



Welcome to the May 2024 e-Bulletin from Living Streets Aotearoa

We want more people walking and enjoying public spaces be they young or old, fast or slow, whether walking, sitting, commuting, shopping, between appointments, or out on the streets for exercise, for leisure or for pleasure.

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Calling all pedestrian advocates – nominations are open for the Golden Foot Walking Awards 2024



Did you know that previous winners of our Golden Foot Walking Awards have come from all walks of life? (Pun intended!). The awards are a fabulous opportunity to recognise a person, organisation or business who has made a difference to walking in their local area.

You might know someone or a project that fits this description. If so, we need you to tell us about them!

Our biennial Golden Foot Walking Awards celebrate innovative walking projects, facilities and initiatives, and the people who created them. They highlight best practice and reward ongoing commitment to walking for all ages and abilities.



Details on how to nominate are on our website:

<https://www.livingstreets.org.nz/goldenfoot>. It's easy to submit a nomination. We are here to provide help if you need it.

Nominations close on Monday 17 June 2024.

Photo: A project about raised pedestrian crossings in Carterton, Wairarapa, won a Golden Foot Walking Award in 2022.

Who walked away with a Golden Foot in previous years?

We are delighted to showcase some past winners of our Golden Foot Walking Awards.

Previous winners have included school projects, walking advocate champions, walking events and public spaces that support safe walking. Plus many more!

The awards have been running since 2009 so this is a very small selection of the many winners. We'll feature more in the next e-Bulletin.

Some past award winners:



- [Wairarapa's raised pedestrian crossings - a 2022 winner](#)
- [Age Concern Wellington, Walking Companion Service - a 2022 winner](#)
- [Meadowbank School walking bus competition - a 2022 winner](#)
- [The Great Perimeter Walkway - a 2009 winner](#) (This was the original name of the now [Christchurch 360 Trail](#)).

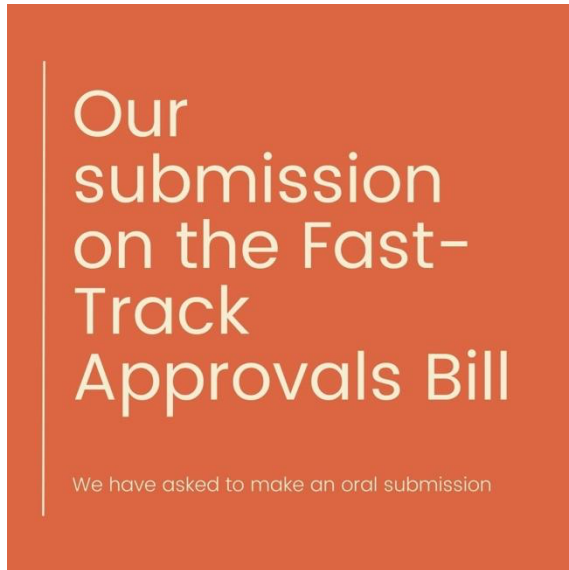
Photo: Grace with her walking companion Muriel from Age Concern Wellington's Walking Companion Service.

Submission by Living Streets Aotearoa on the Fast-Track Approvals Bill

It's been a busy year so far with Living Streets Aotearoa making submissions on proposed government activities which would adversely affect pedestrians and walking.

Here is our [submission on the Fast-Track Approvals Bill](#). We have asked to make an oral submission as well.

In summary, we have submitted that the Bill is deeply flawed and should be withdrawn:



- The Bill is unnecessary.
- It undermines fundamental constitutional provisions and is deeply undemocratic.
- The process of listing projects to be included in the Bill, and the decision-making process for fast-tracked projects, are also flawed and undemocratic.
- The Bill is likely to lead to environmentally and economically unjustified projects going ahead, causing a loss of social licence.

Our efforts aren't letting up. Well done to everyone else who has also taken the time to share their views.

Jane's Walk in central Wellington



Our early May walk in central Wellington took a new look at familiar parts of our city and explored old and new issues and development.

This was our fourth walk in memory of urbanist Jane Jacobs. It is a citizen-led walking conversation and is an international annual event. [Read more.](#)

Photo: Jane's Walk participants at the end of the walk in Courtenay Place, Wellington.

Where do you like walking?

We would love to see a photo of your favourite footpath, or pedestrian plaza, or nice walking space. What do you like about it? Please share it with us.



To get the ball rolling, Ellen Blake from Living Streets Wellington tells us about her favourite footpath...

“My favourite footpath is near where I live. It is a welcome friend and I know exactly how long it will take me to reach home and a cuppa (or the loo).

“I know which is the best side to walk along depending on the weather and the time of day.

“There are many memories for me in my neighbourhood, like where the large tree used to be before it was chopped down (too expensive to

maintain), or wondering how my neighbours are getting along.

“And did I mention people? There is always someone out walking on my street.”

It's submission time for local government long-term plans



Check out our recent [blog on local government Long-Term Plans](#).

Now is the time to be submitting for footpath maintenance and renewals budget, for funding for street trees, signs, seats and shelter, and for safer speeds on streets. Our blog has some very helpful information on how to make a submission to your council.

How to get involved in Road Safety Week, 20-26 May 2024



Living Streets Aotearoa supports [Road Safety Week](#), an annual week coordinated in New Zealand by Brake Aotearoa New Zealand.

This year, it's taking place from 20-26 May, and you or your organisation can sign up to get involved.

The theme of this year's Road Safety Week is Road Safety Heroes. Everyone can be a Road Safety Hero. Road Safety Week 2024 recognises everyone who is working to make our roads safer and support people following crashes - from emergency services to health professionals, transport engineers to school crossing patrols, road workers to community campaigners.

Brake emphasises the importance of safer speeds on our roads. Reducing vehicle speeds sharply reduces pedestrian deaths and serious injuries, so we are pleased that Brake is speaking up for safe and healthy journeys. Here is what they say -

“Safe journeys happen when we design our road transport network so that human error doesn't result in death or serious injury. This approach of safety by design is known as the Safe System approach and the great news is that the solutions are known and available to us now! From safety technology in vehicles, to speed limits that reflect the safety of the roads, we can all learn about, shout about and celebrate these proven solutions.

“Healthy journeys are important to help keep us healthy, fit and happy. We need to make sure that choosing to walk or cycle doesn't put us at increased risk and that the air we breathe on our journeys is clean. We know the solutions here too – we need to prioritise safe spaces for travel on foot and by bike and ensure that the vehicles that remain on our roads use ultra-low emission technology.”

The more people get behind Road Safety Week, the more community support we can build for making pedestrian safety a key priority of the transport system. Get involved - [Sign up for a Road Safety Week Action Pack](#).

Ways to connect with Living Streets Aotearoa



ABOUT LIVING STREETS AOTEAROA

Living Streets Aotearoa is the national organisation promoting walking-friendly communities. You can find out more about us at www.livingstreets.org.nz.

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