



## **Welcome to the May 2018 eBulletin of Living Streets Aotearoa.**

### **Government Policy Statement (GPS) on Transport.**

The government has published its draft Transport GPS which is a significant and positive change of direction for walking and safety in general. We're delighted that the GPS has picked up on our recommendation that national funding support local footpath maintenance to the same level as local road maintenance. There's also support for lower speeds. The government has also adopted Vision Zero which we also advocated for. SkyPath, a shared path across the Auckland Harbour Bridge, is in the GPS and will be built toll-free. We have been a backer of this since 2007. The government also wants to increase the use of public transport and realises that walking is the glue that connects passengers.

However, we all need to support the draft becoming reality. We have submitted on the GPS and encourage you to do so as well. Your last chance to submit is the 2<sup>nd</sup> May. [gpsonlandtransportfunding](http://gpsonlandtransportfunding)

In the GPS draft is point 2 of our 4-point plan i.e.

*Footpath maintenance is funded by our rates through local government and relies on each council to prioritise for this. Government dedicated funding (via FAR) to walking and pedestrian infrastructure will see the standard of footpaths improve and maintenance occur.*

Now we have to convince the Councils (Road Controlling Authorities) to spend on maintenance. Living Streets Aotearoa has written to all 78 Councils generally advocating for walking to school, investment in walking and lower speeds. We've made a strong link with public transport and good walking environment and have followed up with more detailed submissions.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will be held in Palmerston North on Sunday July 29 at 2pm in the theatre of Square Edge community arts centre. Support walking by joining the Exec committee! If you can't attend, you can Skype in by giving us your Skype handle [by email](#)

Let us know if you'd like to participate in a street audit of the main walking route between the PN railway station and the Square. It would be great practice for running a Community Street Review in your own area and will run from 12:30 to 1:30 before the AGM.

## Golden Foot Walking Awards 2018 ceremony in Parliament's Grand Hall.

Have you got a walk project in mind? The Golden Foot Walking Awards celebrate and recognise New Zealand achievements for walkers by acknowledging innovative new facilities, highlighting national best practice and rewarding ongoing commitment to walking. Nominations **close on 25 May**. The awards are being presented by Ministers Genter and Twyford in the Grand Hall of Parliament on June 26. The awards are supported by Opus. See the [nomination form details here](#).

If you are not yet a member of Living Streets [please join here](#). [Walking needs you!](#)

## Snippets of interest.

Cars are ruining our cities "The cars push out frolicking kids, quiet afternoons reading on a bench and sidewalk cafes. So we give up our public space, our neighbor-to-neighbor conversations and ultimately our personal mobility." [The New York Times](#)

Cycling and walking [are short-changed when it comes to transport funding in Australia](#)

Walk like a Wellingtonian: [How the capital sets a sustainable transport lead](#)

"Cycle paths should never be created at the expense of pedestrians," she said. "Shared paths and cycle routes through parks where space is taken from people when it is already in low supply is the wrong answer."

Children who walk or cycle to school [rather than being driven by their parents have an increased power of concentration, and the effect of this 'exercise' lasts all morning.](#)

Modifying environments to make it [easier for people to walk or bike is a strategy that not only helps increase physical activity, but can make our communities better places to live...](#)

Victoria Street Transformation

# PEDESTRIANS



this way



Absolutely Positively  
**Wellington City Council**  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke