

Let's Get Wellington Moving: People-friendly City Streets projects

Letter to local residents & businesses – John Street in Newtown via Wallace and Taranaki Streets

Tēnā koutou property owners, residents and businesses

We'd like to introduce ourselves, our work and hear your thoughts

We are just getting underway with planning work in your area and as a part of that, we're keen to hear about how you use the streets around you and get your feedback on some of our ideas. Firstly though, we thought it might be useful for you to know a little about who we are and what we're trying to achieve for Wellingtonians.

Let's Get Wellington Moving is a programme focused on improving key transport connections across the city and suburbs, as well as how people move around, do business and enjoy time out in the central city. With Wellington's population continuing to grow, this work is vital to help start moving more people with fewer vehicles – enabling people to safely and reliably choose walking, cycling or public transport for more trips.

The work we are doing is a joint initiative, in partnership with mana whenua, Wellington City Council, Greater Wellington Regional Council and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, to enable both nearer and longer-term benefits for Wellingtonians, across our city and region.

We worked with Wellingtonians to understand their aspirations for the city and that has helped provide direction and shape the projects we focus on. Some of our projects have already been completed, some start construction in the coming year and others in the next five to ten years – our plan is to steadily make improvements to transform how Wellingtonians live, work and travel in the region.

'People-friendly City Streets' – John Street, Wallace Street, Taranaki Street to the waterfront

The work we're getting started on in your area is part of a project called 'People-friendly City Streets'. It is about improving how people walk, bus, and use their bike or car in three high-traffic routes that connect busy suburbs with the city. It covers the roads into and out of the city from Miramar, Mount Cook, Featherston Street and Te Aro.

A key part of our early work is to understand how people who live, work or own property in the area use specific routes, with a particular focus on how you walk, cycle, drive or use the bus. We've also developed some early ideas to make intersections safer for pedestrians, roads safer for those on bikes, and to make it easier for buses to access bus stops and passengers to get on and off. Local context is an important consideration in the development of designs for each of the three high-traffic routes we are working on.

For your reference, a map of the route we're working on in your area and things we've been thinking about are detailed over the page.

How can you have your say?

Over the coming weeks until May 23rd, we'd like to invite you to attend local sessions or online hui, to gather your input and share our ideas. We're keen to talk with you about the work that's been done to date, provide the opportunity to ask questions of the experts involved and to discuss the work that lies ahead. We'd really like to see you there. We are also running online surveys to capture how you currently use the route and get your feedback on our ideas.

You can find detail of the local and online sessions, the proposed work and access to the survey by scanning the QR code below or going to the Let's Get Wellington Moving website - www.lgwm.nz/home/have-your-say. Alternatively, you can email us at citystreets@lgwm.nz or phone 0800 110 130.

What happens next?

We gather the feedback from Wellingtonians, document it and share it with you, so you can see what we've heard and how others experience the walking and transport routes in your area. We make it available on our website or we can send it to you by email if you choose to subscribe online.

We make the information we've gathered available to the teams working on designs to improve how people walk, bus and use their car or bike through the high-traffic route in your area. It's a key part of the considerations they make in developing the design and we plan to share those with you next year, ahead of construction starting.

We know that where your community and the walking, biking, bus and car routes through it are important to you – they play a key part in how you experience living and working in Wellington. We hope you take the opportunity to have your say on the work we're doing to improve it.

Ngā mihi nui

City Streets Project Team

Let's Get Wellington Moving

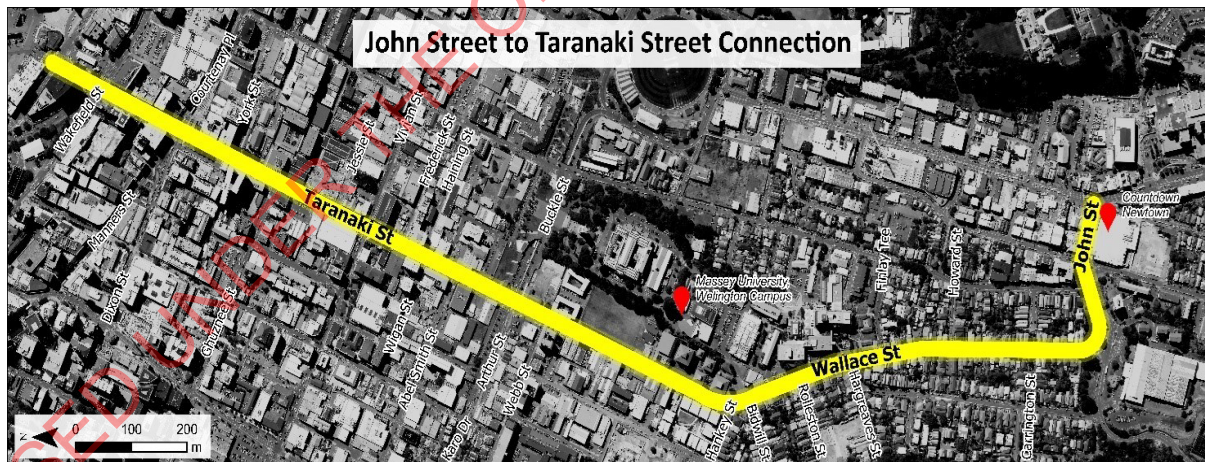
<insert QR code>

www.lgwm.nz/home/have-your-say

citystreets@lgwm.nz

0800 110 130

John Street, Wallace Street and Taranaki Street to the waterfront - our early ideas for the area



About the route

Our work covers the 2.3-kilometre route that runs from John Street in Newtown, along Wallace Street, and down Taranaki Street to the waterfront. The work we are planning will tie in with changes planned for the Golden Mile, the Greater Wellington Regional Council and Wellington City Council public transport and cycling projects, and in the longer term, the introduction of Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) to Wellington.

This is a key transport route into Wellington's central city, carrying large numbers of people riding bikes, or travelling in buses and cars. It provides a key connection for people travelling between the southern suburbs and the city, as well as for people travelling from Massey University and Wellington High School.

The high-frequency Number 3 bus uses this route to take people from Lyall Bay to the Wellington train station. Over 20,000 vehicles travel the route between the Countdown supermarket at the intersection of John Street and Adelaide Road to the waterfront each day, along with a large number of residents who commute to the city by walking.

Bus, cycling, and pedestrian improvements

So much traffic in this narrow space makes it feel unsafe for people walking and riding bikes – particularly at peak times – so we're exploring ways to make it easier and safer for people to walk, cycle, and use public transport on this route.

As a key bus route, we have some ideas about how to make it easier for buses to access bus stops and safer for passengers to get on and off. This work will also consider how best to manage more buses travelling this route as part of the longer-term work on the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) project for the city.

To improve the safety of those on bikes, we're exploring creating cycle lanes that link to the wider Paneke Poneke Bike Network being developed by Wellington City Council.

We've also started thinking about improvements for people who walk, including raised crossings and signals at busy intersections, to make pedestrians more visible to traffic and to slow vehicles down. We also have ideas about possible improvements on side streets, where the visibility is poor as it joins main streets, making it safer for people to cross.

Opening streets up to make them safer and more accessible for buses, cars, and bikes may mean removing some on-street parking, so we need to understand the implications of that. We have ideas about how to minimise impacts to businesses and are working with the Wellington City Council on a parking management plan that includes business and operations in the area.

Our aim is to balance the needs of all those using the space now and into the future, to help keep traffic flowing for buses, deliveries and people who need to drive, as well as those who walk or bike. We hope you take the opportunity to have your say on the work we're doing to achieve that. If you'd like to find out more about this project and the other work we are doing in the Let's Get Wellington Moving programme, please visit our website www.lgwm.nz.