



WALKING ACCESS
ARA HĪKOI AOTEAROA

PUBLIC ACCESS



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NZ Walking Access Commission

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› WHAT IS THE COMMISSION?

- Established 2008 to promote free, certain, enduring and practical access to the outdoors.
- The Government's expert agency on access issues.
- Originally focused solely on walking, but now includes cycling, horse-riding and more.

› WHAT DOES THE COMMISSION DO?

- Resolves disputes between recreationalists and landholders.
- Provides information through the Walking Access Mapping System: wams.org.nz
- Promotes good behaviour in the outdoors.
- Proactively supports planning for and creation of access in a range of settings, mostly rural.

➤ WHY PLAN FOR URBAN ACCESS?

- Good access creates healthy, connected communities.
- There is a community-led trail building movement.
- Retrofitting is expensive and difficult. The best solution is to plan upfront.



➤ EXAMPLE: IN THE PERI-URBAN FORM

Working with local trails groups, Auckland Council and NZTA in the Puhoi/Matakana/Snell's Beach area to plan access, before the houses start to be built as Auckland expands.



➤ EXAMPLE: SH1 BLENHEIM – KAIKOURA

Taking advantage of opportunities is crucial. We're supporting community groups who want to include cycling/walking access as SH1 Blenheim – Kaikoura is rebuilt following the earthquake.



➤ EXAMPLE: SOUTH ISLAND HIGH COUNTRY

Tourism pressures are increasing – what access infrastructure will be needed in the future?

The Commission is creating an overarching strategy to help inform DOC, local govt, landholders and others.



› WE NEED TO PLAN BETTER

Planning access from the start engages communities to build healthy futures, saves money in the long run and future-proofs our developments from population growth and tourism pressures.



› TALK TO US

NZ Walking Access Commission
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