why the possibilities hadn't been investigated before.

Just do it for Dunedin

Just do it, my applause for doing something about this I had been thinking it would be a great idea and admire you for getting some momentum going.

leave it dark bikes have good lights, this will reduce costs. There is only a bit at the end which needs works and drainage. Open it up, but keep it as cheap as you can , NO STADIUM!

leaving the tunnel dark would prevent damage from young ppl, my friends and i used the tunnel often when i was young as a quick route to KV, we always found it eerie no matter how often we went through it

Lighting - not a blaze of lights - enough to see outline of walls. Opening the tunnel would benefit all ages for recreational purposes.

Lighting essential and possible patrolling to discourage loitering and graffiti / tagging

Lighting for safety & to demotivate kids from attacking people.

Lighting in tunnel would need to be done, as a precaution for the unexpected - but this could be done at a later date. Love the thought that it would link up with the Wingatui. How do you keep out the undesirables?

Lighting sufficient for safety only. Sounds a great idea to open it up.

Lighting that gets trigger by motion sensors is the business. They have them in long tunnels in Luxemburg and Holland

Lighting would be fantastic but not essential

Lighting would have to be of a higher standard with apex and wall mounted strip helo lighting focussed to the floor.(the Karangahake tunnel in the Bay of Plenty has lights mounted at the apex of the roof but have little affect-only to give reassurance.) The old trackbed paved out with white painted guide lines would be a must.

Lockable after dark

Long oversdue. openig the tunnel would go a long way to putting some meat into the DCC promise to make Cycling a more attractive option for Dunedin citizens.

Looking forward to this being open

Love the idea of opening the tunnel - I live in Burnside and the idea of not riding up and over the lookout point hill sounds marvelous to me

make use of the tunnel for community purposes ie fun days, challenges - fund raisers, school excursions.

Making use of the tunnel, fully lighted, would make other parts of the city and surrounding areas more available. The possibility of connecting Chain Hills tunnel and Caversham tunnel sometime in the future sounds attractive.

May be some information stands about the tunnel rest stops drinking fountains (2 people on this survey)

maybe some lighting say every 50meters and the use of bike lights hand held torches.

Minimal lighting

Mountainbiking

My children love biking & we live on a hill so we travel to parks etc. A bike trail on our back door would be so good. Schools PushPlay incantive.

needs to be open it belongs to all of us

Not sure about the lighting - perhaps minimal lighting rather than full lighting. I think opening up the tunnel and the cycle/walkway is an excellent idea!!! Really looking forward to using it when I visit my home-town of Dunedin.

once/twice weekly if connection through Chain Hills tunnel was available, otherwise once/twice monthly

Open it up to encourage recreational activity, and provide a easy route for cyclists and walkers commuting into the central city.

Open it!!!!!!!!!!!!

OPEN it. If the council can pay millions of dollars on the heritage of another country (Chinese Gardens) they surely should be able to spend money on our heritage and none of this bullshit red tape just get it done for us the Dunedin community.

Perhaps some minimal lighting could be installed? Maybe there's existing wiring that could be adapted?

Perhaps something between full and partial lighting, maybe lower lights at ground level?

Perhaps the tunnel could be closed off during the night to save lighting costs and to avoid vandalism

Please lobby for car parking at each end - I note that the Ravensbourne walkway is mainly used for recreation by people who drive there for the purpose

Please open up the tunnel again. This would be great.

push bike riding if it had lights, walking with no lights

Quite willing to accept a rough finish - just like travelling on an MTB trail. Accept the danger and do it anyway.

Re-cycling the old Caversham tunnel for pedestrian and cycling use, is an excellent idea.

Security cameras for safety issues would also be a good idea.

Seems an ideal place to keep active transport modes and vehicles separate thus ensuring more safety for cyclists/walkers. Light would be needed to ensure less crashes, however it would be great to try for sustainable lighting - at least LEDs.

Some lighting would be needed for safety

Something that we can do with our kids that is free and educational

Sounds a great idea. I'm sure my 2 kids would think it was cool walking through the tunnel, aged 3 and 6

Sounds great, particularly if the following tunnel is also opened. I like the idea of being able to cycle to the Taieri without going over 3 mile hill and without too much traffic.

Sounds like a great idea, lighting would be good & make it safer, would need to link to other cycle ways etc which Dunedin needs more of.

suitable for to be used by wheelchairs

Support the idea of combining with the Central Otago Rail Trail. Also good idea for a day trip local rides.

The Green Island/ Kaikorai Valley area is very pedestrian unfriendly with enforced crossings across busy roads (Main South and Kaikorai Valley Roads) because of footpaths changing sides. The Kaikorai Valley Road bridge over the present railway is also very unsafe for pedestrians. The whole area needs to be upgraded, and the tunnel would be an idea way to encourage people to cycle or walk into town, avoiding the hill. Green Island would then be within easy walking and cycling distance of the city centre.

The infrastructure within the tunnel would need to be adequately protected (or the other side of the coin, people would need to be protected from the infrastructure). The tunnel would need adequate lighting and ventilation, as well as smooth permanent surfacing and efficient stormwater drainage, so as not to be a hazard. The proposal that users should use lights is definitely unacceptable, and the asset in that state would not be palatable to the majority of cyclists. I have doubts that a safe cycleway width could be provided, given the presence of utilities in the tunnel, which could render the tunnel impracticable for everyday use - more suited as a historical curiosity for tourists and ramblers, but not particularly usable as a commuter route. It would be difficult to justify funding a sub-standard (in terms of width/visibility/ventilation/disabled access) route, when the ex route over Lookout point is adequate and usable. Perhaps, given the pending upgrade of Caversham Valley Road, better walking and cycling facilities could be incorporated into that route?

the more cycle ways off the main road the better for dunedin cyclists

The problem that would be exacerbated if the tunnel was opened is that the Burnside underpass is one of the worst laid out pieces of roading in the city (possibly NZ). Please consider this when you are making plans.

The surface and drainage needs to be improved. Maybe play music with an interaction of the sound of a train approaching (tourist novelty). Place history boards with information.

The tunnel would need affective lighting and cameras for security and a phone for emergencies.

The tunnel would provide a great flat option to get from caversham to kaikorai, great for general commuting and recreation. Please put painted lines on it though so people know to keep left otherwise we will have lots of accidents like on the portsmouth drive walkway/ cycleway. So take extra time, to gain funding, community support and do it properly - full lighting, aesthetically pleasing, accessible, safe, and dogs must be on leads etc, so it is a nice place to commute through. If it is dark, smelly dingey, no one will use it because as they will feel unsafe.

The tunnel/s should never have been closed off, it should have instantly become a means of access for from one side to the other for the community, when the railway stopped using it

There should be boardwalk put down through it to provide a flat surface for bikes and walkers and if lighting is necessary put LED lighting at 10 metre intervals.

These are beautiful historic areas of our city that need to be preserved and maintained for everyone to experience, enjoy & be proud of....especially our children and generations to come. As we sit here filling out this survey, too much time is concentrated on materialistic things and anti-social equipment.....nature & it's beauty is being forgotten!!!!

They would have to get rid of the rats first.

This has been suggested many times before and there is no better time than the present with emphasis on adult and children's fitness. The coming oil crisis is just around the corner - why not combine all of this and improve the tunnel to make it safe for people to walk and cycle through. Would have loved it when our children were young!!! Getting a little older now I would find it very helpful to get through to Dunedin more easily. Let's go for it - probably more important than a stadium!!!!????

This is a beautiful piece of Dunedin History, with the popularity of the Rail Trail and the Taieri Gorge railway, it should be reopened. Where else could you go through like this?

This is a Dunedin city asset and should be enjoyed by all . Not wasted as a conduit for a small number of pipes.

This is a fantastic idea! I really want to ride my bike from Brighton to work, but the hill in the middle is a bit daunting.

This is a great idea that I believe it would be a great historical and recreational asset to the city. I would encourage the council to fully support this project.

This is a great idea- to eventually connect up with the larger network of rail trails across Otago. As a commuting cyclist, who enjoys cycling on the weekends and for holiday, this would allow greater access from and to Dunedin for cyclists all around.

This is a great opportunity. and a constructive way to make use of a part of Dunedin's history.

It will make cycling into and out of Dunedin a more attractive option. Hurry up and do it!

This is an awesome opportunity to extend cycle ways and promote cycling as a form of transport.

This is an excellent idea, it would encourage the children to be active and I would imagine it would be rather exciting to the children. There would definitely have to be some form of lighting put in for a successful outcome! Also video surveillance. Safety first!

This is one of the best ideas I've heard in a long time. It would be the perfect extension to the Central Otago Rail Trail.

This is such a great resource and if it is safe from rock fall then the Council would be exposed as hypocrites if it were not used for cyclists and pedestrians. It's value versus the probable cost to clean it up and sort access to the Kaikorai end is so high that it would be criminal to refuse it. Nice website by the way.

This is such a wonderful piece of history and an interesting and novel way to exercise, that should be utilised. I would also like to think it would in the future join with other cycle tracks around the city. Having previously lived in a large city with safe cycle tracks away from any traffic, I am certain that it and any other tracks would be well used by a very large age group. Possibly a community/ volunteer project to some extent?

This looks awesome!!!

This part of OUR the people of NZ heritage. It deserves preservation and access. Too much is left until it is late to save, or is hidden away so we never see it. I would love the opportunity to walk through this part of our history.

This tunnel could be a great resource for Dunedin - a tourist attraction (especially in conjunction with the proposed links to the Taieri train and the Rail Trail) but also a convenient commuting route. For 100 years people have been walking and riding over the hill to get to Kaikourai when they could have been using this tunnel! Now is the time to open the tunnel to the public! Wanganui's Durie Hill tunnel shows what can be done in the way of such a resource - it is light and airy (although not as large as this one) and a pleasure to use, and it is popular with commuters and tourists.

This tunnel must be preserved.

This would be a comparatively low cost way to improve Dunedin cycle/walk infrastructure. Put some heritage to good practical use DCC.

This would be a fantastic addition to the Dunedin cycling & walking tracks, & a great way to celebrate the amazing feats that the people who forged Dunedin achieved.

This would be a wonderful asset to the city and something that would be used and enjoyed for years to come.

This would be great !!! It would be a safe and exciting way to get out to do cycling training on the taieri.

This would encourage me to cycle to work in the middle of town more often and reduce my carbon footprint when I use the car or take the bus. Plus it is a real pity to think that this tunnel that took so many hours of hard manual work and is a great engineering achievement in its day is hidden away, lost and gone for ever if its not re-opened. I only hope that if re-opened it wouldn't become a hang-out for non-desirables who could put user at safety risk....maybe it needs opera music through a sound system to keep potential nasties away!!

This would encourage those who used private transport to look at this as an alternative. It would also act as a draw card for using the Rail Trail

This would provide a much safer cycle route in and out of the city to the south.

This, done right, is what tourists will flock to.

Though it wouldn't make much difference to me I believe it would be valuable to cyclists. not only recreational bike riders but also those who choose to commute by cycle. It would make their journey shorter and easier and would take them off the road where they and motor traffic do not mix safely. Whether it is lack of consideration by the former or the latter, the consequences of accidents are dire for both. Cyclists suffer physical harm, even death. Motorists face expensive legal action even if they weren't to blame, and feelings of horror and guilt at causing such terrible harm to another person. Where it is possible to separate them especially on hills where both have less control than on the flat roads this has to be good.

To have police depot one end or surveillance office

Tunnel would encourage more people to cycle into town and back as it removes hill obstacle which can be off-putting to some people.

Upgrade the Old Chain Hills section as well & I could bike to work in South Dunedin from Mosgiel.

use the resource that is already there

use unemployed,volunteers,periodic workers etc for the labouring type work with the more technical work possibly done by contractors in exchange for advertising along the trail

Used to use it all the time before it was locked off

Very cool idea, would create a fun ride for everyone!

We used to use the tunnel for a weekday walking group at KVHS

What a fantastic idea!

What a fantastic asset this would be for our city and a safe alternative to battling it out with the traffic. Currently it takes me about 50min to cycle from home to work, but without the hills this would be a much quicker and safe option for commuting. So much of Dunedin is very unfriendly to cyclists, restoring this tunnel for use would be a real show of commitment to the cyclists of Dunedin.

what a fantastic opportunity to create a commuting option between Mosgiel and Dunedin

What a fantastic piece of history. Hope it can be opened up for all to enjoy. Good luck :-)

What a great asset this would be to the city and would also attract others from outside the district to use it

What a great asset to Dunedin. Another eco friendly attraction that can be added to the local tourist market

What a great idea - would sure beat negotiating the Burnside intersection when cycling through from the Taieri

What a great ideal. A pity the council do not appear to have the foresight or imagination to utilise an existing icon as they do else where. Typical DCC I know what's best for you brigade.

Know wonder Dunedin is going backwards in a great rate of knots

What a wicked way to open up an alternative cycle route!

What an amazing thing to have hidden here. I grew up around the area and we used to play in and around the railway.

What Dunedin lacks is a safe place to take kids for bike rides - good luck with your project. (Added: my husband is a keen runner and thinks he would use it frequently).

While I applaud your Coast to Clyde ambition, I think you should hang on the coat tails of the West Harbour trail from the boat harbour to Port Chalmers and aim first for a Port (Chalmers) to Mosgiel cycleway. In Britain the tow paths of the old canals are now popular cycle and walking tracks for commuters, personal and dog exercisers. Use of such old amenities is the current thing to do. This tunnel is a vital part of a cycling facility which used to be used by many people in the 1950s. As a teenager I, along with friends used to cycle from Dalmore through the tunnel to Brighton and back in school holidays. Great fun.

WHY IS THIS HIDDEN AWAY UNUSED????!!

Wonderful idea should never have been closed off

Wonderful idea. I believe that the tunnel would be extremely well utilised as much and perhaps even more than the present Dunedin to Maia cycle - walkway. I have cycled in and around Chch and their Council seems to be more encouraging in developing cycle / walkways than ours at the moment. May need to add a security camera or two ??

Wonderful opportunity to provide a link with the Central Otago Rail Trail and out to the Taieri Plains

Wonderful tourist attraction.

Would be a good place to go for a family walk

Would be a real advantage for Dunedin - adding to &/or complementing the OCRT.

Would be great to add to any tourism assets and especially as cycling is on the up and up with fuel prices. Rail trails on any old railway land is a must while the chance is still there.

would like the council get behind this idea making a large area of dunedin almost flat is fantastic

Would love to see it open, what a wonderfuyl resource just sitting there and deteriorating. Let's use it!!

You can use a head torch the same as is needed on the rainltrail

You will need to be careful once opening the tunnel. Yes it is a fantastic idea but long tunnels pose a safety risk to all who use them. Long gone are the days of letting your children walk or cycle to school, it only takes one deviant to spoil a good thing. Lighting on a tunnel like this need to be vandal proof (if that is possible), it would be fantastic to leave it unlighted but the risks are too great for our community. Istead of caging the services that run through the tunnel, why not talk to the respective agancies and ask for them to be relocated underground. I know the cost would be enormous, but you could relocate the SH1 cycleway through here and approach the NZTA(the old Transit) for funding. this way you may be able to lock into the National funding, not just the local authority.

<personal details from survey responses removed>

12.

Finally, the [long term goal](#) is to link this tunnel with the Chain Hills tunnel to provide cycling from the centre of town through to Wingatui and the Taieri.

With 1 being " Strongly Agree" and 7 being "Strongly Disagree", do you think this is:

