

Reshaping Streets regulatory changes

Glossary of terms

Reshaping Streets includes some terms that you may not be familiar with, so we have included some definitions here.

Community Streets

These are events (also known as play streets) that restrict motor vehicles on quiet local streets so that children and parents can play or hold activities on their street. They are led by residents with approval from RCAs. Play Streets often last for a couple of hours and can be held on a regular basis (e.g. once per month).

Filtering traffic

This involves using physical objects (see modal filters) or traffic controls (e.g. signs) to restrict or prohibit some vehicles from travelling through part of a street while providing access for other road users. For example, bollards can be used to filter traffic at one end of a street so that people travelling by foot, wheelchair, pram, or bike can pass through while motor vehicles need to take an alternative route.

Local authority

This is a term used to describe New Zealand's regional, district, city, or unitary councils. This includes Auckland Transport.

Low traffic neighbourhoods and filtered traffic areas

These are low-speed, people-friendly areas that let motor vehicles access a street, but in a way that encourages slow speeds, or restricts them from using residential streets as short cuts when other routes are available. Objects such as concrete blocks, planter boxes, or curb cut outs may be used to narrow the street and encourage motorists to drive at a slower speed. Low traffic neighbourhoods have various names such as 'quiet streets,' 'slow streets' or 'neighbourhood greenways.' In our proposals, we call them 'filtered traffic areas'.

Modal filters

These are physical features that can be used to prioritise or restrict access by different travel modes (see filtering traffic). Modal filters include features like bollards, planter boxes, trees, street furniture, or concrete blocks.

Pedestrian malls

These are pedestrian-only areas of streets that attract high levels of foot traffic. They are often destinations for people to shop, dine, relax, play, and walk through. Pedestrian malls may also allow for people using devices, cycling, or trams to travel through the area. For example, Cuba Street in Wellington and City Mall in Christchurch are pedestrian malls.

Pilots

These are short-term street changes used to test different street designs, or prototypes in various street environments. They are sometimes called trials or experiments.

Placemaking

This is the process of creating quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in. For example, creating streetscapes with public seating, trees, and art can make urban spaces nicer to be in and help to develop a shared sense of place.

Regulatory changes

This means changes to legislation. It includes primary legislation (i.e. Acts of Parliament) and secondary legislation (e.g. land transport rules).

Road controlling authorities (RCAs)

These are the groups responsible for managing roads around New Zealand. For example, local councils and Auckland Transport are RCAs responsible for managing roads in their areas.

School Streets

These are streets that restrict motorised traffic outside schools that apply during school drop-off and pick-up times. School Streets can also be applied to areas beyond the school, so that children have a clear, safe route to walk, cycle or ride a device to school.

Streets and roads

The terms 'streets', 'roads', and 'roadways' are often used inter-changeably in this document, as this is common in everyday discourse. In the *Land Transport Act 1998*, the definition of 'road' includes 'a street'. Historically, major movement corridors (e.g. between different parts of a city or between different towns) were often called roads. Streets performed a wider variety of functions for people living and working nearby. These distinctions have blurred over time. Both streets and roads are public places that can serve a wide variety of place and movement functions. These functions are explained in Waka Kotahi's [One Network Framework](#).

Traffic calming devices

These are measures used on a road to encourage drivers to travel at an appropriate speed for their surroundings, or to discourage unnecessary through traffic. Examples include raised crossings, road humps, and objects that narrow the roadway. Modal filters can also be used as traffic calming devices.

Traffic control devices (TCDs)

These are devices used on a road for controlling traffic. They include signs, signals, notices, traffic calming features, and markings.

Transport shelters

These are installations on streets that protect people from rain, wind, and sunshine. An example is a bus shelter.

Abbreviations

ERP	Emissions Reduction Plan
LGA1974	Local Government Act 1974
LGA2002	Local Government Act 2002
LTA1998	Land Transport Act 1998
RCA	Road Controlling Authority
TCD	Traffic Control Device