

Living Streets Aotearoa



www.livingstreets.org.nz

Submission to Hutt Council on the proposed change to the District Plan that will allow for higher and denser housing across Lower Hutt



Introduction

- There are pressing housing needs
- There are benefits of compact walkable urban forms close to public transport and key amenities and services
- Ensure people friendly, walkable streets and routes as integral to the development
- We want pedestrians of all ages and abilities to enjoy using public places and footpaths with easy-to-cross streets.

Key submission messages

- Higher and denser building includes requirements to provide walking and recreational spaces for people of all ages and ability.
- Higher intensity housing must maintain the comfort and safety of footpaths for the people using them; particularly for children and people with disabilities.
- Create more comfortable and safe routes to other destinations such as schools, shops, bus stops and railway stations, in place alongside the denser housing developments.
- High density housing areas required to include high quality public spaces with great lighting, surfaces, seats, shelter, shade, wayfinding and access to green space.

Our recommendations

- **Street design**
 - Design to make it easy to walk as a first choice, footpath priority at driveways
 - Traffic calming to reduce driving speeds
 - Minimise on and off street car parking (with spaces for bike, disability and car-share parking)
 - Widen footpaths to provide comfort and seating, shade and greenery
- **Public accessways and space**
 - Around higher residential buildings and across high density residential housing blocks
 - Inviting public spaces with community meeting places and children's play areas.
 - Lighting, greenery, artwork, seating, shade
- **Connected pedestrian network**
 - Walking routes link to a wider pedestrian network
 - Ease of access to neighbourhood destinations; schools, shops, public transport facilities
 - Wayfinding and signage
 - Pedestrian crossings ensure right of way to people on foot and on mobility devices