



2. A PEDESTRIAN STRATEGY FOR CHRISTCHURCH

Officer responsible Environmental Policy & Planning and City Streets Manager	Author Stephanie Styles; Assistant Transportation Planner and Michael Thomson; Traffic Engineer (Pedestrian Advocate)
Corporate Plan Output: Transportation Policy	

The purpose of this report is to present the final Pedestrian Strategy document for adoption.

The Pedestrian Strategy (“A Step in the Right Direction”) has been developed with the aim of increasing the numbers of people walking, both as a means of travel and for health and recreation. The Christchurch City Council already caters for pedestrian needs in many ways but there is presently no coordination of pedestrian provision and no defined process to achieve the Council’s statement of wanting to be a pedestrian friendly City. The Pedestrian Strategy incorporates the vision of Christchurch as a safe, accessible and friendly City for pedestrians and outlines the actions required for the Council to achieve this vision.

The development of the Pedestrian Strategy has followed a similar course to what has occurred in the area of cycling in the last few years. Like the Cycle Strategy, the Pedestrian Strategy seeks to provide a policy direction, which will be followed by detailed implementation, and monitoring.

The process for developing the strategy has included a great deal of data gathering and research, as this is the first Pedestrian Strategy in New Zealand. Focus groups were held to get a broad view of pedestrian needs and issues around the City and then a stakeholder advisory group was formed to give advice and input to the developing strategy. Discussions were held with the Community Boards, and then a draft strategy (submission document) was made available for community input in November/ December 1999. A copy of the draft strategy was circulated to all elected members, community boards, residents associations, and many public groups around the City to inform them of the strategy development and to allow them to make a submission. Submissions were received from 52 groups and individuals, and these were used to finalise the strategy document.

The following policy statement has been included at the start of the Pedestrian Strategy as a summary of the document. This policy statement could be included the Council’s policy register.

Pedestrian Policy Statement

The Christchurch City Council is committed to the support of pedestrians and the encouragement of walking as a method of travel and for social recreation. Emphasis will be placed on the integration of pedestrian needs into all projects carried out by the Christchurch City Council.

The Christchurch City Council will work to create a City in which:

- *The pedestrian environment is friendly, safe and accessible.*
- *More people walk, more often.*
- *All pedestrians are able to move about freely and with confidence.*

The objectives are:

- *To improve safety for pedestrians*
- *To improve the walking experience for pedestrians*
- *To improve the image of walking*

The methods of implementing the strategy include:

- *Engineering and Planning*
- *Enforcement*
- *Education*
- *Encouragement and Promotion*

An implementation plan will be developed to seek appropriate funding through the Annual Plan process and a monitoring report will be presented every three years.

A copy of the final document is tabled.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Pedestrian Policy Statement set out above be approved and entered in the Policy Register.
 2. That the Pedestrian Strategy be adopted.