**The Walking Tourists: Reflections from the walking mind**

Walkability is a concept that assesses the extent to which a built environment facilitates and encourages walking as an active means of transportation. Integrating walkability into urban planning is crucial for creating liveable cities, as it promotes active and healthy lifestyles and reduces traffic congestion, hence creating a sustainable and liveable urban environment. It also enhances social interactions and contributes to a feeling of community and sense of place. In recent years, walkability has become a key factor in the development of liveable cities and integrated transportation planning. Tourists are another category of walkers and may have different views on what makes a good walking environment. Given that a tourist is generally unfamiliar with the environment visited, it is essential to examine how the built environment affects locals and tourists differently when walking. In this context, an empirical study was conducted in Wellington and Christchurch, New Zealand which investigated how locals and visitors perceived the area with an emphasis on potential distinctions between local and visitor walking experiences and viewpoints. The study collected data from a Walk Diary in which 132 respondents evaluated the environment along a single walk. The study's findings provide critical insights into how urban planners and policymakers can enhance people's urban walking experience and create more liveable cities by considering the perspectives of both locals and tourists. The results highlight the need for approaches that consider the unique needs of each group to create walkable environments that benefit everyone. These insights will be useful in creating sustainable and liveable urban environments that promote healthy lifestyles, reduce traffic congestion, and foster a sense of community and place.