

# Living Streets Aotearoa



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## Submission on Traffic Resolution TR 27-17 Wallace Street pedestrian crossing and bus stop

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Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on this Traffic Resolution.

Living Streets Aotearoa supports making roads safer for pedestrians to cross. We support an improvement at this pedestrian crossing to make it safer to use provided it has a high level of service for pedestrians.

Mt Cook has a strong pedestrian culture with the majority of workers, 45%, choosing to walk to work (Wellington City community profile). This is 30% more than any other mode of transport for Mt Cook residents.

Wallace Street must be crossed by all school children walking from the west side, as well as the large number of young people attending the University. Clearly local residents should be able to easily, safely and pleasantly cross their road.

We strongly recommend that a maximum wait time for pedestrians is agreed prior to approving this traffic resolution. Currently pedestrians determine when it is safe for themselves to proceed on the crossing. Drivers are required to stop if a pedestrian is at the crossing. Traffic signals will change that priority.

The New Zealand Pedestrian Planning and Design Guide 2007 sets out the service levels of wait times at crossings and the Guidelines have been adopted by Wellington City Council. The Guidelines recommend that the maximum time to wait should not exceed 30 seconds (section 15-13) and the green walking symbol should be displayed as soon as practicable after the beg button has been pressed. A responsive signal encourages compliant use. Some signals in Wellington have a good level of service with often only a 5 second delay for a green cross signal – these crossings have high use and compliance by pedestrians.

Another method to make this crossing safer is to slow the vehicle traffic down. There is very good evidence that slower speeds make roads safer for all users.

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