# Innovating Streets: Emily Place and Tyler Street, Auckland

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**Abstract**

Auckland Council, through the Auckland Design Office (ADO), recently attained 2nd round funding from the Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Innovating Streets for People programme for two new projects in the Auckland City Centre. The project sites are at Emily Place and Tyler Street. In recent years, Council’s ADO has led the way in finding solutions to make streets safer and more liveable in Auckland’s central city. They have successfully used innovative methods to co-design, implement and trial interventions. It is believed that this innovative methodology has the potential to fast track important projects that will be supported by the community, leading to the city becoming even more attractive and safe for all road users.

Both Emily Place and Tyler Street are dominated by cars and have inadequate space for pedestrians. Valuable space is taken up by parking and traffic lanes dedicated to through movement at unsurviavable speeds. The poor walking environment deters people from connecting to or through these two sites as it is uncomfortable and there is a perception that it is unsafe. The two projects aim to unlock the place-making potential that exists at the two sites. Emily Place has an intimate urban scale, is surrounded by character and heritage buildings and several mature trees offering a real oasis in the city. There is an opportunity to improve pedestrian experiences by improving the street environment by calming traffic, removing parking, and providing more public amenities. Similarly, Tyler Street can be improved by limiting the impact of cars parking and racing through the narrow street. Wider footways could unlock potential for restaurants and businesses fronting onto the street.

The plan is to go through a co-design process with key stakeholders and the public during November and December 2020. The preferred options emanating from this process will be taken to design level and will be submitted for approval by the relevant authorities. If all goes according to plan the projects should be implemented early 2021, in time for the public to enjoy it in the late summer.