

Waikato Regional Land Transport Strategy review Health Impact Assessment

Walking together for wellbeing

HIA 2010 Dunedin



#### **Overview**

- Transport and health
- Transport Strategy: HIA background
- Process benefits
- Process learning
- HIA evaluation



Waikato Regional Land Transport Strategy









# Transport and health



Barton and Grant after Dahlgren and Whitehead, 2006

### Public health as everyone's business

- Public health links...
- Land Transport Management Act
- 5 outcome areas











# **Transport impacts on health**

Health promoting Enabling access Employment	Health damaging
Enabling access Employment	
Shops Recreation Social support Health services Countryside Recreation Exercise Economic development	<ul> <li>Road traffic injuries</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Particulates</li> <li>Carbon monoxide</li> <li>Nitrogen oxides</li> <li>Hydrocarbons</li> <li>Ozones</li> <li>Carbon dioxide</li> <li>Lead</li> <li>Noise pollution</li> <li>Stress and anxiety</li> <li>Danger</li> <li>Loss of land and planning blight</li> <li>Severance of communities by road</li> <li>Constraints on mobility access and</li> <li>independence</li> <li>Reduced social use of outdoor space</li> </ul>
	due to traffic and streets

Environment Waikato

REGIONAL COUNCIL

POPULATION HEALTH

# **HIA background: Process**

- Aug 09 Funding proposal
- **Dec 09** Scoping



#### Jan-Feb 10Appraisal

- Stakeholder/community workshops
- Focus groups
- Literature review



March 10 HIA discussion document completed





## **HIA background: Process**

- March 10 Regional Transport Committee (RTC) (Strategic Options Workshop)
- April 10 Draft HIA report shared with RTC
- May 10 Final HIA report endorsed by RTC
- **Nov-Dec 10** Draft Regional Land Transport Strategy released for public consultation

HIA report web link:

http://www.ew.govt.nz/PageFiles/14108/Waikato regio nal land Transport strateg%e2%80%a6.pdf



## **HIA background: Recommendations**

- Alternative modes investment
- Access and mobility by design
- Expand public/community transport
- Demand management initiatives
- Information and communications
- Participation, representation and advocacy





# **HIA background: Planning opportunities**

- Passenger Transport Plan review
- Regional Road Safety Strategy
- Regional Walking and Cycling Strategy
- Supporting rural transport planning and advocacy
- Other (e.g. District Plan review)





## **HIA process : Benefits of working together**

#### Environment Waikato

- Collaborative processes "joined up" thinking
- Access to health data and contact/target audience groups
- Increased learning experience
- Established linkages health/transport/communities
- Waikato DHB Population Health
  - Working within transport policy team –mutual support/understanding
  - HIA process brokered longer-term relationships and collaboration



### HIA process : Learning...

#### Environment Waikato

- Initially some caution uncertain on outcomes
- Found that socio-economic/health impacts very important across all transport planning
- HIA valuable process
- Look to repeat in future projects
- Waikato DHB Population Health
  - Strategic & terminology alignment (transport vs. health)
  - Balancing social and economic factors
  - Managing politics related to decision-maker engagement



## **HIA process and impact evaluation**

Preliminary process findings...

#### Areas of strength

- Raising awareness and understanding of health impacts of transport
- Connecting people from diverse organisations and interests
- Enhancing relationships and partnerships

#### Areas for improvement

- Streamlining of the HIA process
- Preparing participants for the HIA workshops
- Strengthening the evidence base of relating issues to solutions





## Conclusion

- Resource and goodwill required from all involved
- Elected reps and transport policy team as HIA advocates
- Health in All Policies: local government a future focus

#### **Contacts**:

Waikato DHB Population Health Policy Analyst

greg.morton@waikatodhb.health.nz

**Environment Waikato Transport Policy Manager** 

Bill.McMaster@ew.govt.nz

