

Living Streets Aotearoa



Submission from Living Streets Wellington

On Creating quality parks and reserves: Newlands, Paparangi, Grenada Village and Woodridge

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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 LSA 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 e.g. 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.

Living Streets Wellington is the local group based in the Wellington region which is working to make city and suburban centres in the region more walking-friendly.

For more information, please see: www.livingstreets.org.nz

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Living Streets Wellington supports the principles that appear to have been applied in looking at these parks, notably the needs to:

- ensure that there are adequate green spaces and informal recreational facilities near all residences in the suburbs, so that parents and their children can easily walk to these areas
- ensure that play areas can be accessed by a parent with a pram or pushchair
- have clear signposting of parks, so residents know that the spaces are public land
- ensure that parks feel safe, by providing visibility from surrounding areas
- provide for a range of uses of the parks, including children's play areas and "kick around" spaces
- provide enhanced walkway connections between parts of the suburb and between green spaces

In relation to signposting of walking routes, we recommend that there should be a map in addition to information about what road is reached by a walkway. This will assist people who may not know the names of the streets in another part of the suburb, particularly where the walkway exits in a small no-exit street.

Living Streets Wellington supports the proposals, and encourages the council to implement the improvements as soon as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to make our comments.

We would be happy to present an oral submission if there is the opportunity to do so.