

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

Letter to local residents & businesses - Featherston Street & Southwest Te Aro Connection

Tēnā koutou property owners, residents, and businesses

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

We're 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 early 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're 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 near and longer-term benefits for Wellingtonians, across our city and region.

We've worked closely with Wellingtonians to understand their aspirations for the city and that feedback 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' – Featherston and Southwest Te Aro Connection

The work we are 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 Featherston Street and Te Aro, as well as other routes from Miramar and Mount Cook.

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.

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'll be holding local sessions and online hui, so we can 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're 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 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'll gather the feedback from you and other 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'll make it available on our website or we can send it to you by email, if you choose to subscribe online.

We'll also 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 consideration as they develop the design, which we plan to share with you next year, ahead of construction starting.

We know that 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

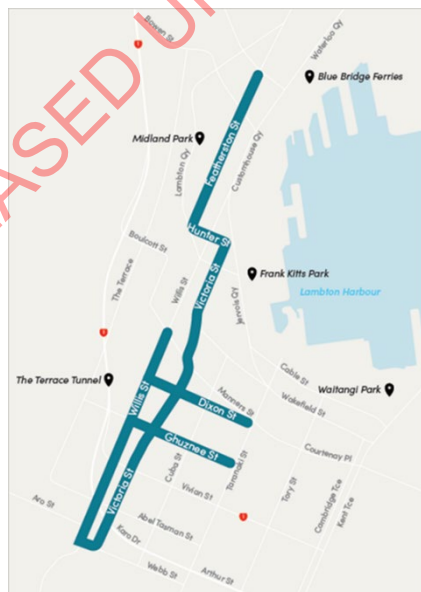
<insert QR code>

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

citystreets@lgwm.nz

0800 110 130

Featherston and Southwest Te Aro Connection route - our early ideas for the area



About the route

Featherston Street is a critical link in the city's transport network and is the most direct route between the city centre, Golden Mile, and the Wellington Railway Station (and beyond). High numbers of people walk and ride bikes along this route. Featherston, Victoria, and Dixon Streets are also heavily used by private cars, which means the people walking and riding bikes compete for space - both with moving and parked cars.

Bus, cycling, and pedestrian improvements

So much traffic in this narrow space makes it feel unsafe for people walking and riding bikes, so we are exploring changes to the road layout that will make it safer for all those using the road and footpath. 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.

There is also the opportunity to improve cycling and walking in Featherston Street (between Bunny and Hunter Streets), along Victoria Street as far as Webb Street – as well as on Dixon Street between Victoria and Taranaki Streets. We also think there are opportunities to improve the experience for people who walk along and across Ghuznee and Dixon Streets, to keep them safe.

As this is a popular and busy bus route, we are also looking at improving travel by bus on Victoria and Willis Streets between the bottom of Lambton Quay and the start of the Brooklyn Hill. We think there are also some changes that could be made on Ghuznee Street to make bus journeys more efficient. Opening streets up to make them safer and more accessible for buses, cars, and people on 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 people on bikes.

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.