



Dear State Member / candidate,

Walking is the most fundamental form of transportation. Walking is equitable, helps support healthy communities, connects with public transport, is environmentally sound, and is also the most popular recreational activity. Walk-friendly neighbourhoods support safe, connected and thriving communities. Walking is more important than ever as we continue to adapt and respond to COVID.

Walking has been essential during the pandemic, giving people important physical and mental exercise. However, this highlighted the less than adequate walking facilities in our local neighbourhoods, cities and towns. Walking is known to have an excellent Return On Investment of 13:1 every \$1 spent provides \$13 in return in transport, health and business ([The economic case for investment in walking, Victoria Walks, ARUP](#)). Investing in walking is therefore valuable for generations to come.

As such, we write to you to commit to the provision of walkable communities in your electorate through funding.

We call on you for your commitment to:


1. **Funding the continuation of the Queensland Walking Strategy Action Plan - \$40 Million over four years.**
2. **Funding shovel-ready walking projects. Increasing budgets and incentives to local government for their commitment to delivering basic, safe and innovative walking infrastructure with construction and maintenance of:** footpaths, safe pedestrian crossings and refuges, wider kerb ramps, signalised crossings with crossings on each leg of the intersection and shorter cycle and phasing to suit seniors, vision impaired, people with disabilities and children to safely cross the road
3. **Slower designed streets and speed limit reduction** for all people to walk and cycle safely in neighbourhoods
4. **Wider, connected and safe footpaths (which also allows for essential physical distancing) on state owned roads with better shading of all paths** through tree planting and shading structures, and the continuation of the walkable neighbourhoods
5. **15-minute liveable cities and towns, and active streets designed for all:** children and our more vulnerable residents who walk or wheel with **local mixed used and multi-generational parks, playgrounds, nature play and green space** that create community hubs and destinations **within walking distance of homes**
6. **Separation of walking pathways from bicycles, e-bikes and e-scooters** in high traffic or commuter routes
7. **Removal of slip lanes** that cause unnecessary risk to people who walk and ride, or an addition of raised zebra crossings until slip lanes have been removed.
8. **Support for a local walking strategy, preferably integrated into an overall active transport and recreation strategy**
9. **State investment in walking programs** ([10,000 Steps](#), [Heart Foundation Walking](#), [parkrun](#) and local bushwalking groups) through local funding, resources and supportive infrastructure.

We know how important a safe and healthy community is to you. Walking facilities are one of the lowest cost services that you can provide to your residents in your electorate to improve their health and wellbeing, generate better community cohesion and create benefits for local business.

Thank you for your interest in supporting active communities. We would be happy to talk to you about how you can support our organisation, and the localised active travel and recreation of neighbourhoods for your local residents. For any further queries, contact Anna on 0419 728 670 on or via email: info@queenslandwalks.org.au

Yours in health and walking,


Anna Campbell
Executive Officer
Queensland Walks


Michelle Wade President Queensland Walks, on
behalf of the Queensland Walks Board.