

Feedback on Auckland Council Climate Action Targeted Rate

Support

Living Streets Aotearoa, the national walking and pedestrian advocacy organisation and Walk Auckland, representing our Auckland members, welcome this approach as beginning the journey to a carbon zero future.

We are pleased to see that \$84 million has been allocated to walking improvements, along with the funding for cycling infrastructure. We support the focus on safety and connectivity, and the priority given to walking improvements in Manurewa (Homai West, Manurewa South). It is important that these initiatives support equity outcomes.

However, given the scale of the climate emergency, the crucial importance of making sharp emissions reductions as soon as possible, and the ease with which walking improvements can be made, we submit that more investment in walking improvements can help bring transport emissions down faster, while also contributing to transport choice, equity and well-being, particularly in an environment where fuel prices are increasing. Public transport and good walking infrastructure are closely aligned.

We support the investment in more frequent public transport services so that more people live within 500m of a frequent service.

We support decarbonisation of the bus and ferry fleet.

We support the urban ngahere and food gardens plan in terms of climate action but also because they help build community and connect with nature and make walking a more pleasant experience. We also encourage Council to continue to advocate to central Government for better protection for mature trees on private land through the Resource Management Act or other planning instruments.

The CATR gives effect to Auckland Council's Climate Action Plan and must not be delayed.