

Questions for Candidates

1. *Do you enjoy walking yourself?*
2. *How often do you walk for ten minutes or more?*
3. *What are your views about vehicles parking on footpaths?*
4. *Do Hamilton traffic lights give enough time for slower walkers?*
5. *Are our walkways and reserve paths well signed and in good condition?*
6. *Are enough school children walking to their local primary schools?*
7. *Does your suburb have a walking map and if not would you like to see one developed?*
8. *Do you think the council takes notice of people with limited mobility or vision?*
9. *Do you think walking can contribute to public health? If so, how?*
10. *Do you support speeds lower than 50kph in some places and if so, where?*
11. *Would you like to see more people walking or cycling to work or school on a regular basis, and what do you think might inhibit them from doing so?*

Living Streets Aotearoa, of which Living Streets Hamilton is a branch, believes that:

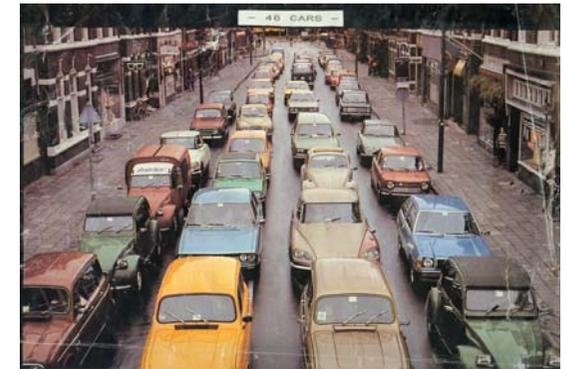
A good councillor is one who promotes and champions:

- *the importance of walking as the cheapest, healthiest, most environmentally-friendly mode of transport*
- *good land-use planning, so people live in neighbourhoods where they can walk to local facilities*
- *transport planning which enables people to travel by foot, by cycle and by integrated public transport safely and easily*
- *excellent urban design which makes our communities pleasant, safe and vibrant places to enjoy*
- *safe, walkable neighbourhoods which encourage people to walk, get to know their neighbours, make friends on the way to school or work, and stay healthy while they do it*
- *a clean environment, free from pollution caused by too many vehicles on the road*



A QUESTION FOR ALL HAMILTON CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES: WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON ACTIVE TRANSPORT?

This is how 52 people can make a street too dangerous to walk or cycle....



...Or make it a great place to walk or cycle!



**WHEN STREETS ARE FULL OF CARS,
PEOPLE THINK IT'S UNSAFE TO WALK OR
CYCLE, SO THEY TAKE THEIR CAR TOO!**

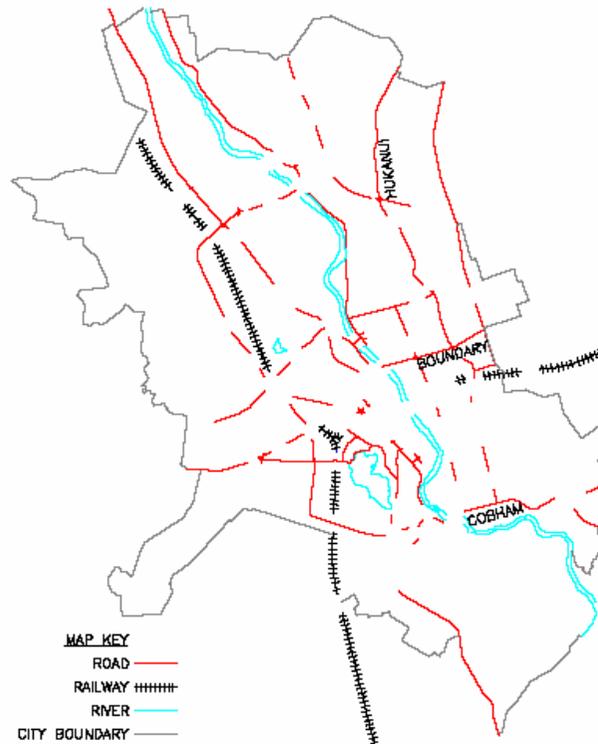
Active Transport (walking, cycling, skating – anything involving person power rather than engine power) is the way of the future to keep our cities clean and vibrant. We will always need public transport and access for the disabled, but lots more of us could get fit and enjoy our city under our own steam – if we can make it safe!

Research has shown that increasing the numbers of people walking and cycling improves the safety of cyclists and walkers- there really is safety in numbers!

- When cycling doubles, the risk per kilometre falls by 34% (**Australia**)
- Cycling in **London** has risen by 83% since 2000, and the number of cyclists killed or seriously injured in the same time has fallen by 28%
- In **Amsterdam**, cycling has gone up 20% in 20 years while the number of serious injuries has gone down by 35%
- In **Paris**, cycling has gone up 50% in ten years but the number of accidents hasn't increased.

Hamilton is flat and fairly compact – ideal walking and cycling territory. **Our council could help make Hamilton the Active Transport capital of New Zealand**

What are the barriers to cycling and walking in Hamilton?



The red lines on this Hamilton map show areas of road with no safe crossing point within 200 metres. They split the city up and make it hard to get from one area to another on foot or by cycle. Boundary Rd, Cobham Drive and Hukanui Rd are particularly difficult and have been highlighted. They keep people away from the Hamilton Gardens, the river, and the CBD. They can be made better!

Some nasty numbers:

14% of all road deaths in New Zealand are pedestrians or cyclists

35% of all deaths on urban roads in New Zealand are pedestrians and cyclists

2% of regional land transport expenditure is for walking and cycling

Walking and cycling are ways we can reduce our carbon loading, make our city more people-friendly, and in the process get Hamiltonians fit and more in contact with their neighbours.

We need commitment from our councillors to make this happen. Over the page we have some issues for you to consider, dealing with walking and cycling.

