

Green Party of Aotearoa/New Zealand - John Ranta

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?

Ultimately we need to figure out how to move more people with fewer vehicles. That can be done in several ways, but all require a step change in priority and investment in public transport. The Green Party has a long history of successfully campaigning for public transport and rail improvements. As a recent example, the Green Party fought for additional funding to improve regional train frequency on the Kapiti and Wairarapa lines, which is happening now and includes double tracking and passing loops to increase capacity. We are supportive of exploring a number of mass transport options for Wellington, including priority bus lanes, light rail, and trackless trams. We also support investment in making walking and cycling a safer and more accessible option. The Green Party would support investigating congestion charging in the medium to long term, but we need greater capacity on public transport first.

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

Highways are not a long-term solution to congestion and we need to reduce our transport carbon emissions in Wellington, which make up the greatest share of our emissions locally. We will continue to invest in sustainable, affordable, and effective transport solutions like rail, light rail, rapid buses, cycling and walking. The Petone to Grenada link road is not something we would fund.

Built Environment – NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

The question of how spatial planning is going to play out in our electorate is largely a local government issue and so I would encourage people to get involved at the city and regional council level if they have an interest in being heard. The Green Party supports redevelopment of previously developed land over green fields development. We also support higher density housing in principle, but only if it meets the diverse needs of the community by supporting local employment, recreation and educational opportunities, alongside high-quality public transport options, so that people can live, work and play locally. The Green Party also supports strengthened protection for historic heritage in urban areas and encourages greater awareness of the positive role of heritage in creating a durable urban identity. Getting the balance right between these principles is always going to be the tricky part. It is hard to imagine that widespread high-density housing everywhere is the right balance, but it is equally unlikely that high-density housing nowhere is right either. It will need to be case by case and the most important thing is that local communities are engaged in the planning process early and often in a real way rather than tick box consultation.

Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

The Green Party supports community consultation in the planning and building of new housing developments. To that end we support the formation of regional building and housing forums with representatives from community based, housing, and disability organisations, local government, private sector, building industry, consumer groups, and tenants' groups as a means of jointly developing, implementing and monitoring building policy at the local level.

Law and Order

The Johnsonville Community Policing Centre, over the years, has been substantially downgraded to the extent that now it is only open to the public from 11AM to 1PM M-F. However, during these hours, it is actually very rare that any uniformed staff are present. This reduction of visibility and accessibility, in an era of a predicted rapid growing population is regarded by a great many residents of the Ohariu electorate as being unacceptable. What is your viewpoint on this and what will you do to increase both the manning of staff and the hours open to the public

“The police are the public and the public are the police” – Sir Robert Peel There is a long tradition of having police operate in regular and close proximity to the communities they serve, from walking beats to the more contemporary practice of community policing projects. The current evidence suggests that community policing does not always reduce crime rates or fear of crime within the community. However, there are other benefits to having a regular and stable police presence in the community, especially one that looks set to grow in the near future, and what is clear from the evidence is that when community policing works it is due to a strong commitment to the project. By any measure the current staffing of the Johnsonville Policing Centre is not a strong commitment. To be fair, it is my understanding that this has partially come to pass due to challenges in ensuring the safety of volunteers working at the Centre, which is an important consideration. One would hope that the barriers can be worked through and a more consistent presence restored. The status quo is incurring public cost without providing much benefit, creating only an illusion of community police presence, which helps no one.

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

It was announced recently that the Newlands Fire Brigade will be re-located to another FENZ facility that is technically within Newlands, though only 500m closer to the previous firehouse than the initially proposed co-location with the Johnsonville Fire Brigade. It is unclear to me whether FENZ now means to retain the brigade in that setting on a permanent footing. As with the outlay of any public money the cost and the benefit will have to be weighed up. What I would hope is that the correct

benefits are being counted, which can extend beyond the specific mission of the fire service. I grew up in a place where the volunteer fire brigade was an important part of the community, far beyond their service in emergency situations. I don't know if the Newlands brigade plays a similarly important role in the neighbourhood, but if it does it is beholden on FENZ and other stakeholders to factor that role into the cost/benefit analysis. There is value having firefighters and police officers in our neighbourhoods that extends beyond the strict limits of their duties when someone dials 111.

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

The Johnsonville Mall area is a rare opportunity for mixed use development that creates affordable quality housing sitting alongside commercial and green spaces that is well positioned next to an established rail line and bus network. The redevelopment plans of Stride Property Group appear to be focussed entirely on commercial development along more or less the same model as the present mall. Those plans have come undone once again, this time under the pressure of the Covid-related economic shock. Perhaps that gives us all an opportunity to rethink how we approach this opportunity, to not just re-design a shopping mall on the sterile American model, but create a centre of both commercial and residential activity, a real hub for the community. I can certainly tell you that I have never had a convivial time in a mall.

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the growth in demand from community organisations?

As a former chair of a residents association in the Wadestown area, where we are struggling for community spaces, I can sympathise with how important they are to a neighbourhood. They help create and hold the community together in a very real way. I would need to know more about the specifics to comment definitively, particularly if funding the extension might draw money away from other projects, but in principle if a community space is stretched for capacity due to over subscription I think that this is the sort of problem that government should be investing in resolving.

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

The heart of the economy in our neighbourhoods are small and medium size businesses. They employ a lot of us as well as being important members of the community that give our neighbourhoods their unique character. The Green Party wants to explore ways to increase access to capital for small businesses, including tax deductions for investors and improving awareness of currently available angel investor opportunities. We want to ensure compliance is effective and simple so that business owners spend time trading rather than filling out forms. We want to increase funding for training and mentoring programmes for people considering going into small business as well as those already running their own business. We want small business practice as an option across all degrees, diplomas and apprenticeships, especially where there is traditionally a high rate of self-employment. In short, we would seek to invest in our current small and medium-

sized business community as well as working to create the next generation of businesses.

ONE Party - Allan Cawood

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?

I favour priority bus lanes and would encourage more use of the MetLink rail system. Park and ride with bus lane is another option which we support in conjunction with the existing MetLink service.

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

I am fully supportive of this road link and would treat this project as a Governmental Infrastructure project and therefore push to have it accelerated. If funding is to be considered from 2028 then by 2024 some very firm decisions will need to be made. As the ONE Party Candidate I will ensure that by December 2024 a decision will have been made as to whether the link road will be built or not. Plus if it is, then all the work required to be ready by 2028, will have to be started immediately after the December 2024 deadline.

Built Environment – NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

As the ONE Party candidate I'm not supportive of NPS-UD housing across the Ohariu electorate. This residential area is very well established and to bring High Rise buildings in now would upset the aesthetics of the area. Furthermore, the existing historic services infrastructure E.g. wastewater and sewerage piping will not cope with an increase in volume. The rate payers of this area will then end up paying for the repair and or replacement of these services. The roading capacity will far exceed the current traffic management, resulting in constant traffic delays and increased maintenance. I'm supportive of NPS-UD housing up to 6 stories in areas with mixed housing already in existence or newly planned community development areas. For example Churton Park, Woodridge, Johnsonville and other available unoccupied land in the Porirua region.

Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

As the ONE Party candidate I am fully supportive of well-developed communication channels and a formal consultation process. It is imperative the residents are kept informed and that they have an opportunity to comment. They may have an even better plan or option than what is originally suggested. Therefore if not given that opportunity to bring their thoughts to the table it will be missed. I'm supportive of development but there must be a consistent policy around the consent process with those effected. For example, neighbours.

Law and Order

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Between 1995 and 2000, the station and community enjoyed staff comprising; a Station Senior Sergeant, 2x Sergeants with a team of 5x constables each (covering 7am to 3am hours), C.I.B comprising 1x Detective Sergeant and 2-4x Detectives. 1x dedicated Community Constable looked after things such as community groups, public meetings, schools, shops and Neighbourhood Support Groups. After 2000, the Police Executive decided that some community stations would centralise, and Johnsonville station was downsized to 1x Senior Sergeant (Station Manager) and 1x Sergeant with a team of 5x constables working only 7am to 11pm. A small team of C.I.B staff compliments this with the community constable. Today there are no uniform staff in attendance except for a community constable who spends probably 60% of his time covering for shortages at Wellington Central. The area is increasing in size now that Churton Park and Granada/Woodridge is opening, and with the increase in crime in the central city, Police response time is getting longer when there is a callout in the Northern Suburbs. The station needs to reopen with dedicated Police teams as per 1995-2000 period and as ONE Party Candidate I will take the matter up directly with the Commissioner of Police to increase the staffing. I'll also ensure that the funding to do so is also provided as part of the policing budget.

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

The Newlands existing fire station is old, small and houses appliances up to 10 years old. It's estimated that it would take up to 10 mins for an appliance to come from Johnsonville to the outer housing area in Newlands (info from Newlands Fire website), Tawa and Thorndon up to 13-15 minutes away and from Newlands itself up to 4 minutes to the outer housing area. A new station is urgently required due to developing areas and the increase in housing in the North/Western Wellington, (Woodridge, Churton Park and Granada area including potentially Horokiwi). Newlands Fire Station is also required to support Johnsonville and Tawa when required as backup. In the Newlands area, there is a large amount of scrub, bush and farmland, as well as commercial/industry zones in North Granada and Ngauranga Gorge/Kaiwharawhara in particular. This is not even considering the support in the case of vehicle accidents etc. on motorway to Porirua which also requires support from Johnsonville and Newlands. I believe that the Newlands Fire Station must remain within the Newlands cover range. Decisions need to be around

a dedicated NEW fire station, a dedicated fulltime station officer to manage the station and staff (including volunteers), and training. This will ensure that the maintenance of appliances and equipment is constant, and up to date.

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

The current Johnsonville Mall is shocking and to my mind a real eye saw. The new library and swimming pool across the road is a step in the right direction. I see no reason for the ongoing delay and uncertainty to continue. The following is an extract from their Johnsonville Shopping Centre website. "At Stride our vision is to be New Zealand's best performing listed real estate investment and management company. We will deliver on this vision by continuing to invest in and manage the best places, that reward everyone connected with them and deliver market leading returns to our investors". Stride are letting themselves down in not being compliant with their own business statement. I'd like to encourage them to bring their investment policy to bear and build a new vibrant shopping mall in the heart of Johnsonville. The new development could be a combination of retail, commercial and residential and this would create a thriving hub that the Ohariu electorate can be proud of and eagerly want to support.

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the growth in demand from community organisations?

Yes, I would support the Churton Park Community Centre extension. 'Being local to support the locals is important'. As the ONE Party Candidate for the Ohariu region I believe that one of our visions is to support the community by investing in the community. I would encourage the council to consider increasing the size of the community centre to cater for the expected longterm growth of the Churton Park community.

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

As ONE Party we will drive all the infrastructure projects mentioned in my answer to the previous questions. By getting these projects up and running will be a great creation of employment. A new and attractive mall will motivate the residents of Ohariu to become more supportive of the new development, which could stimulate small businesses investment. These small businesses are also a great source of employment opportunities. As the ONE Party Candidate I'm also very supportive of encouraging new businesses to transfer to the commercial areas such as, Granada North and Tawa. The increase of new businesses in our electorate will bring about new job opportunities for those living in the area

The Opportunities Party (TOP)- Jessica Hammond

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?

Primarily we want integrated design, which will mean that everyone can get what they need within 15 minutes using public and active transport. More funding for public transport and congestion charging are also important parts of the solution.

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

We want infrastructure funding to be depoliticised, so politicians can't play pork-barrel politics with public money - or worse - with debt that our kids have to pay back. This particular project does not have a business case yet; it would be very irresponsible for a politician to promise a project without one.

Built Environment – NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

We support more medium-density housing around public transport corridors. This should be well-planned and designed. The alternative is sprawl and losing natural landscapes and farmland and more unaffordable housing.

Q5 Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

Our proposed Urban Development Act brings community input to the beginning of the design process instead of only allowing objections at the end, making the process more consultative and less adversarial.

Law and Order

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While MPs shouldn't interfere in operational police decisions, clearly the station needs to be staffed when it is open. I would advocate for different opening hours on some days. 11-1 is totally impractical for working people and for people with young children.

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully

known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

There has now been a decision on where to move the station. I support the continued discussions on the proposed community hub. A citizen's assembly with local voices and experts on seismic risk etc may be a way through the deadlock.

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

Stride has had our community on life support for too long. It's clear they don't care about our community and no amount of cajoling from council will change that. TOP's tax policy would give Stride the incentive to either develop the land or sell it to someone who will. I'm excited about what our town centre could become.

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the growth in demand from community organisations?

This isn't a central government issue, but I look forward to advocating for the community with councils. The community centre is obviously undersized for the growing community.

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

Our Universal Basic Income, tax and small business policies will support business to grow in our community. Solving the housing crisis will mean people can afford to invest in businesses and have more money to spend in them.

New Conservatives – Philip Lynch

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?

Basically this is a council issue, and I would work with it to find solutions. Community organised car-pooling may help. Wellington is a small city and greater utilisation of the bus and train network should be a priority.

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

Roading infrastructure is important and appears to have been underfunded in the region for too long. The economic constraints post-Covid suggest that we may not be able to increase the debt burden until the recovery occurs.

Built Environment – NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

Councils are required to have short, medium and long term planning for housing and business land for future needs. With limited greenfield areas available, intensification is necessary but should be located adjacent to transport hubs.. From a practical viewpoint, 3-storey housing is the most livable with some higher construction in the suburban centre. NPS-UD allows for councils not to require the provision of off-street parking. This makes no sense in an electorate which already has a shortage of such parking.

Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

Active democracy requires consultation with those whose living environment may be subject to change.

Law and Order

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A local police presence is a deterrent to criminal behaviour and a comfort to citizens. Reduction in less important activity (form-filling, monitoring minor traffic transgressions etc.) will free up time. Adoption of New Conservative family policies will assist.. Police on the street raises community awareness and restores respect for officers.

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

. Rapid response is critical to containing/extinguishing fire damage to life and property. Increased housing and traffic density will require that the service remains local. It is a worry that no action has been taken by the decision-makers since 2009. Perhaps someone should light a fire under them.

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

Sadly, we cannot legislate vibrancy. This is not a task for politicians but for the local entrepreneurs and community. It is likely that in future more of those who work in the Wellington CBD and especially in Government departments will work from home. This will lead to a greater demand for and utilisation of local businesses. If residents wish for greater vibrancy, etc., they will need to support it with their wallets.

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the growth in demand from community organisations?

It is important for support services to be available for local communities. As a growing population centre, Churton Park should have these, but this is a local council issue.. As a local MP I would advocate on behalf of this community to council.

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

Small business is the key to growing employment throughout New Zealand. Many regulations restrict business and place time constraints on productivity. Site specific health and safety plans, RMA requirements for small operations and growing regulations to address climate change. Recent increases in the minimum wage and talk of increased sick leave and holidays put more demands on SMEs. Simplifying or removing these obstacles will SMEs to flourish and employ more people.

New Zealand First Party – Tracey Martin

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?
interested in investigating both

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

At the current projected costs I think it needs further investigation

Built Environment - NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

Not widespread no - where appropriate it is a partial solution to current housing issues

Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

Residents should always be informed and given a level of input into how their neighbourhoods develop

Law and Order

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I would like to see the station have uniformed staff on site full working hours 7 days a week

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

I have been part of a short term solution and believe that a long term solution to retain the brigade in Newlands is available

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

This is a difficult topic because the Mall is in private ownership and majority of solutions are Local Body decisions

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the growth in demand from community organisations?

As one of those that raised \$5 million to save the Warkworth Town Hall I am passionate about community facilities that work for the community

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

Please see our Business Linked Internship Scheme Policy and our Up Front Investment Tertiary Policy

The New Zealand National Party – Brett Hudson

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?

Deliver the full recommended programme of investment for Let's Get Wellington Moving. That covers public transport as well as private vehicles (and walking & cycling). Priority bus lanes are an important element, especially if bus rapid transit is selected for the mass rapid transit component.

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

I have been advocating for this for six years. National has committed to it and would look to start construction in 2025/26. The link roads is crucial for transport resilience, productivity and for unlocking a large housing development potential (reportedly up to 10,000 dwellings according to a local article three years ago.)

Built Environment - NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

I am concerned that the NPS mandates intensive developments without consideration for infrastructure capacity. This should be a core consideration, along with the affordability of any required upgrades (Wellington Water estimate up to \$1.55 billion just for capacity upgrades across the electorate.) It look to me like a solution dreamed up for Auckland simply overlaid on Wellington without consideration of our current layout and infrastructure. I am particularly concerned that the NPS may simply override any feedback from residents on the plan.

Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

Neighbours that are directly affected should be consulted. Drawing the line as to who should be part of the consultation when the effects are indirect is somewhat more challenging. There will definitely be instances where consultation should apply (and proximity could be a proxy for that to some degree).

Law and Order

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I think our Police stations and bases should be more accessible to the public. Requiring uniformed officers to be present in the reception areas stems from potential liability under health and safety legislation. I want to amend the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 to safely permit the resumption of volunteers staffing those reception areas and therefore

permitting them to be open more often. This was the practise in the past. This may also permit the Tawa Community Base to be reopened,

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

I agree the station and brigade should remain in Newlands. It's what they and the community want, and there area around Newlands is a fast growing one which I believe would benefit from retaining a local capability. This will be even more so as Woodridge continues to expand and the development on Lincolnshire Farm is realised (through the Petone to Granada Link Road.) FENZ has found a interim location on Hurring Place in Newlands to allow for more time to consult with the community, but they are clear that they currently still see the better operational model as co-location in Johnsonville. The station is not yet saved.

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

I will continue a constructive relationship with Stride. Residents have been waiting far too long for the redevelopment. Stride's communication could, and should, be better. While they are clearly not responsible for Covid19 impacts, nor the downturn in big box retailing in Australia in the latter part of last year (both of which have significant impacts on the timing of any redevelopment) they should be communicating more often and more clearly with the community. As a privately owned asset, central government doesn't have many levers to pull to hasten action of some sort. There is the ability to compulsorily acquire the land for housing, but that is a particularly big level to pull and it is not evident that it would be able to solve the retailing problems. It is not an action I would advocate right now.

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the growth in demand from community organisations?

Yes

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

National has a relentless focus on creating jobs as we emerge from the early phase of Covid19 and head into the looming economic crisis. While we support the broad framework which worked successfully under the previous National-led government, we are focusing in the shorter and medium term on measures which will help to create jobs sooner and faster. For instance, we have announced a JobStart policy to subsidise employers taking on new employees early, along with BusinessStart to help displaced workers who want to start their own business, and who have a feasible plan, to get the capital to do so, along with some tax credits to offer some early assistance. We have also announced asset depreciation policies to encourage businesses to invest in plant and equipment for growth now. They will realise the tax rebate on those assets much sooner (in many cases wholly in the same financial year.) These incentives, along with our other economic policies, including tackling burdensome

regulations, will help to stimulate business and job growth across New Zealand, including Wellington's northern suburbs.

New Zealand Labour Party – Greg O'Connor

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?

One of the issues with rail is that it stops at the edge of the city, where as in most places the rail stations is in the middle of the city. For this reason, it is very important to continue the transport to the airport, and I support, subject to review, the Lets Get Wellington Moving project.

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

Yes I support it, and will be advocating with the Transport Minister in the next Government to ensure this road is prioritised.\

Built Environment - NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

There is a massive housing crisis in Wellington, and current policy settings both Council and Central Government are not sufficient to ensure that sufficient housing is built to accommodate current and future requirements. I support higher density housing throughout Ōhāriu, provided the planning and approval process ensures that it is in keeping with local character and does not create urban crowding issues which will devalue the area. The challenge will be to keep this affordable and at the same time compatible with local communities.

Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

It is important to get the balance right between making it impossible to build new housing and protecting the interests existing residents. I fully endorsing our policy to review and possibly replace the RMA to address some of these concerns. In saying that, there will always need to be a process to approve any development to avoid developers and individuals being able to essentially able to build what they like, where they like.

Law and Order

The Johnsonville Community Policing Centre, over the years, has been substantially downgraded to the extent that now it is only open to the public from 11AM to 1PM M-F. However, during these hours, it is actually very rare that any uniformed staff are present. This reduction of visibility and accessibility, in an era of a predicted rapid growing population is regarded by a great many residents of the Ohariu electorate as being unacceptable. What is your viewpoint on this and what will you do to increase both the manning of staff and the hours open to the public

I have been in constant contact with the local district commander and area commanders and as a result of my intervention, the station is open for two hours when operation allows. The last National Government closed 30 police stations when they are in office. As a long time police officer, I acknowledge that it's more important to have police officers actively investigating criminals and criminal activity, rather than sitting in police stations. Labour has deployed 257 new police officers in Wellington already in our first term, more than 2000

nation-wide. Controlling organised crime activity and drug, particularly methamphetamine supply, is essential and this can only be done through effective investigation and deployment.

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

I have been in constant and close contact with FENZ management and the Newlands brigade on this issue, and through a public meeting on the issue was able to reverse the FENZ decision to relocate the brigade to Johnsonville, and to keep the brigade within Newlands. It is important Newlands have such an emergency service available in the event of a major natural disaster which could see the area cut off from Johnsonville and the city for some time.

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

I am in constant contact with the mall owners and am working with them to see what I can do as an MP to facilitate a mixed-model, ie retail, residential and office, which will be the way in which the mall develop and thrive.

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the growth in demand from community organisations?

The greenfields growth in the Churton Park area means it has quickly outgrown much of its infrastructure, including the community centre. There is a need for greater community resource as the strategy of utilising Amesbury School as a public facility has not materialised due to demand.

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

The Ōhāriu electorate is something of a microcosm for New Zealand, and for Ohariu and its residents to thrive, New Zealand must be thriving. The provision of jobs for young people, and for existing employees is an absolute priority for Labour. It is also about ensuring working with the council to make sure there is industrial land set aside for development of local jobs.

Not A Party(2015) – Liam Walsh

Transport - Wellington's increasing congestion challenge

Which initiatives do you support for combating congestion: such as priority bus lanes, peak hour congestion charging?

Removal of all road laws

Petone to Grenada link road has no possible funding until at least 2028. If funded, with consents and construction etc, it couldn't start until at least 2032 (longer is very likely). What is your support for this project?

I would maybe use the road if it was built and I needed to go to Petone or something

Built Environment - NPS-UD/RMA

Do you support the widespread application of NPS-UD high density (6+ storey) housing across the Ohariu electorate?

I dont know, I'm not your dad, it's up to the local community whether they want to have this in their neighbourhood or not and what alternatives they can suggest. Wellington is short of housing.

Under the current RMA, larger developments (with multiple discretion extensions beyond the district plan) have little, to no consultation with neighbours as part of the consent process. What is your position on residents being informed and having a say about major developments in their neighbourhood?

The power should lie entirely with the residents and members of the community

Law and Order

The Johnsonville Community Policing Centre, over the years, has been substantially downgraded to the extent that now it is only open to the public from 11AM to 1PM M-F. However, during these hours, it is actually very rare that any uniformed staff are present. This reduction of visibility and accessibility, in an era of a predicted rapid growing population is regarded by a great many residents of the Ohariu electorate as being unacceptable. What is your viewpoint on this and what will you do to increase both the manning of staff and the hours open to the public

Sounds like everything is going great. Defund the police. There are far better ways to provide the services that the police currently do an awful job of providing

Community

Due to an upgrade of Newlands Park, the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade has to be relocated to another site. Fire and Emergency New Zealand have fully known of this proposal since 2009 and still have not made any decisions on the relocation and yet the land is required by the end of September. Do you agree or disagree that the fire station should remain in the Newlands fire coverage area and your reasons why?

All communities should have a local fire brigade preferably one run by volunteers from within the community

The long term delay and uncertainty surrounding the Johnsonville Mall redevelopment has severely impacted local jobs, business investment and the environment at the heart of this community. What are you going to do to support the development of an attractive, vibrant, and convivial town centre that Johnsonville residents will enjoy using and can be proud of?

This is yet another case of a wealthy property owner having not a single fuck to give for the community where their property is located. Ideally the community should take control of the shopping centre and operate it as a co-op.

Will you support the extension of the Churton Park Community centre so that it can support the rowth in demand from community organisations?

Yeah sure why not

Employment

How exactly will your party foster local jobs in the northern suburbs of Wellington?

It won't, Not A Party wont do anything, we can only make it easier for people to do things for themselves.