

Submission from Living Streets Aotearoa to Auckland Transport on Safer Speed Limits Bylaw 2019

Contact person:	Andy Smith / Gay Richards
Email:	andy.smith@livingstreets.org.nz
Phone:	021 474740
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Submission

Living Streets Aotearoa thanks Auckland Transport and Auckland Council for this opportunity to submit on the Safer Speed Limits Bylaw 2019.

Living Streets supports the safer speeds proposed in the bylaw which is a significant and effective way to improve road safety over the whole network, and in particular to make our streets more pleasant places to walk.

Living Streets supports the plan to prioritise lower speeds in approximately 10% of Auckland's local roads. We encourage Auckland Transport to extend the lower speed designations to local roads in all town centres across Auckland as soon as possible so that all areas of Auckland can benefit from this bylaw.

Slower safer speeds give drivers more time to react, they allow great opportunity for pedestrians to cross roads and a provide a quieter environment. This is showing leadership in transport.

Good pedestrian infrastructure, slower speeds, encouraged by good urban design, make towns and cities safer and more attractive and encourage visitors and residents alike to linger, enjoy and spend. Walking is people's favourite active leisure activity so better connected suburbs and parks, footpaths and reserves will be popular with residents.

We would like to be heard in support of our submission.

About Living Streets

Living Streets Aotearoa is New Zealand's national walking and pedestrian organisation, providing a positive voice for people on foot and working to promote walking friendly planning and

development around the country. Our vision is "More people choosing to walk more often and enjoying public places".

The objectives of Living Streets Aotearoa are:

- to promote walking as a healthy, environmentally-friendly and universal means of transport and recreation
- to promote the social and economic benefits of pedestrian-friendly communities
- to work for improved access and conditions for walkers, pedestrians and runners including walking surfaces, traffic flows, speed and safety
- to advocate for greater representation of pedestrian concerns in national, regional and urban land use and transport planning.

For more information, please see: <u>www.livingstreets.org.nz</u>