



Generation Zero's Submission to:

Greater Wellington Region - Long Term Plan 2021-2031

Early Engagement

Generation Zero firmly believes that the five emerging priority areas proposed in the consultation;

- improved outcomes for mana whenua and Māori
- taking climate action/ responding to the climate emergency
- reshaping the economy following COVID-19
- protecting and enhancing our environment
- providing accessible and efficient public transport services

are all of utmost importance in ensuring that the new Long Term Plan delivers strategy centred on climate justice. Generation Zero will throw its support at a Long Term Plan that equally addresses each of the emerging priority areas, and would be concerned if one was prioritized over another.

Improved outcomes for mana whenua and Māori

Generation Zero expects a Long Term Plan that is for mana whenua and Māori. There needs to be regular meaningful and active engagement with mana whenua and Māori representation. The upkeep of the Whaitua guiding principles is essential in every consideration of land use.

Taking climate action/ responding to the climate emergency

The Long Term Plan must prioritise climate action and take realistic action, not only to ensure the fulfillment of the Zero Carbon Act (2019) and Paris Climate Agreement targets; but to protect the livelihoods of our greater Wellington population now and into the future. With non-partisan legislation now in place, it is important to build a Long Term Plan that, at the very least, meets these targets, acknowledging that these targets must be upheld no matter what government is in power.

Our current situation is looking more and more precarious and we expect to see the Long Term Plan take significant action towards preparing for more adverse weather events and rising sea levels. Not only does Generation Zero want to see investments in resilience, but also investment in shifting our region towards a sustainable future. For instance, we would like to see significant investment in Public Transport across the region to make substantial reductions in transport emissions.

Reshaping the economy following COVID-19

The reshaping of our economy is an opportunity to invest in a sustainable future and avoid passing the future costs of climate change mitigation on to the coming generations.

Investing in infrastructure that will protect us, enhance our lifestyles, and serve us in a sustainable future is key. The development of intentional, future-proofed physical infrastructure that creates jobs now, will continue to serve our future population. It is important to utilize the boost in green jobs and support for trade work to stimulate the local economy and improve its resilience.

Protecting and enhancing our environment

Wellington boasts some of the greatest green spaces in our part of the world. We cannot underestimate the enhancement that gives to our populations' well-being, especially in our urban areas. We must focus on improving the natural environment in our urban spaces as we plan for density across the region..

Providing accessible and efficient public transport services

Significant investment is essential in bringing greater accessibility and efficiency to the public transport system that connects the greater Wellington region. With plans to increase urban density not only in Wellington CBD, but in numerous centres around the region, funding for development in public transport is easily justified. Generation Zero would like to see targets formulated around the shift of transportation modes, and appropriate investment in infrastructure to see these targets realised.

A long term plan centred on climate justice

It is important to acknowledge how each emerging priority area intersects. We can't take climate action without addressing the post COVID-19 economic recovery. We can't protect and enhance our environment without mana whenua involvement, and there simply cannot be a sustainable future in our region without heavy investment in public transport services. With the upholding of these emerging priority areas, we can hope to see communities flourishing all across the region, with particular support to those most exposed to the adverse effects of climate change.

The plan needs to include clear, measurable targets and reporting timelines to ensure GWRC can be held accountable for actions taken on behalf of ratepayers to improve outcomes for everyone. GWRC needs to plan ahead to identify the gaps that need filling, and have transparent criteria for how funding is allocated for different projects. Generation Zero wants to see strong action, foresight, and collaboration with other councils for a cohesive plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on this consultation and we look forward to seeing the draft 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

Ngā mihi nui,

Generation Zero Wellington