

Living Streets Aotearoa



www.livingstreets.org.nz

Submission to Transport Select Committee on Land Transport (Road Safety) Amendment Bill

Contact person: **Ellen Blake**
Email: wellington@livingstreets.org.nz
Phone: **021 106 7139**
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Living Streets Aotearoa support the intent of this Bill to reduce unsafe behaviour on New Zealand's roads by increasing the speed and severity of enforcement. We particularly support the electronic service of notice, and the provision for automated issuing of certain infringement notices.

One particular aspect for pedestrian safety is to ensure that footpaths remain clear for pedestrian use. Vehicles parked on footpaths significantly reduce pedestrian safety as it forces pedestrians to use the road to continue their journey, a particular problem for children and those people using mobility aids or who have vision impairment.

The problem of parking on footpaths is increasing throughout the country and we have hundreds of photos sent to us by members of the public who have been affected by it.

We support the Bill providing for automated enforcement of moving vehicle offences based on camera evidence of an offence having been committed. Living Streets would like to see two additional provisions:

1. that this provision for automated enforcement is extended to include stationary vehicle offences because of the danger they cause to other road users, and
2. that photos of vehicles parked on footpaths (with metadata turned on that show time, date and GPS location), provided by members of the public to Road Controlling Authorities, to be taken as sufficient evidence of an offence having been committed and for a parking warden to issue an infringement notice.

We would anticipate this would significantly increase compliance with Land Transport (Road User) Rule 2004 Clause 6.14(1)

6.14 Parking on footpaths or cycle paths

- (1) A driver or person in charge of a vehicle must not stop, stand, or park the vehicle on a footpath or on a cycle path.

It would be a practical way to increase the ability of parking wardens to monitor compliance within their areas of jurisdiction and help keep children and others safe.

We would like to be heard in support of this 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 www.livingstreets.org.nz.