Our City Tomorrow

What is the vision?

Our plan is to be the most-liveable city. As the Capital heart, we celebrate our unique Wellington way, and creative culture where businesses flourish. Housing must be affordable, and we strive to be a place that is accessible, safe, and close to nature. Where streets are made for walking, and mana whenua culture is a living presence from harbour to hills. Our vision is a welcoming home for all.

Wellington builds on its existing urban form with quality development in the right locations.

- Our urban form is compact, liveable, easily accessible and connected and makes efficient use of existing infrastructure, community facilities and transport links.
- New housing is well-designed and supported by quality recreational, community and transport facilities.
- Public open space is safe, well-designed, enables a range of innovative and creative uses and meets the needs of our diverse communities now and in the future.
- Long term investment in our infrastructure, community and recreation facilities and services supports future development in existing urban areas.

Wellington’s natural and built environments are healthy and robust, and we build physical and social resilience through good design.
- Urban development supports social and physical resilience.
- Infrastructure, facilities and services are designed, maintained and improved to mitigate and adapt to the effects of natural hazards and climate change.

Wellington builds on its reputation as an economic hub and creative centre of excellence by welcoming and supporting innovation and investing strategically to maintain our thriving economy.
- Support creativity, innovation, and technology in urban development and the economy.
- Attractive, vibrant public spaces that incentivise new development.
- Suburban centres are revitalised to support their viability and stimulate adjoin residential growth and development.
- Increased opportunities to stimulate further employment and business growth and development in the city are available.

Wellington recognises and fosters its identity by supporting social cohesion and cultural diversity, and has world-class movement systems with attractive and accessible public spaces and streets.
- A range of housing types and densities offer greater housing choice across the city.
- Public spaces are universally accessible across the city.
- Sport, recreation, play and community infrastructure and investment that fosters increased opportunities for social connection and physical activity.
- Places, cultures, histories and people that contribute to Wellington’s identity and sense of place are recognised and celebrated.
- Ahi kā is recognised and celebrated in developing our city.
- Our movement systems support a compact urban form, reduce carbon emissions and promote improved health outcomes.

Wellington is sustainable and its natural environment is protected, enhanced and integrated into the urban environment.
- New development supports the city’s goals of being ‘zero carbon’ by 2050.
- Water management infrastructure and practices improve water quality across the city.
- Important natural and physical features that enhance the city’s character and identity are protected and the natural environment contributes to improving our quality of life.
- Nature is integrated into the city and green networks are accessible to all.
- New initiatives and development reinforce the city’s aspiration to become a sustainable eco-city.

View Our City Tomorrow – Draft Spatial Plan for Wellington City