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
Transport and health

Barton and Grant after Dahlgren and Whitehead, 2006

The determinants of health and well-being in our neighbourhoods
Public health as everyone’s business

- Public health links…
- Land Transport Management Act
- 5 outcome areas
## Transport impacts on health

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<tr>
<th>Health promoting</th>
<th>Health promoting</th>
<th>Health damaging</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enabling access</td>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>Road traffic injuries</td>
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<td>Shops</td>
<td>Air pollution</td>
<td>Particulates</td>
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<td>Recreation</td>
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<td>Carbon monoxide</td>
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<td>Social support</td>
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<td>Nitrogen oxides</td>
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<td>Health services</td>
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<td>Hydrocarbons</td>
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<td>Recreation</td>
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<td>Exercise</td>
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<td>Lead</td>
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<td>Economic development</td>
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<td>Noise pollution</td>
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<td>Stress and anxiety</td>
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<td>Danger</td>
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<td>Loss of land and planning blight</td>
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<td>Severance of communities by road</td>
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<td>Constraints on mobility access and independence</td>
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<td>Reduced social use of outdoor space due to traffic and streets</td>
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Quigley and Watts, 2009
HIA background: Process

Aug 09  Funding proposal

Dec 09  Scoping

Jan-Feb 10  Appraisal
  ● Stakeholder/community workshops
  ● Focus groups
  ● Literature review

March 10  HIA discussion document completed
HIA scope

- Safety
- Urban form
- Active transport

- Maori
- Other ethnic minorities
- Older people

- Children and young people
- Rural communities
- People with disabilities

Reducing inequalities: populations of concern (across all focus areas)
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:

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

- Evaluation report due Dec 2010
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

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