|  |
| --- |
| Aotearoa is on the cusp of an urban development revolution. A transition to living locally not only assists decarbonisation of our transport system but supports our physical health as people can make journeys on foot or on two wheels. As well as this, living locally supports our mental, emotional, and social well-being as people can connect with their communities and local environments. Globally, there has been a surge in interest in ideas such as the 15-minute city, the superblock, and the circle of daily life. However, to achieve this concept, we must first be able to evaluate our current situation. Introducing: The X-Minute City, where residents are within 5, 15, or 20 minutes of amenities via walking, wheeling and cycling. Although touted as a tool for urban vitalisation by cities globally, the paper will explore what it means to be an X-Minute City, create a framework for measuring the concept and present our interactive dashboard that can be used by communities and councils. The approach uses distance (km) and duration (minutes) from each neighbourhood block to daily amenities for towns and cities in Aotearoa New Zealand and the 500 largest cities in the United States. Each neighbourhoods’ proximity to a combination of amenities such as grocery stores, greenspace and schools was determined and contributed to an overall time of access in each neighbourhood, the ‘X-Minutes’.The paper will evaluate the ways in which the X-Minute City can be applied, highlighting the X-Minute City’s potential influence on land-use planning, urban reconfiguration, and urban renaissance. By revitalising urban areas to be more easily traversable for the public without a vehicle, cities can improve public health, adapt to climate change, and be COVID-19 resilient. Using the X-Minute City to encourage accessible (re)development creates diverse and vibrant cities that improve the livelihood of communities.   |

**Evaluating X-Minute Cities for People Friendly Centres**