



The Gattung Foundation
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Julia McLean
Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group Chair
New Zealand Equestrian Advocacy Network
Email: horseridersvru@gmail.com

Support for the Formal Recognition of Horse Riders as Vulnerable Road Users

Tēnā koe Julia,

On behalf of the Gattung Foundation (www.gattungfoundation.nz), I am writing to express our support for the recommendation that horse riders be formally recognised as Vulnerable Road Users in New Zealand's transport legislation. We believe this recognition is vital for enhancing the safety and well-being of the equestrian community across New Zealand.

In her younger days, Theresa used to ride horses on roads and had a few experiences of motorists behaving in dangerous ways. A horse's first reaction to a perceived threat is flight and other road users need to be cautious.

Currently, horse riders are in an extremely vulnerable position on NZ roads. The safety of all road users, including people riding horses, is an important issue for our country. We support your call for the government to consider better provision for horse rider safety within relevant legislation and as part of national road safety strategies and documents.

Ngā mihi maioha,

Angela Gattung

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