

# Living Streets Aotearoa



## On-line submission from Living Streets Wellington

### To Wellington City Council

### On speed limits in Aro Street and Thorndon Road

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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](http://www.livingstreets.org.nz)

## **Submission**

Living Streets Wellington fully supports 30 km/h speed limits in shopping areas in general, and in Aro St/Tinakori Rd in particular. We agree with the reasoning contained in the supporting documentation.

We note that lowered traffic speeds will greatly enhance public safety, both by increasing the ability for pedestrians to judge when crossing a street is safe, and also reducing the risk of mortality or serious injury in the event of a crash.

We also note that reduced traffic speeds will make these shopping centres more attractive for pedestrians. That will increase the likelihood that people will choose to walk (rather than taking a car), and the likelihood that people will choose to use local shopping areas rather than travel to malls or the CBD.

We would encourage the Council to also look at other measures to make these shopping centres pedestrian-friendly. That might include greater use of kerb extensions, improved location of pedestrian crossings, re-location of carparking, widening footpaths, and adjustments to traffic light settings to reduce the time between pedestrian cycles. In Aro St, we suggest that the 30 km/h zone is extended to the east to include the area up to Aro Park.

We look forward to the introduction of 30 km/h speed limits in other shopping areas.