



**EQUESTRIAN SPORTS  
NEW ZEALAND**

21 April 2022

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Equestrian Sport New Zealand in support of the New Zealand Equestrian Advocacy Network Submission in support of the petition of ARTHUR YEO which states...

“That the House of Representatives ensure, through legislation, that central and local government designers and planners of public works and policy are required to consider, inform, consult and include equestrian user’s needs in the design and construction of all roading, pathways, reserves and parks”

As an organisation we recognise the important role that horses have played and continue to provide across society. This covers both a sport and recreation connection that adds to the wellbeing of participants. We also know the importance of the role Horses can play in the general wellbeing of humans who may be suffering from various illnesses. Horses of course are also companion animals for many people in society.

Our members rely on access to recreational riding to enhance the training and experiences for both themselves and their horses. Good safe recreational riding is essential for our members, many of whom are children, and is also essential for the safety and welfare of their horses. Our members are reporting that access to traditional riding areas, and access on new infrastructure being developed, is declining. This is of great concern to our community and indeed the many businesses that we support.

To ensure the benefits Horses can provide to many is not undermined, it is of importance to us that due consideration and collaboration is entered into between agencies as we look forward as to how legislation is developed in relation to access to areas where horses can be ridden for both recreation and competition experiences.

We ask that you find a way to support the submission that is being made to ensure our Equestrian community’s voices are heard and considered as part of ongoing planning around recreational spaces across the country.

Kind Regards

Julian Bowden  
Chief Executive Officer  
Equestrian Sport New Zealand