



Living Streets Aotearoa

Welcome to the September 2023 eBulletin from Living Streets Aotearoa

*This is a summary of events and stories of us striving to **get more people walking** and enjoying public spaces be they young or old, fast or slow, whether walking, sitting, commuting, shopping, between appointments, or out on the streets for exercise, exploration, for leisure or for pleasure.*

In this issue:

- Speed management plans: Submit now!
- E-scooter decision: Profit pushes pedestrians aside
- General election: Climate Shift, policy asks and scorecards
- Call for Presenters for 2WALKandCYCLE Conference 2024 - deadline 6 October
- 2023 Walking Summit: More great videos and presentations now available

Speed management plans - submit now!

Speed kills, and in particular, speed kills pedestrians. Reducing urban road speeds from 50 to 30 km/h hugely improves pedestrian survival rates in accidents.

So please submit in favour of your local Council's speed management plans, and to make them stronger! Some consultations currently open:

[Christchurch](#) (great explanatory graphics!)

[Kaikoura](#) (PDF)

[Palmerston North](#)

[Timaru](#)

Please let us know about others!

E-scooter decision: Profit pushes pedestrians aside

Living Streets Aotearoa is disgusted that a public agency has put the interests of private companies ahead of the public interest. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency has approved the renewal of the E-scooters (Declaration not to be motor vehicles) Gazette Notice [for a further 5 years](#) exactly as it has been since 2018.

We wonder why Waka Kotahi (NZTA) bothered to consult when it has apparently ignored:

- the reality that e-scooters ridden and dumped on footpaths discourage people from walking because so many e-scooters are ridden and parked inconsiderately and contrary to the rules
- the large numbers of people who opposed the renewal
- the growing evidence that e-scooters generally increase the carbon emissions from land transport systems (because they displace walking, riding and public transport journeys much more than they replace car journeys)
- the whopping ACC cost of injury accidents involving e-scooters, to which the companies seeking profit from hiring out e-scooters pay nothing
- the special obligation it has as a Government Agency to consider the interests of disabled people, including the added challenge that e-scooters pose for blind and mobility-impaired people
- the inability or unwillingness of local authorities to control e-scooter user behaviour.

Living Streets Aotearoa provided a range of possible ways that e-scooters users and pedestrians could each be provided for, but NZTA has dismissed those ideas.

The only glimmer of hope is Waka Kotahi's commitment to improve, over the coming 12 months, the regulations concerning the use of e-scooters. We hope this isn't just another empty promise intended to assuage the insult its decision gives to pedestrians.

General election: Climate Shift, policy asks and scorecards

The General Election is fast approaching. Living Streets Aotearoa is not recommending how its members and supporters should vote - instead, we encourage you to read the various parties' transport and climate policies before deciding - but here are some factors you may want to consider:

Living Streets Aotearoa is a member of the Climate Shift coalition ([you can sign up for Climate Shift here](#)). In particular, we support Point 3: "Transition towards high-density, low emissions communities by making public transport fares free and prioritising investment in walking, cycling, and accessible public transport infrastructure over road spending."

LSA is strongly opposed to [National's plans to reverse road speed limit reductions](#) brought in under the current Government, given the crucial difference speed makes to the survival chances of pedestrians who are hit. If you change the speed limit from 30km/h to 50km/h, you quadruple the chance of death to pedestrians. That risk is even higher for children and elderly people.

Under the current Prime Minister, Labour have notably scaled back their commitment to transport mode shift - away from private cars and towards walking, cycling and public transport. However, they do remain committed to some level of mode shift.

No party has a policy on e-scooters that we agree with because all parties that had a policy seem enamoured by them, saying that they increase choice for how people can get around. This ignores the fact giving able-bodied people more choice takes choice away from many other people, especially those who are dependent on footpaths to get about and participate in society. The only

bright spot is that there are some candidates who understand the issue and some have said that, if elected, they will work to make things right.

Party transport and/or climate policies:

- ACT: <https://www.act.org.nz/toll-roads>; <https://www.act.org.nz/climate>
- Greens: https://www.greens.org.nz/transport_2023; https://www.greens.org.nz/climate_emissions_reduction_2023, https://www.greens.org.nz/climate_resilience_adaptation_2023, https://www.greens.org.nz/climate_communities,
- Labour: on transport: https://www.labour.org.nz/news-upgrading_our_transport_for_the_future; on climate: https://www.labour.org.nz/release_labour_releases_new_zealand_s_first_climate_manifesto and https://assets.nationbuilder.com/nzlabour/pages/21157/attachments/original/1695601487/Manifesto_Climate_web.pdf?1695601487
- Maōri Party: we couldn't find a transport policy; on climate: https://www.maoriparty.org.nz/climate_change
- National: on transport: https://assets.nationbuilder.com/nationalparty/pages/18131/attachments/original/1690759286/Transport_for_the_Future.pdf?1690759286; we couldn't find a climate policy, but related: <https://www.national.org.nz/electrifynz>
- NZ First: https://www.nzfirst.nz/2023_policies
- TOP: climate and transport policy: <https://www.top.org.nz/climate-opportunities>

Please think carefully about the implications for walking and the climate before voting.

Call for Presenters for 2WALKandCYCLE Conference 2024 - deadline 6 October

The [2WalkandCycle Conference](#) is being held in Wellington on 18-19 March 2024, with the theme "People Power: The path to low carbon transport".

To be truly a walking and cycling conference, it needs to have a strong representation of papers that focus on walking. The [Call for Presenters](#) is now open - please submit an abstract on a walking-related topic!

2023 Walking Summit: More great videos and presentations now available



We've now posted a number of Walking Summit presentations, including video presentations, on our website, with more still to come. They're well worth a look - to whet your appetite, first take a look at the Summit highlights video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hqmY9_D4BI

Videos not included in the August eBulletin are marked ***

Keynote address, Monday 23 July

John Minto, [Community connections through walking](#) (video, 28:51)

Individual presentations

Monday 23 July

The National Walking Plan

Alan Meharry and Nick Potter, [The National Walking Plan](#) (PDF, 2.1MB)

Alan Meharry is Principal Advisor, Urban Mobility Team, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency

Nick Potter is Principal Advisor, Placemaking and Urban Development Team, Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport

The Climate for Walking

*****Danny Eyre**, [Walking and a thriving, climate-resilient and low emissions Aotearoa](#) (video, 16:09)

Danny Eyre, Principal Analyst in the Climate Change Commission's Transport and Urban Systems team

*****Charlotte McKay**, [Local Government's role in placemaking in a changing climate](#) (video, 9:05)

Charlotte McKay is Senior Policy and Advocacy Advisor, Local Government New Zealand

Hon Dr Duncan Webb, [A Government Minister and Christchurch MP perspective](#) (video, 9:23)

Hon Dr Duncan Webb is Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Minister for State Owned Enterprises, and MP Christchurch Central since 2017

Walking and Public Transport

*****Holly Smith**, [Walking & Public Transport: The First & Final Leg](#) (video, 13:20)

Holly Smith is a Transport Planner, Service Network Development Team, Auckland Transport

Sarah Thorne, [Navigating Boundaries: Creating an Inclusive and Safe Public Transportation Network in Christchurch](#) (video, 11:19)

Sarah Thorne is Principal Advisor Public Transport Infrastructure, Christchurch City Council

*****Gerry Dance and Patricia Vasconcelos**, [Walking and Bus Stops](#) (PDF, 3.5MB)

Gerry Dance is Team Leader Multi-modal, Programme & Standards, Transport Services, Waka Kotahi
Patrícia Vasconcelos is Principal Multi-modal Advisor, Programme and Standards, Transport Services, Waka Kotahi

Walking to School

*****Duane Burt**, [Young people and walking to school – lessons from Melbourne](#) (PDF, 4.3MB) plus

Victoria Walks, [Change to Walking 2017-18](#) (video, 3:03)

Duane Burt is Principal Policy Advisor, Victoria Walks

*****Ashley Beaton and George Booty**, [Walking School Buses in Christchurch](#) (PDF, 2MB)

Ashley Beaton and George Booty are Community Travel Advisors, Christchurch City Council - contact SchoolTravel@ccc.govt.nz

*****Grace Stapleton**, [How Active Transport to School can be encouraged in New Subdivisions](#) (video, 16:06)

Grace Stapleton is in the Land Development Team, Abley

Tuesday 24 July

City Design for the 21st Century

Cr Sara Templeton, [Walking the Talk - Rebuilding a City with People at its Heart](#) (PDF, 18.3MB)

Cr Sara Templeton holds the Climate Change Portfolio on Christchurch City Council

Nicki Williams, [Walking While Female](#) (video, 19:01)

Nicki Williams is in the Otago Population Health Department

The Walking Future for Ōtautahi Christchurch

Dr Colin Meurk ONZM, [First Urban Great Walk of Aotearoa – a Model for Your City](#) (video, 12:32)

Dr Colin Meurk developed the Christchurch360Trail, which won an LSA Golden Foot Award in 2009

*****Jacqui Miller and Helen Miles**, [Lessons from the Christchurch Walking Festival](#) (video, 13:41)

Jacqui Miller and Helen Miles are Community Recreation Advisors, Christchurch City Council

*****Sarah McKay and Maria Smolar**, [From safer streets to healthy streets: a pilot project of the Healthy Streets framework in South Brighton](#) (PDF, 5.6MB)

Sarah McKay is a Community Worker, "Common Ground", Sustain South Brighton

Maria Smolar is Lead System Innovator, Healthy Families

What Do Inclusive Streets Look Like?

*****Professor Shanthi Ameratunga**, [Lessons Learned from a Community-Based Participatory Research Project in Tāmaki Makaurau](#) (video, 15:38) plus [presentation](#) (PDF, 2.2MB)

Professor Shanthi Ameratunga is in the School of Population Health, University of Auckland

*****Professor Simon Kingham**, [The potential for walkable street spaces to enhance wellbeing](#) (video, 9:47)

Professor Simon Kingham is in the School of Earth and Environment, University of Canterbury

*****Rolly Rowland**, [Raising the Golden Foot Award for Wairarapa – Raised Pedestrian Crossings on State Highway 2](#) (video, 17:37)

David (Rolly) Rowland is Southern Area Programme Manager for Road to Zero, Waka Kotahi

Jeanette Ward, [Planning and designing with a gender lens](#) (video, 10:05)

Jeanette Ward is Technical Director, Abley

*****Emily Ward and Nick Reid**, [Age-friendly design: Bursting with Stride!](#) (video, 14:09)

Emily Ward, University of Canterbury / Te Manatū Waka (Ministry of Transport)

Nick Reid, University of Canterbury / Via Strada

How Do We Achieve Pedestrian Improvements?

*****Gerry Dance and Patricia Vasconcelos**, [Overview of the Pedestrian Network Guidance](#) (PDF, 3.5MB)

Gerry Dance is Team Leader Multi-modal, Programme & Standards, Transport Services, Waka Kotahi
Patrícia Vasconcelos is Principal Multi-modal Advisor, Programme and Standards, Transport Services, Waka Kotahi

*****John Lieswyn**, [We can quantify the economic impact of investing in roads for drivers - why not pedestrians?](#) (PDF, 6.2MB)

John Lieswyn is Director and Principal Transportation Planner, Via Strada

Walking into the Future - Pedestrian Perspectives

*****Panel discussion**, [Walking into the Future - Pedestrian Perspectives](#) (video, 51:03)

Panel at the 2023 Walking Summit, with speakers Carina Duke, Carl Lintott, Ed Hill, Ingrid Robertson, and Judi Whittingham

[Living Streets Aotearoa's YouTube channel](#) is a great place to find Walking Summit and other videos - please check it out, subscribe, and like the videos.

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](#)

Living Streets Aotearoa
PO Box 1579
Whangarei, NTL 0140
New Zealand

