

livewellington*

a liveable city by design

Hearing stream 2 presentation

March/April 2023

Jane O'Loughlin, convenor.

LIVE WELLington

- * Grassroots organisation with nearly 150 members and followers
- * Involved in the District Plan from the beginning
- * We champion density done well – good design that respects its context



Wellington's character is worth saving

- * The Wellington character streetscape is an iconic part of the city's identity

TRAVEL

90 capital minutes in Wellington, NZ: A traveller's guide



NZ Herald

11 Oct, 2020 08:00 AM 2 mins to read

Save Share



Mt Victoria, seen from the Wellington waterfront. Photo / WellingtonNZ

Character suburbs are already dense

Suburb	Density (people per km ²)
Mount Cook	7,257
Oriental Bay	4,800
Mount Victoria	4,463
Newtown	3,835
Aro Valley	3,296
Thorndon	2,953



Wellingtonians like character

What do you think about character suburbs?

	Total	Ratepayers	Renters	Would prefer not to say
Unweighted base =	406	227	170	9**
	%	%	%	%
Wellington's character suburbs add a lot to Wellington's identity and we should try and protect them as much as possible	43	48	35	78
I don't care about character and heritage and I don't mind if protections for character and heritage are removed	12	12	14	0
I would like a careful balance between freeing up more room for intensification and protecting character suburbs from destruction	43	40	49	11
Don't know	1	0	2	11
Total	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

**Caution: low base number of respondents - results are indicative only.

What's your view of the idea of removing the pre-1930s demolition rule?

Wellingtonians support retention of character

	Total	Ratepayers	Renters	Would prefer not to say
Unweighted base =	406	227	170	9**
	%	%	%	%
I support removing 66% of the current character protection	16	15	19	0
I would be happier with a slightly smaller amount (e.g. 50% of the character protection being removed)	19	19	19	11
I would be happier with a much smaller amount (e.g. 25% being removed)	30	32	27	11
I would like all character protection to be removed	4	4	5	0
I don't want any character protection to be removed	25	26	20	67
Don't know	6	4	9	11
Total	100	100	100	100

Total may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

**Caution: low base number of respondents - results are indicative only.



Character needs mass

District Plan definition:

'a concentration of common, consistent natural and physical features and characteristics that **collectively combine** to establish the local distinctiveness and identity of an area, and that **contribute to a unique 'sense of place'** when viewed by the public at large from the street or other public spaces.'































**Character at
risk from
proposed
District Plan**

72% reduction proposed

4,500 houses
in operative
plan

1300 houses
in proposed
District plan
plan

Risk of disconnected blocks



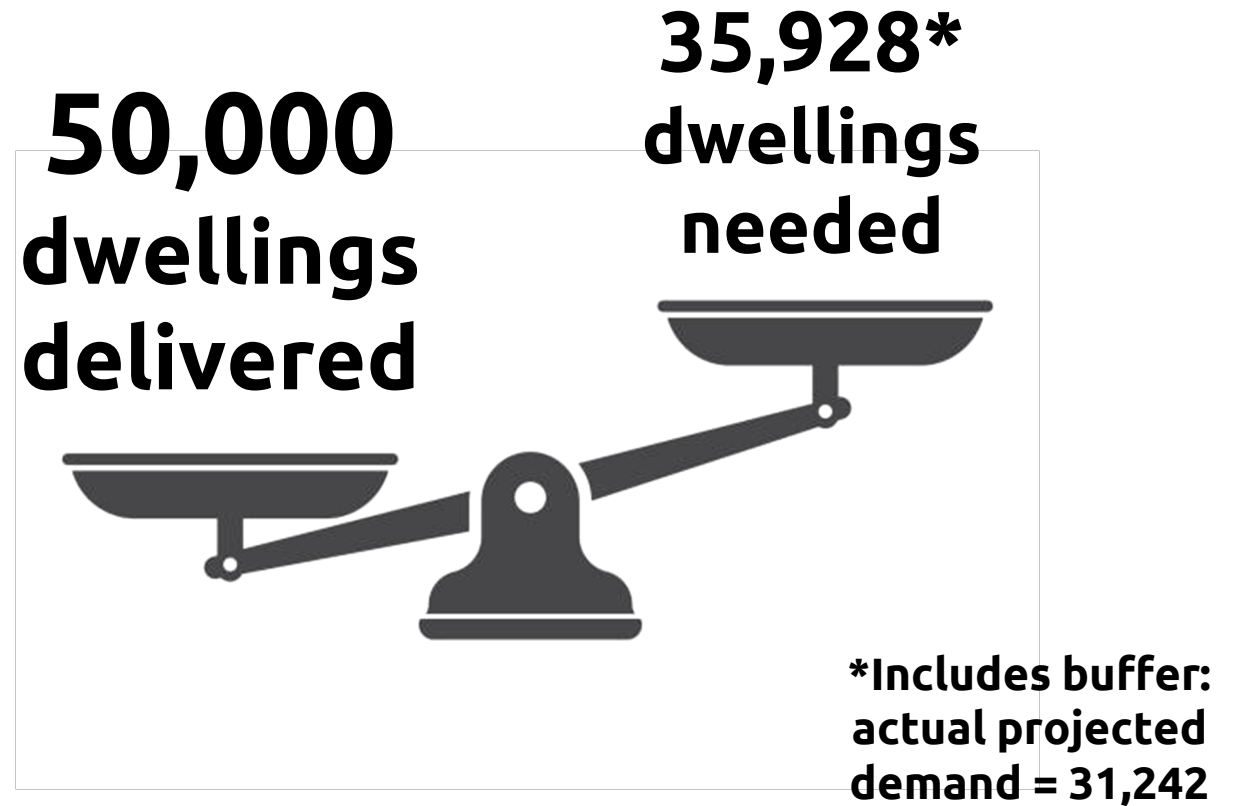
A better solution

- * Section 42a report recommendations welcome
- * Very similar to what was proposed following Spatial Plan consultation
- * A much better balance of competing interests



A big difference to character; a small difference to capacity

- * Adding additional areas will reduce total feasible capacity by 893 dwellings and realisable capacity by 797 dwellings



Summary

- * It is possible to retain a sensible proportion of Wellington's precious character while allowing for the homes we need.

