



April 2023 eBulletin

Registrations are open for the 2023 Walking Summit! Join us in Ōtautahi/Christchurch on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 July 2023

[Registrations are now open](#) for the 2023 Aotearoa New Zealand Walking Summit! Ōtautahi/Christchurch is the place to be on Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 July, as we explore our theme of "Walking into the Future".

After a keynote speech from Hon. Michael Wood, MP, Minister of Transport, setting out his vision for the future of walking, we have two days full of presentations, panels, and workshops. Join us to find out about the latest developments with the National Walking Plan, how better walking provision can help reduce emissions and increase resilience in the face of extreme weather events, and what inclusive streets look like.

We've got an exciting range of pedestrian perspectives and technical presentations, with a particular focus on the possibilities, challenges and achievements of walking in Christchurch.

This Summit is for walking advocates, campaigners, officials, consultants, local body representatives and everyone who believes, as LSA does, that we want to see more people walking more often. There will be plenty of opportunities for networking and discussion.

We'd love you to join us in Christchurch for what will be the walking event in New Zealand in 2023. But if you can't join in person, there is a virtual membership attendance option.

[Register now!](#)

Please contact WalkingSummit@livingstreets.org.nz if you have any questions.

2023

Walking Summit

24-25 JULY
Christchurch Ōtautahi

WALKING INTO THE FUTURE

Living Streets Aotearoa
www.livingstreets.org.nz

Oversize vehicles are a menace to pedestrians. What's the best response?

With all the damage SUVs cause, should they be banned altogether? That was the provocative question a journalist asked us recently for an article she's writing on this topic.

LSA isn't calling for an outright ban, because we can see some legitimate uses. But we are calling for their importation & use to be restricted. The continued growth in the size and weight of vehicles represents a threat to pedestrians, to our environment, and to other users of our streets in at least four ways:

1. Bigger and heavier internal combustion engine vehicles use more fuel and therefore produce both more greenhouse gas emissions, and more particulate emissions that are harmful to other street users. Even building and powering electric SUVs is very wasteful of resources.
2. Taller vehicles make it harder for drivers to see pedestrians (especially children), while heavier vehicles do more damage to pedestrians and cyclists on impact than lighter vehicles travelling at the same speed.
3. Having wider vehicles in lanes makes street space reallocation towards walking and cycling more difficult, disincentivising these more climate-friendly activities.
4. The prospect of having to contend with larger, heavier vehicles when crossing streets and driveways puts people off walking. In particular, it puts parents off allowing their children to walk to school.

We think the maximum size and weight of SUVs that can be imported into the country should be capped, and their use restricted in urban areas.

What's your view about SUVs and other oversize vehicles - ban, regulate, or open slather? Let me know at President@livingstreets.org.nz

- Tim Jones

Wellington News: Jane's Walk is coming up on Saturday 6 May

Sat, 6 May 2023: 2:00pm to 4:00pm, Wellington

Contact person: Ellen Blake, Wellington@livingstreets.org.nz



Join Wellington Branch for a walk following in the (imagined) footsteps of Jane Jacobs, one of the early urbanists who fought (and won) to maintain her 1960's New York neighbourhood from motorway development. Jane worked on the principle that citizens know what works in their neighbourhoods best and supported community based development from the bottom up. She appreciated that cities grow organically and can be a bit messy. Jane believed that cities were made great by their diversity, and having buildings with different purposes encourages lively activity throughout the day among neighbours. Jane's Walks are held annually in May around the world, to mark Jane Jacobs' birthday.

Our walk will go around some of the recent developments in Kilbirnie and, led by citizen enthusiasts, will discuss how well this development serves the needs of the people that live here. You will share your views as we walk at a leisurely pace around this accessible route.

Previous Wellington Jane's Walks looked at the urban motorway development around The Terrace. This is our first Jane's Walk away from the central city, in a place similar to where most people live. Previous participants always remark that

looking at the urban landscape in a different and focused way really adds a new dimension to the neighbourhood.

We will start at the Zephyrometer on Cobham Drive - take the number 2 bus to Kilbirnie Crescent/ Hamilton Road and walk for 5 minutes.

This can be an exposed walk so please dress accordingly.

RSVP to Wellington@livingstreets.org.nz

ABOUT LIVING STREETS AOTEAROA

Living Streets Aotearoa is the national organization promoting walking-friendly communities. You can find out more about us at www.livingstreets.org.nz.

We send these occasional e-bulletins to keep you informed because we understand you have an interest in walking. You can also opt out of this and ALL future emails from us: [Please don't mail me again](#)

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