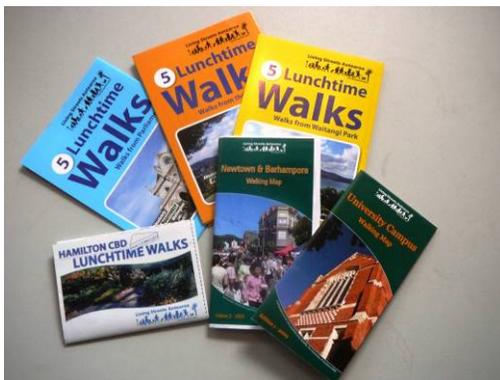


REPORT ON STRENGTHENING WALKING USER GROUPS NETWORK PROGRAMME 2008-9



Living Streets Aotearoa



www.livingstreets.org.nz



ANNUAL PROGRAMME REPORT TO NEW ZEALAND TRANSPORT AGENCY ON THE STRENGTHENING WALKING USER GROUPS NETWORK PROGRAMME 2008-9

Summary of Key Achievements

This has been a successful year for Living Streets, at both national and local levels. Living Streets has established its place as the key walking and pedestrian organisation, working co-operatively with government and other organisation. Key achievements include:

- Good relationship with Ministry of Transport and NZ Transport Agency staff, maintained through regular meetings
- Requested to comment on key national strategies including the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding and the 2020 Road Safety Strategy
- Ran the third NZ Walking conference, opened by the Minister of Transport, and attended by 170 walking practitioners and decision makers
- Organised the inaugural NZ Walking Awards, being presented in July
- Organised and supported the roll-out of Walk2Work to twelve centres around the country
- Administered the Walking and Cycling Microfund grants with double the number of applications
- Increased to twelve the number of local Walking User Groups participating in transport processes
- Instrumental in increasing the number of regional Active Transport Forums to four
- Supported and trained Walking User Groups to make effective written and oral submissions on active transport for Regional Land Transport Plans and Long Term Council Community Plans
- Built local support for walking through assisting Walking User groups to make strategic alliances with Councils and other organisations promoting walking, including Regional Public Health
- Developed a portfolio of Walking Maps to encourage people to walk for short journeys

Programme Objectives

The programme aims to strengthen the capacity of local Walking User Groups to take part in transport focused planning, and consists of two parts – improving the capacity of Living Streets to take part in national planning and programme development processes; and supporting the development of local

volunteer Walking User Groups to build local support for walking, take part in grassroots initiatives, and participate in local and regional planning processes.

Overview of Activities

Living Streets has raised the profile of walking as a contributing factor in the solution to the challenges facing New Zealand, including the global recession, climate change, fluctuating fuel prices, and increasing ill-health due to inactivity. More people walking is good for the economy, brings economic benefits to both individuals and businesses, and saves the government money in areas such as health.

Walking is a localised activity, so much of the work to make streets safe, pleasant and inviting needs to be done locally by people who know their community. Living Streets now has a network of twelve Walking User Groups around the country working in their areas to improve walking conditions and to get more people walking more often.

The 2008 NZ Walking conference, organised by Living Streets, was a valuable opportunity for the 170 walking practitioners and decision makers who attended to network and share ideas and best practice. The Minister of Transport opened the conference, and keynote speaker Dan Burden was well received. The feedback was very positive – see the results from participants' evaluations at <http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/pdf/conf2008/Survey.pdf> . The Ministry of Transport publication *Motivate Winter 08* carried an article and picture about the Walking conference.

Living Streets members are asked to speak at, and contribute to, seminars and conferences. This included the Director facilitating a workshop on "Changing Behaviour" at a two-day "Energy, Transport and Sustainability" symposium organised by the National Energy Research Institute and the Institute of Policy Studies at Victoria University, and Christchurch branch member Rhys Taylor speaking on alternatives to the car at an energy forum in Christchurch, hosted by the City Council.

We continue to support and assist with research on issues relating to walking. Living Streets has a representative on the NZTA 2009-10 Research Reference group. We were represented on the steering group for the Slow Zone research project carried out by Pinnacle Research, and assisted a researcher from the Otago Medical School develop a toolkit for the health sector encouraging them to be more involved in advocating for walking and cycling friendly environments to encourage active, healthy lifestyles.

Living Streets was one of about 16 key stakeholders who were specifically asked for submissions on the proposed changes to the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding. We also contributed to the discussion document which will go out for consultation on the 2020 Road Safety Strategy.

Living Streets and the Cycling Advocates' Network CAN have been working since late 2008 with the Hikurangi Foundation on the idea of a national cycling network. The Hikurangi Foundation was established in 2008 to stimulate practical solutions by New Zealanders to the challenges of climate

change and sustainability. Living Streets sees the opportunities a national network would bring for walkers, based on the UK experience, where Sustrans reported in 2007 that half of the 354 million trips on the National Cycling Network that year were on foot.

http://www.sustrans.org.uk/assets/files/rmu/route_monitoring_report_end%2007.pdf page 5.

When the idea of a national cycleway emerged from the Jobs Summit, we were part of a group who met to discuss the opportunities. We sent copies of the book about the UK Network "Millennium Miles" to the Ministers of Tourism, Infrastructure and Transport to illustrate the long-term economic benefits of a national network, which would be used around towns and cities by walkers as well as cyclists.

Through local Walking User Groups, Living Streets has been involved with two regional projects which aim to make the transport network more accessible to all modes, including walking and cycling. Walk Auckland was one of several groups in the Get Across campaign, which is advocating for a cycle/walk way across the Auckland Harbour Bridge. Get Across members met with the Transit Board and Government Ministers. Living Streets Wellington has been working in a coalition promoting the Great Harbour Way, and in particular, closing the gap between Petone and Wellington which at present is dangerous for cyclists and walkers. Coalition members met with the NZTA Wellington Regional Director and made a presentation to the Greater Wellington Regional Transport Committee. We see these as cornerstone projects for walking and cycling, of both practical and symbolic (awareness building) value.

We maintain our links with international walking organisations and professionals. Living Streets has helped to arrange and promote overseas speakers' itineraries such as Rodney Tolley's visit to South Island centres, and Dan Burden's visit to New Zealand for the walking conference and to run workshops in other centres.

We continue to promote the International Walking Charter www.livingstreets.org.nz/ICharter.htm. During the year the Wellington, Dunedin, Nelson and North Shore City Councils, and the Marlborough District Council have all signed the charter. The charter is a good tool for raising the awareness of walking among councillors and staff.

Two Living Streets Executive Council members were in Barcelona for the Walk21 International Walking conference, and brought their learnings back to share with colleagues in New Zealand. (See report http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/Walk21_Barcelona_2008.htm and articles in November 2008 Footprints http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/pdf/Footprints2008_11.pdf) Living Streets is a member of the International Federation of Pedestrians, and our representative attended their meeting held in Barcelona. Our handbook and a history of the development of Living Streets Aotearoa is on their website <http://www.pedestrians-int.org/main.php?id=15>

We supported International Car-Free day with walking activities and media releases. Living Streets groups around the country ran events or supported other organisations' events, including the "Get Across the Bridge" rally in Auckland which attracted 500 walkers and cyclists, Living Streets Wellington's walk home from work, Canterbury DHB's Walking Work Buses, and support for a visual demonstration of the comparative amount of space taken up by 50 cars, 50 cyclists, a bus with 50 people, and 50 people on foot.

We worked with the Travel Planner at Victoria University to develop and publish a map showing walking routes between the four campuses. This was promoted and handed out at student orientation, and we have since had a request from the Department of Conservation for copies. Our Five Lunchtime Walks brochure has been expanded into three brochures, each with five walks starting from different parts of the Wellington CBD. This was launched in June by the Associate Minister of Health Tariana Turia. The second edition of the Newtown Berhampore walking map has been printed. These maps will be used in a portfolio of examples of walking maps that Living Streets can in future assist councils and communities to produce to encourage walking.

We are also developing our ability to assist Councils to do community street reviews, as part of Network Accessibility Plans and other projects. We have a proposal with the Manukau City Council for a review in the Flat Bush area, and have discussed doing reviews with the Christchurch and Dunedin City Councils.

Living Streets has been investigating developing a consultancy arm to enable us to widen our funding base, returning net earnings back to the organisation. Walking Maps and Community Street Reviews will be two of the services we offer to Councils and others, to improve access and way-finding for walkers. These projects all require experienced walking advocates on the ground who know their area and can offer assistance and advice, so we will offer further training opportunities to our local groups.

We continue to work on the links between Urban Planning and walking, and attended an Urban Design Case Study Seminar looking at links between Urban Design and "Movement" (Transport issues). We are updating our Urban Design Action Plan as signatories of the Ministry for the Environment's Urban Design Protocol.

We continue to work closely with the Cycling Advocates' Network, and to share resources, information and expertise with them, including discussion of commercialisation opportunities involving both walking and cycling. We presented a short session about Living Streets at the *CAN Do*, their annual training event for Cycling User Groups. This was a very useful networking opportunity, and a chance to explore the similarities and differences between cycling and walking.

Report back on programme objectives

NATIONAL LEVEL

1a. Governance and organisational processes

Living Streets governance and organisational processes have continued to develop and improve.

- The Executive Council meets bi-monthly by telephone, with at least two face-to-face meetings during the year. There is a regularly updated Executive Manual, and an Executive Council Work Plan. Governance Policies are in place, and these are added to as required.
- The Living Streets Aotearoa AGM was held during the walking conference, with over 30 people attending. The constitution was amended, new membership fees accepted, and two new people were elected on to the Executive Council. The Annual Report and Financial Report were distributed.
- A Project Officer and an Auckland Networker joined the staff. A two day staff planning meeting was held which included induction for the new staff members. We have a Staff Handbook and an Office Procedures Manual, and all staff have annual performance reviews.
- We held a two-day planning meeting for staff and Executive to draw up the 2009-10 annual plan and budget. The initial session with Megan Beecroft from the Ministry of Transport was useful in providing the bigger picture of the current trends in transport planning and priorities. We reviewed our strategic direction, and had a training session run by Denise Church from the Leadership Development Centre, looking at how to keep the organisation strong and focussed.
- Staff Training is carried out on an "as needs" basis, and this year has included training in performance management, community engagement, employment law for community groups, and management and development of volunteers. Our Treasurer is currently doing the Unitec Diploma of Not-for-Profit Management.
- We now have a Memorandum of Understanding with CAN to share offices and equipment in Auckland as well as in Christchurch. This works very well to the mutual benefit of both organisations.

1b. Relationships with key professionals

We have developed and continued to maintain good relationships with key organisations and professionals.

- We have regular bi-monthly meetings with the Ministry of Transport to discuss active transport issues. These meetings provide an invaluable two-way channel for information and advice.

- We value our monthly meetings with NZTA staff. We have had several meetings with the Feet First co-ordinator, and contributed information for the Feet First parent booklet. We had a meeting with Geoff Dangerfield when he took up his position as CEO of NZTA.
- We have established relationships with several health NGOs, including the Mental Health Foundation, and are discussing doing joint campaigns with them to promote walking.
- We attended seminars organised by the Centre for Sustainable Cities at the Otago School of Medicine in Wellington, and have done presentations at a Wellbeing Day, for the Wellington Region HEHA group, and for Boffa Miscal Wellington staff on urban planning issues.
- Local Walking User Groups around the country have developed good working relationships with their local and Regional Councils, DHBs, Sports Trusts and other organisations.

1d. Volunteer development strategy

Living Streets has many volunteers at all levels including the Executive Council, Walking User Group members, and volunteers for events such as Walk2Work.

- The Volunteer Development Strategy has been drawn up from information collected from many sources, including training seminars. Implementation of the strategy has begun.

1e. Walking User Group handbook

The Handbook for new Walking User Groups has been revised. In addition, various resources have been prepared, put on the website and sent out to groups. These include:

- Tips on input for new or being-reviewed walking strategies
- Facts about Regional Transport Committees and community representatives
- Writing submissions on LTCCPs and RLTPs
- Hot tips for oral submissions
- Resources for running walk2work events and engaging with the community
- Information about the NZTA Funding round, and about engagement with council staff before they apply to NZTA for their transport programmes, to ensure they include walking projects.
- Running a Strategic Planning session

2a. Communications and media strategy

The Communications and Media Strategy was completed and is now being implemented.

- New promotional material is being designed using our key messages
- We now have all our contacts on CiviCRM, a client relationship management system. The new system enables us to keep better track of our contacts and members, and to target

groups for sending specific information using CiviMail. Local Walking User Groups will be trained to update contact information from their own area.

- We are now sending out a monthly E-bulletin using CiviMail.
- Our quarterly *Footprints* newsletter is put on the website and our contacts notified through the E-bulletin

2b. Walking Awards

The inaugural Walking Awards ceremony will be held in July, prior to the advocates training weekend.

- Information about the awards was circulated to all our networks, and is available on the website.
- Nominations will be assessed by a panel of judges at the end of June.
- The economic climate has not been conducive for finding sponsorship for the awards. We hope that once they become established, and the financial situation improves, we will be more successful with sponsorship in the future.

3a. Living Streets walking information

Upgrade of the Living Streets website is nearing completion, and will go live at the end of June.

- Walking resources from the WalkIT site have been transferred to the Living Streets website. They have been re-catalogued and will be more easily searchable using a more flexible system.
- Other Living Streets walking information is being catalogued on the new website using the same system
- Walking User Groups will be trained to update their own local information on the website
- The new website has a payments function for memberships and events making handling money easier.

3b. Funding for groups

- Information about the NZTA Funding round was developed and sent out to groups. It explained the funding and suggested that they talk to council staff before the council's application to NZTA for their transport programmes for 2009-12, to ensure they include walking projects. Staff supported some groups with these meetings.
- Groups were encouraged and supported to apply for funding from the Walking and Cycling Microfund for projects including walking maps and Walk2Work day activities.

4a. Getting There Strategy and Implementation Plan initiatives

Living Streets has been disappointed that there have been no meetings of the *Getting There* Advisory group since February 2008, although we did receive information in July 2008 about progress on the ten initiatives in the Implementation Plan.

Feedback from regions indicates that having the *Getting There* strategy has been good for the active transport sector. Having the strategy as a justification has encouraged more Councils to develop walking and cycling strategies. This in turn has given Council staff the leverage to put forward proposals for walking and cycling programmes and infrastructure.

We are uncertain as to the future of the Strategy, and would like to work closely with NZTA, MoT and other agencies on updating the Implementation Plan

4b. Walking and Cycling Microfund

The Walking and Cycling Microfund grants were distributed in November.

- There were 129 applications for funding, up from 55 last year. Of the projects approved 21 were for walking projects, 20 for cycling and 12 were for both.
- There were applications from 3 regions which didn't apply last year. Applications came from all regions except Gisborne and the Chatham islands.
- There was a greater variety of organisations applying, including mental health organisations, a church, sustainability advocates and a cycle group within a consultancy firm that grew into the popular 'Frocks on Bikes'.
- One project reported that because they were able to leverage off the fact that they had been supported by the Microfund, they received more than enough funding from other sources to run the project, and so returned the money.

4c. Walk2Work Day

We had planned to roll the event out this year to six or seven areas where there are active Walking User Groups operating. However, once word spread, there was a lot of interest, and in the end twelve events were organised around the country.

- Walking User Groups collaborated with other organisations to organise the event in their area, and this led to very useful networking, collaboration and relationship development.
- In some areas the council or DHB/Public Health took the lead in running the event.
- Living Streets employed a national co-ordinator to support the local organisers with resources and information, including templates for sponsorships, the registration form and posters, and advice on communication strategies.

- Prizes and promotional material were sent out to each participating event. External support for publicity included the Sustainable Living Education Trust.
- The events were well attended and reported in local media. Dunedin was featured on TV One Breakfast Show and the 6 o'clock news, and the Christchurch event was on CTV local television and TV One Breakfast Show.
- There was an article in the Listener about Walk2Work.
- The Minister of Transport spoke at the Wellington event, and in Dunedin special commuter trains were put on to bring people into the city to walk up to the Octagon and on to work.

The report and photos can be viewed at <http://www.livingstreets.org.nz/walk2work/index.html>

LOCAL LEVEL

5a. Waking user groups

Three new Walking User Groups have been set up in 2008-9 in Manukau, North Shore, and South Island West Coast. This adds to the eight Walking User Groups Living Streets was supporting at the end of June 2008 in Auckland, Hamilton, Taupo, Wellington, Canterbury, Dunedin, Nelson/Tasman and Marlborough. There is also a small group in Palmerston North.

In addition there are three areas where processes are in place to set up new groups – these are:

- **Waitakere** – contact has been made with key stakeholders and individuals, and interest has been expressed in setting up a group centred on the suburb of Ranui. A meeting is being held in June 2009 to set up the group.
- **Lower Hutt** – two meetings have been held with key stakeholders, and a public meeting to set up a group is being held in June 2009.
- **Queenstown Lakes District** – networking has been done, and a contact in the area has emailed everyone who put in submissions on the Queenstown Lakes District Council Walking and Cycling Strategy, to gauge interest in setting up a group. The contact organised a submission on the council's LTCCP.

There is regular contact with groups via email and phone and nearly all groups have been visited during the year.

A summary of local Walking User Group activities follows:

Group	established	Activities
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<p>Living Streets Dunedin</p> <p>The group meets regularly, and has established a good working relationship with the Dunedin City Council</p>	<p>Established 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Council staff to provide input into the consultation document for the Walking Strategy, and attended meetings with other stakeholders • Made submissions on Dunedin City Council and Otago regional Council's LTCCPs and the Otago RLTP. The oral presentation on the Dunedin CC LTCCP was covered by the media. The Otago Daily Times of 13th May 09 reported that the Council have voted to fast-track progress towards the completion of walking and cycling strategies for the city • Applied to DCC for funding under the Community Focused Activity Road Project for a Wise Winter Walking campaign as part of the 4 Seasons pedestrian safety campaign • Helped organise a Walk2Work day event. Trains were put on by Taieri Gorge railway into Dunedin from Mosgiel, Waitati and Port Chalmers – the first commuter trains since the early 80s. The group researched and advertised times from various points in the city to the Octagon. Walking maps were developed for distributing at the event. • Members attended a presentation by Rodney Tolley
<p>Living Streets Canterbury</p> <p>The group meets regularly, with Walk and Talk meetings in different suburbs over spring and summer, giving members the opportunity to assess the walkability of different areas. These meetings are supplemented with more formal meetings when issues such as submissions arise.</p>	<p>Established 2003</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met Christchurch City Council in November to present a wish list and discuss walking projects in relation to the RLTP (due for NZTA in November) and the pre draft Christchurch CC LTCCP • Wrote submissions on the Greater Christchurch Travel Demand Management Strategy, Canterbury RLTP, ECan and Christchurch City Council LTCCPs, and Selwyn District Council LTCCP, and presented oral submissions. • A Member was appointed as the Access and Mobility representative on the Regional Transport Committee. • Two members were appointed to the Active and Passenger Transport Working group of the RTC, and a third represents several NGOs on the Christchurch Area Committee of Ecan. • Member presented at an ECan meeting against cuts to active transport funding. This was reported in the Press and the member was quoted on Canterbury TV. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnm4UAMFp9Q • Members interviewed by Tamati Coffey for TV One Breakfast Show featuring sustainable travel modes • Assisted with planning for the "Sustainability Future:

		<p>Politicians' Perspectives" – a forum to give Christchurch politicians an opportunity to debate the issues in the lead up to the general election 2008. This was attended by 7 MPs/candidates, around 150 people, and included questions on walking policies and funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member attended a Healthy Community Workshop and presented the information gleaned to the 7th Canterbury Active Transport Forum • Member ran a practical session looking at walkability and accessibility for pedestrians who have an impairment for the Transportation postgraduate course at Canterbury University • Assisted with a Walk2Work day led by Community and Public Health, in collaboration with a strong team from the city and regional councils, and other health, environment and recreation groups. About 300 people attended the event in Cathedral Square, which got local radio and TV coverage. Currently applying for funding from council for next year's event. • Took part in Active Christchurch Walks celebrations • A member is involved with a working group on the relocation of the Diamond Harbour ferry in Lyttelton – the group provided direction to a Technical Working Group from ECan, CCC and Lyttelton Port • Involved with Project Lyttelton's Festival of Walking including freedom and guided walks over Easter 2009.
<p>Walk West Coast</p> <p>New group still in the process of consolidating</p>	<p>Established 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made submissions on the West Coast Regional Walking and Cycling strategy and the West Coast RLTP • Held a Walk2Work event as part of "Spring into Action" programme, arranged by HEHA and Health agencies. With no public transport on the Coast, and the distances people travel to work, the 70 people who took part, many taking the "Park and Walk 1.5km to work" option, was considered a successful outcome • Promoted Rodney Tolley's visit to the coast, and attended workshops for representatives from local authorities, health, business and others organisations held in the three districts, focussing on the central business areas and connections into them
<p>Walk Nelson/Tasman</p> <p>Group meeting regularly</p>	<p>Established 2007</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made submissions on Nelson City and Tasman District Council's LTCCPs • Member made a submission on the Tasman RLTP • Nelson City Council signed the International Walking

		<p>Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported NCC and TDC to produce maps of lanes and linkages in the urban areas • Raised concerns about walking infrastructure with the Nelson Tasman Total Mobility Committee which resulted in a meeting between the group and council to discuss the issues raised. This resulted in remedial work being done. • Made a presentation to the TDC Infrastructure committee resulting in members being invited to have input into the design of a new shared path • Assisted with Walk2Work day events in Nelson and Tasman, with media coverage in the Nelson Mail • Some members attended Rodney Tolley's walkshop • A member is on the Road Safety Nelson Bays group • Promoted walking at EcoFest • Member has been contracted by the Tasman District Council as an independently qualified person assessing footpaths, looking at vegetation, maintenance, pram crossings, and cars on footpaths. Also contracted by Nelson City Council to look at newly completed paths and maintenance needs on existing footpaths
<p>Bike Walk Marlborough</p> <p>Group covers both walking and cycling and has a co-ordinator paid for by the Council.</p>	<p>Supported by Living Streets from 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrote a submission on Marlborough District Council LTCCP and made an oral submission • Input into the review of the Marlborough Walking and Cycling strategy • Involved with development of the Bike Walk Blenheim map, completed with assistance from the Walking and Cycling Microfund • Input into initial stage of the rail corridor sealed bike/walk path between Blenheim and Spring Creek -completed connection between townships of Grovetown and Spring Creek and will extend south to Riverlands and Cloudy Bay Industrial Estates • Took part in the Rodney Tolley workshop on the Town Centre Strategy for Blenheim
<p>Living Streets Wellington</p> <p>The group meets regularly, often with speakers from</p>	<p>Established 1998</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made submissions on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Porirua CBD revitalisation – GW Regional Walking Plan – Wellington CC Annual Plan – Ngauranga to Airport Corridor

<p>Council on policies and plans being consulted on</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Centres Plan and Infill Policy for WCC - Safer Roads in Newtown/Berhampore - WCC Walking Strategy - Track recreation Policy - Changes to the Golden Mile which includes replacing Manners Mall with bus lanes - Proposal for Community Sports Centre - Adelaide Road framework - Public Space design Guide - Bus Lanes in Courtenay Place • Nominated community reps for RLT Committee – one member is the Environmental Sustainability representative on the RTC • Member of the Great Harbour Way coalition along with Rotary, Wellington Waterfront, Cycle Aware Wellington and others. The coalition held a public meeting, had discussions with NZTA and made a presentation to RLTC • Provided feedback to Opus consultants as part of an independent study on the impacts of Inner City By-pass on pedestrians • Celebrated car-free day with a walk home from work • Worked with Council on pedestrian signposts in Karori • Organised a Walk2work day event with other agencies, at Frank Kitts Park, with the Mayor and Minister of Transport as two of the speakers. Over 300 people attended. • Members and corporate volunteers from ANZ Bank took part in route checking for walking maps • Shared a stall with the Sustainability Trust at the 350 NZ Climate Action Festival, with a photo appearing in MfE's <i>Talk Sustainability</i> newsletter • Had a stall at the Newtown Festival promoting Living Streets and the Newtown Berhampore Walking Map • Have a representative on Council's Road Safety Reference group
<p>Living Streets Palmerston North</p> <p>Only one or two people actively involved at present</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ran a Workers' Walking Wednesday as part of Environment Month in April in conjunction with the City Council and Sport Manawatu. • Linked with neighbourhood support over 'Don't Tread on our Toes' notices to put on cars parked on footpaths • Instrumental in getting the Council to write to the

		Minister of Transport asking that the fines for parking on footpaths be raised
Walk Taupo	Established 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "5 Lunchtime walks" Brochure completed with the very generous help of Taupo District Council staff • Participated in workshops on Taupo District Council Walking and cycling Strategy.
Living Streets Hamilton Very active and effective group, meets regularly with occasional guest speakers	Established 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made submissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – on Hamilton City Council LTCCP, Annual Plan and Public Places By-Law and Policy changes – on Environment Waikato LTCCP and RLTP, and made oral submission. – to Environment Waikato about bus service upgrades – against a resource consent for a proposed shopping centre which would have adverse impacts on pedestrians in the vicinity – for retention of a tree proposed to be removed because it interferes with sight lines for the V8 track • have a quarterly liaison meeting with City Council staff to discuss walking issues • Developed and published 10,000 copies of the Hamilton CBD Walking Map which was launched in February, funded by Envirofund and the Walking and & Cycling Microfund. The map is in strong demand and featured in a Sport Waikato page of the Hamilton Press. • Supported the Council in encouraging businesses to put on a celebration for their staff who walked to work on Walk2Work day • Attended workshop on future of Hamilton East • Had an opinion piece on RMA reform published in Waikato Times
Walk Auckland Core group meet monthly Held their AGM in November and made changes to the Walk Auckland charter to enable registration with the Charities Commission.	Established 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a list of Top Seven Points to campaign on to improve walking in Auckland city • Made submission on the Auckland City 10 year plan and the Temporary Traffic Manual • Presented in the Public Forum at the ACC Transport Committee on their proposal to reduce walking and cycling projects • Worked on getting walkways included on the Council's Asset Register to secure future funding • Carried out audit of new footbridge in Panmure and sent

		<p>results to ACC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with ARTA about bus stops in Ponsonby Road • Supported action on the walk/cycleway over the Auckland harbour bridge – a “cornerstone” project” for the revival of walking and cycling in Auckland. Put in submissions, helped organise a rally under the bridge and assisted with presentations to the then Transit Board, MPs, and the Minister of Transport • Organised a Walk2work day event with around 300 people participating www.walkauckland.org/upload/w2w_post_event_09.pdf • Ran the third Red Light Runners campaign, which will build on statistics from the past two years • Member who is a City Councillor opened the new bush track from Grey Lynn Library to Commercial Road connecting tracks in bushy hillside next to North Western Motorway • Looked into the use of unused motorway ramp for walking and recreation purposes • Promoted the Western Bays walking maps through the Oxfam trailwalker • Promoted Living Streets and walking at the Grey Lynn Festival, NEXUS Sustainability Fundamentals Conference and “Your Mountain” day • Member did a presentation to the Auckland City Communities Living Injury Free forum
<p>Living Streets Manukau</p> <p>First meeting of group held in December 2009 with 24 people attending from a wide range of groups and interests</p>	<p>Established 2008</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article about the new group in the Aucklander 12th November • Connections with Healthy Cities Manukau, Otara Heritage trail and Te Araroa Walkway • Working on improvements to traffic signal phasing to make the walk between MIT campuses safer and more enjoyable for walking • Discussions with Counties Manukau Active about an active parks network and physical activity maps based around community hubs • Involved with the Health Impact Assessment of the new Manukau City Spatial Strategy looking at the walkability of the area • Made Submission on Manukau City Council LTCCP • Group applied for funding from MCC Road Safety Fund for a clean up project of some Otara parks to draw attention

		to their poor walking environment
Living Streets North Shore Inaugural meeting in November 2008	Established 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organised a Walk2work day event in collaboration with North Shore CC - over 200 registered and 109 attended a breakfast • Members took part in a signage and route audit of the Devenport-Takapuna walk/cycleway • Made submissions on the North Shore City Council Walking Strategy and the North Shore City LTCCP • Involved in the Sunnynook Network Accessibility Plan project

5b. Regional Walking Forums

The number of regional forums has increased from three to four, and others are in the pipeline.

- The Canterbury, Nelson/Tasman and Auckland Regional Forums continue to operate, with support and input from Living Streets.
- Living Streets provided information about the other regional forums to Greater Wellington Regional Council to assist them in setting up the Wellington Region Active Transport Forum which has met twice in 2009.
- Meetings have been held with stakeholders interested in setting up a Regional Forum in Otago – possibly in conjunction with Southland.
- Information has been sent to a contact in Waikato interested in setting up a forum there.
- A regional forum on the West Coast was promoted by Living Streets, and the West Coast Regional Walking and Cycling Strategy Action Plan includes establishing an Active Transport Forum in 2009-10.

5c. Training for local walking user groups

- Groups were asked what training would be of most use to them. Several groups wanted to attend the Fundamentals of Planning and Design for Walking course. We have arranged to run this workshop during the Advocates Training Weekend.
- A workshop on “Making submissions on the LTCCP” was run for the newly formed Manukau group. The North Shore group was also invited, and sent two members.

6a. Personal contact with local user groups

Covered in 5a

6b. Training Day for representatives from local Walking User Groups

We have expanded the Advocacy Training Day to a two-day weekend workshop, held at the same time as the Living Streets AGM in July. Tim Hughes and Glen Koorey have agreed to run a Fundamentals of Planning and Design for Walking course, on the Saturday. This will be followed by the Living Streets AGM. There will be other workshops and the opportunity for groups to share ideas on the Sunday.

6c. Information sharing

We now have all our contacts on CiviCRM, and are adding to these on an on-going basis. Groups for distributing information to targeted groups have been developed. Discussion Forums are being set up on the new website to enable information sharing among specific groups.

6d. Contributing to transport planning processes

Living Streets contributes to transport planning in a number of ways:

Submissions on policies and proposals nationally, regionally and locally.

- Most of the regional and local submissions are listed above in 5a. In addition, we made submissions on the Draft Auckland Regional Road Safety Plan 2008-12 and the Franklin District Council draft Walking and Cycling Strategy
- Living Streets made submissions nationally on:
 - Proposed changes to the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding 2009-18
 - Third Party Insurance
 - 2020 Road Safety Strategy pre draft

Representation on Committees, Working Groups, and at meetings to discuss transport issues

At all levels, Living Streets members are represented on committees such as Regional Transport Committees, Road Safety Committees, and are invited as walking representatives at other stakeholders meetings. Many of these are listed above in 5a

Conclusions

Living Streets has developed its credibility and reputation as the national organisation with information and expertise on walking from the perspective of people on foot.

We have put walking well and truly on the agenda nationally through:

- Meetings with key decision makers and agencies

- Making submissions
- Running the NZ Walking Conference
- Setting up the NZ Walking Awards
- Sharing information about walking through our E-bulletin and *Footprints* newsletter
- Media releases, interviews and articles about walking

We have developed our capacity in governance, organisational procedures and communications. This enables us to better support local Walking User Groups to participate in local transport planning.

We have set up additional Walking User Groups and trained and supported all our local groups. They have participated in transport planning in many ways, and locals communities are benefiting from the development of more walking-friendly environments.

Through Walk2Work and Car-Free Day events, Living Streets participation at local fairs, and the development of walking maps, more people are being encouraged to walk. More people walking is good for the economy, good for the environment and brings benefits to all transport users.

Living Streets appreciates the opportunity afforded by the Strengthening User Groups Network Programme to build the capacity of our organisation to participate in transport planning at a national level, and to develop and support local Walking User Groups to do the same regionally and locally. We believe this programme is making an important contribution to the Government's aims for an integrated transport system catering for all modes.

Our key activities in 2009-10 will be:

- Growing our networks to reach more organisations
- Up-skilling local groups to be even more effective
- Collaborating with other organisations to promote walking
- Holding the 4th NZ Walking conference
- Running Walk2Work as a national event with a workplace challenge