



**Cycle Aware  
Wellington**

Cycle Aware Wellington  
Inc.  
PO Box 27 120, Wellington  
Tel: 04-463 5785  
info@caw.org.nz  
<http://www.caw.org.nz>

## **Submission to Greater Wellington Regional Council**

### **DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN 2012/22**

Contact: James Burgess, 021 565 633, [jim.burgess@gmail.com](mailto:jim.burgess@gmail.com)

We wish to speak to our submission, please contact James Burgess to arrange our oral submission.

#### **Key points of our submission:**

- Bring the installation of cycle racks on buses forward to the next three years.
- Improve and expand cycle storage facilities at train stations
- Support the removal of peak hour bicycle restrictions where train services show to have capacity.
- We support improving regional parks, especially easy and medium grade tracks for walking and cycling. These tracks can not only support recreational cyclists but if designed well can be utilised by commuters (eg, Hutt River trail).

#### **Cycling and walking**

Cycling and walking contribute to all five of the community outcomes Greater Wellington seeks to achieve. Active transport reduces congestion in main centres, improving economic productivity. It improves community connectedness, increases the resilience of the transport network, improves the environment, promotes public health and contributes to quality of life.

Cycle Aware Wellington supports Greater Wellington's programmes that encourage and promote active transport.

Despite the regional council not being a road-controlling authority, there are still several ways it can improve the level of service for cyclists in the region. These low-cost projects would better integrate cycling and public transport, increasing accessibility and expanding the reach of the network.

#### **Bike racks on buses**

We are disappointed to see the installation of bike racks on buses delayed until 2017/2018. As the lowest cost new infrastructure project in the next 10 years, this would provide a significant improvement in the integration of public and active transport and would be well suited for the topography of the Wellington region.

With bikes on buses already operating in Christchurch, Dunedin and Waiheke, Wellington is lagging behind. This cheap and easy win should be a top priority for the regional council and should be undertaken within the next three years, instead of delaying it until 2017/18



Putting a bike on a Christchurch bus.

## **Bikes on trains**

Dropping the fee for bikes on trains was a positive step towards better integrating cycling and public transport and Cycle Aware Wellington was pleased to see Greater Wellington make this happen.

The recent change to the bikes on trains policy, excluding bikes from peak services had a negative effect on those who were combining modes to avoid using a private vehicle. Cycle Aware Wellington supports the continued removal of peak hour bicycle restrictions where train services show to have capacity (eg, the Johnsonville line).



Bikes on a new Matangi train at peak hour on the Johnsonville line.

With peak service restrictions in place, and a limit of 3 bikes per two car carriage, there is a strong need to provide good quality and ample bike parking at train stations. Sheltered and secure facilities can attract train users to travel to the station by bike, reducing the demand for expensive car parks. Cycle Aware Wellington encourages Greater Wellington to pilot a high-quality bike storage facility, similar to the Parkiteer system used across Melbourne, at a well suited train station (eg. Waterloo).



Parkiteer bike storage facility at train station in Melbourne

### **Cycling in regional parks**

Cycle Aware Wellington supports the development and upgrade of easy to medium tracks for walkers and cyclists. In addition to the recreational benefit of these tracks, if designed properly, they can also contribute to the cycle network - providing commuter cyclists with safe and pleasant off-road routes.

Smooth seal tracks, like the Hutt River trail, attract commuters as well as recreational users and

Cycle Aware Wellington encourages Greater Wellington to build tracks that benefit all types of users. A smooth seal path through Queen Elizabeth Park would be an excellent example of this.

### **Who is Cycle Aware Wellington?**

We are a voluntary, not-for-profit organisation aimed at improving conditions for existing cyclists and encouraging more people to bike more often. We are the local advocacy group for cyclists who use their bikes as a means of transport. Since our inception in 1994, we have worked constructively with councils on a wide variety of cycle projects.

Cycle Aware Wellington represents 600 members and supporters.