

e vibe

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



Whakatepea te kō, kia kotahi 'We're in it together' 09 366 2000 www.arc.govt.nz

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From the editor

We all know that Auckland has a congestion problem! We also know that we have to reduce our reliance on cars, get onto public transport or find alternatives to the private motor car. One way forward is the School Travel Plan programme initiated on the North Shore. This has achieved great success at reducing traffic congestion at the school gates (a major problem for many Auckland schools), so read the article to find out how your school can get involved.

Less well known, but equally important, is the effect of traffic congestion on our environment and our health (air quality and stormwater pollution). Read "Three cheers for the people" to see what 55,000 phone calls to the 0800 Smokey campaign did to help change the law to make vehicle emission testing mandatory.

Congratulations - we the people can make a difference!

Now - please accept our challenge to help reduce traffic congestion in Auckland!

Hilary Chidlow
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Auckland Regional Council

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Too much traffic

Ever thought Auckland's roads are too crowded? That is because roughly 400,000 vehicles are on the road each weekday morning, many of them trying to get to the same places – 28,000 vehicles travelling to the CBD, nearly 8,000 to Penrose and Onehunga and 5,500 to Wairau.

Auckland traffic congestion is a huge problem – people waste time sitting in traffic, business find it hard to move goods around, and cars run very inefficiently which is bad for the car and means it produces more air and water pollution.



What are the options

for solving Auckland's congestion and will they solve the environmental problems congestion causes?

Transport impacts on every aspect of the environment:

- Land – 13% of Auckland's land area is roads and this doesn't count driveways, parking lots, car sales yards etc.
- Air – most of Auckland's air pollution is from vehicles, including 91% of the carbon monoxide and 87% of the nitrogen dioxide
- Water – our streams and harbours cannot cope with the volume of water that runs off from roads in heavy rain, or with the oil, rubber and heavy metals that come from vehicles

Build more roads

As Auckland grows the city will of course need new roads, but building new roads to solve congestion has some **serious drawbacks**:

- Making it easier for vehicles without improving facilities for walking, cycling and passenger transport means more people will choose to drive and the new roads soon become congested. Even though individual cars run more efficiently, pollution gets worse overall because there is more traffic.
- New roads are designed to speed up traffic along a particular route but traffic will still get stuck elsewhere in the city. If the six billion dollars of new roads planned for Auckland were built in the next 10 years the average congestion for the whole of Auckland would stay about the same overall.
- Major new roads like the Eastern Corridor and the connection of State Highway 20 through Mt Roskill and Waterview to the Northwestern Motorway have been planned decades ago and most of the land has been set aside and not built on. Once these roads are built, any new major road in the urban area will involve buying the land at current Auckland prices and demolishing the buildings – a hugely expensive undertaking.



Provide more public transport

If more Aucklanders chose to catch the bus, train or ferry instead of driving there would be less congestion – but getting people to change their mind isn't easy.

To get people out of their cars, public transport needs to be fast, frequent, reliable and cheap. This means we need bus lanes and bus priority at traffic lights, as well as subsidies people don't have to pay the full cost of the bus service in their fares. More school buses would help persuade parents not to drive their kids to school. Buses, trains and ferries take up a lot less room for the numbers of people they carry, but they still have an impact on air and water pollution. Some of the things being done to make public transport truly the "clean, green" option are:

- Buses have their emissions checked, which helps show if they need maintenance
- The water used to wash buses is recycled to avoid polluting streams
- The Region plans to electrify the rail track and replace diesel trains with electric ones
- Sewage pump out facilities are being built at the ferry wharves so ferries will no longer discharge sewage into the harbour

More walking and cycling

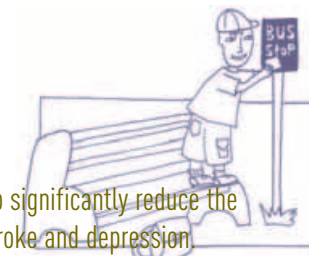
Walking and cycling are active, healthy ways to get around and cause almost no pollution at all.

They are no good for travelling very long distances or for carrying freight but many short trips currently made by car would be quick, safe and pleasant by walking or cycling.

About a third of New Zealanders, including an increasing number of children, do not get enough exercise to benefit their health. Just 30

minutes of activity each day is enough to significantly reduce the risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke and depression

Walking to school is a great way to get 30 minutes of exercise and helps set up healthy habits for life. But safety is a real concern, because schools are often in heavy traffic areas and not all drivers are considerate. Many schools are getting organised and preparing travel plans to improve safety and encourage their students and staff to walk to school.



How Aucklanders travel

- 76% of peoples trips are by car (50% as driver and 26% as passenger)
- 20% of trips are by walking
- 1% by cycling
- 2.5% by public transport
- 30% of car trips are under 2km (a half-hour walk)



Road pricing

Road users already pay most of the cost of roads through petrol tax and road user charges, though about half the cost of local roads is paid through local council rates. The trouble is, people pay about the same to drive on busy, congested roads; if they had to pay more, perhaps there would be less demand on the roads at peak times and the road network would work more efficiently.

It's not easy to charge drivers for using roads that they are used to using for free. One option is to charge only on the new roads, but if the charge is high enough to discourage people from using the road, then why build it? And if the charge does not discourage people then it will not achieve much for congestion.

Road pricing is certainly being investigated as part of planning for Auckland's transport future, but it is not a quick or easy solution and there are many hard decisions to make in designing a system that works.

So... what's the answer?

As usual in transport there is no one right answer and the best we can do is try to find a balance – building some new roads, improving passenger transport and encouraging safe walking and cycling, and looking at road pricing as a future option. Done right, such a package could reduce Auckland's congestion – but we will never get rid of congestion all together.

The Morning Ritual, Traffic Congestion and Safety at the School Gate...



The relationship between the morning ritual of the average Auckland parent and the region's congestion problem has been clarified through a recent Auckland Regional Council study "Trip to Education".

The aim of the study was to understand how to migrate people from their current, mainly car-based modes of travel to school / education, to other more intensified or less road based modes.

Did you know that 87% of the region's students are taken to school by car (at least some of the time). Car travel is considered the quick and easy option.

It probably won't be a surprise that:

- Over 40% of the region's peak hour traffic congestion is created by parents and individuals travelling to schools and tertiary institutions. This is now the most common way of getting to educational facilities in NZ cities; the number of these trips has almost doubled between 1989/90 and 1997/98
- Heavy traffic and dense parking around schools are creating a hazard - to the point that traffic accidents before & after school kill more children aged 1-14 than any other cause.

Preferences Change with Age

The age of their child is the basis for parents' decisions as to what transport mode is acceptable, and there is a very clear progression of ages at which different modes of transport become acceptable.

As the age line below shows the great majority of parents see car use as the only option at age 5. At age 7-8 walking and dedicated school buses become options. At age 10-12, cycling is added to the mix of options (but only by a few parents) as well as use of public buses and trains.

Moving people away from the car....

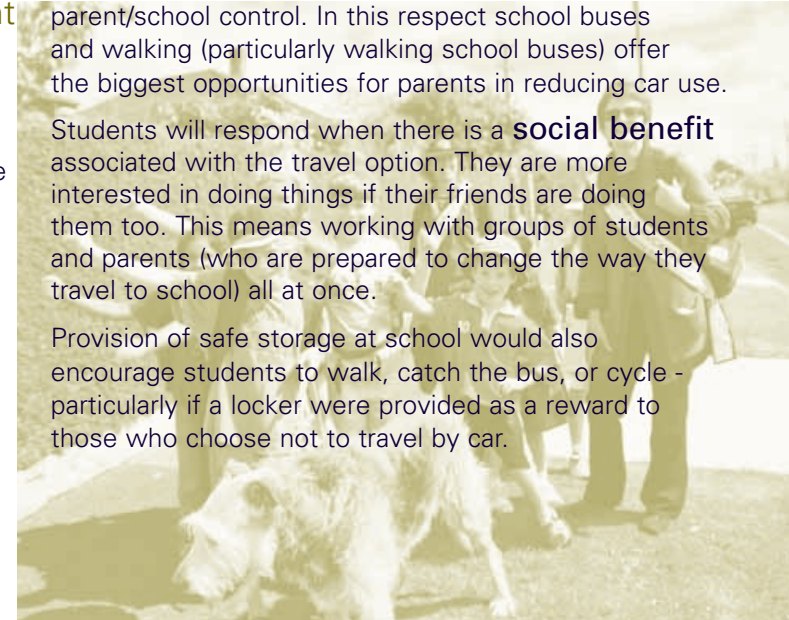
Parents will respond to the **health benefits** associated with walking. This can be effectively linked to other topical issues (obesity, lack of participation in

sport) to provide parents with "permission to say no" to students who want to be driven to school. At the same time, parents need to be reassured about the safety of their children walking.

Switching parent thinking requires introducing options that are safe, convenient and provide for a level of parent/school control. In this respect school buses and walking (particularly walking school buses) offer the biggest opportunities for parents in reducing car use.

Students will respond when there is a **social benefit** associated with the travel option. They are more interested in doing things if their friends are doing them too. This means working with groups of students and parents (who are prepared to change the way they travel to school) all at once.

Provision of safe storage at school would also encourage students to walk, catch the bus, or cycle - particularly if a locker were provided as a reward to those who choose not to travel by car.



Fascinating Facts

- 260,000 Aucklanders drive to work each morning
- Every day, Auckland's population grows by 49 people, bringing with them 35 more cars - that amounts to a new line of traffic 70kms long each year!
- 40% of all morning peak trips are to educational destinations
- Aucklanders own 650,000 vehicles - this is one car for every 2 people
- If all the cars owned by Aucklanders were lined up, they would stretch 4,250 kilometres - the same distance as driving from Auckland to Wellington and back three and a half times!
- One third of car trips in New Zealand are under 2km and two thirds are under 6km - and from an environmental point of view, short distance car trips generate the most pollution per km travelled
- Auckland's air quality is deteriorating and 80% of our air pollution is caused by vehicle emissions - in fact it is reported that 253 people die each year from vehicle emissions in the Auckland region
- In 2001, around 2.25 million trips were made by urban commuters in Auckland - this is just 5% of all trips made by public transport in the Auckland region
- Auckland has more than 500 bus routes throughout the region, fanning outward from the CBD to numerous urban locations and beyond
- A total of 160,000 people ride on 5,000 bus trips every week day
- Over 10% of Auckland primary schools have a Walking School Bus
- Keep to the speed limit; driving at 90kmph instead of 110kmph saves 25% on fuel



Current Preferences

Overall, parents place a very high degree of importance on the decision about how their children travel to school, much more so than the children do. This means that the challenge lies within changing parental attitudes rather than changing student behaviours.

Driving to school is the first choice for parents. However, car travel presents itself to parents as a bit of a double-edged sword.

Traffic danger (due to the increasing amount of traffic) is their greatest concern and holds them back from allowing their children to use other options. At the same time, they consider taking their children to school as inconvenient - **"I spend all afternoon dropping them off and collecting them from classes"** - and are concerned that it adds to traffic congestion and pollution.

Walking is the next most popular option with 39% of parents identifying that at least one child in their household walks to school (from within a 1km distance from school), and a further 46% walk who live within a 1 - 5km of school.

Cycling presents a different story.

Over 60% of parents who are open to switching from car travel to another option will not even considering cycling for their children. Any health benefits gained from this option are significantly offset by the perception of traffic danger.

Student Solutions... Solving Auckland's Congestion Problems

During the survey, students were asked to say what their idea is for having fewer cars taking students to school or university. Here are some highlights of what they had to say:

The most popular response related to buses - "there should be school buses going around the area the kids live in and pick them up instead of parents driving them"

"have a safe school bus which would take us to the gate, and not too far away from house, maybe even if it came to your gate"

"every school should have school buses all over Auckland"

Many suggested encouraging bicycle use.

"give everyone bikes to ride"

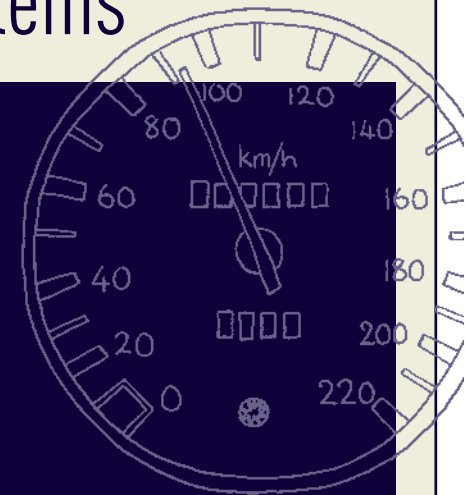
"a sophisticated and modern cycle lane network"

"a separate footpath for children who go on bikes, roller-blades, etc."

"use adverts to tell motorists to look for bikes"

"tax refunds on bike store accessories"

"build places to park bicycles"



Join Up!



Joining the NZAEE (Auckland Branch) offers these exclusive member benefits:

- PRIORITY bookings for NZAEE Workshops and Seminars
- DISCOUNTS for NZAEE Seminars
- YOUR OWN personal copy of E vibe News
- PLUS a host of other benefits!

NZAEE aims to provide a network and framework to promote environmental education initiatives in New Zealand; and to encourage and promote environmental education training for formal and informal sectors.

Membership Application Form

Student/low wage	\$15
Individual	\$30
School/Non-profit	\$35
Corporate	\$150

NZAEE is not a GST registered organisation.
Please find enclosed \$ payment for subscription.

Name _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

Email _____

Complete and cut off this membership form.
Make cheques payable to NZAEE.

Post to: NZAEE Auckland Branch
c/o Jami Williams
Auckland Regional Council
Private Bag 92-012
Auckland

Travel to Education Strategy

What is all this research for?

For Auckland to be a sustainable city it is essential to change the way the journey to education is planned for and managed. The Auckland Regional Council is defining a new approach; one that is evidence-based, community-centred, and focuses on outcomes rather than organisational boundaries. International best practice in sustainable development gives us the tools to manage travel to education in a totally new way.

Over the coming months the ARC looks forward to working with Central and Local government agencies, schools, communities and individuals to develop a new approach to Travel to Education in the Auckland Region.

For more information contact or for a copy of the 'Trip to Education Research', email: rae-anne.kurucz@arc.govt.nz at the Auckland Regional Council.

School Travel Plans Schools reducing their own car related hazards

School Travel Plans help the Region to encourage more sustainable transportation and to reduce the number of car trips.

What is a School Travel Plan?

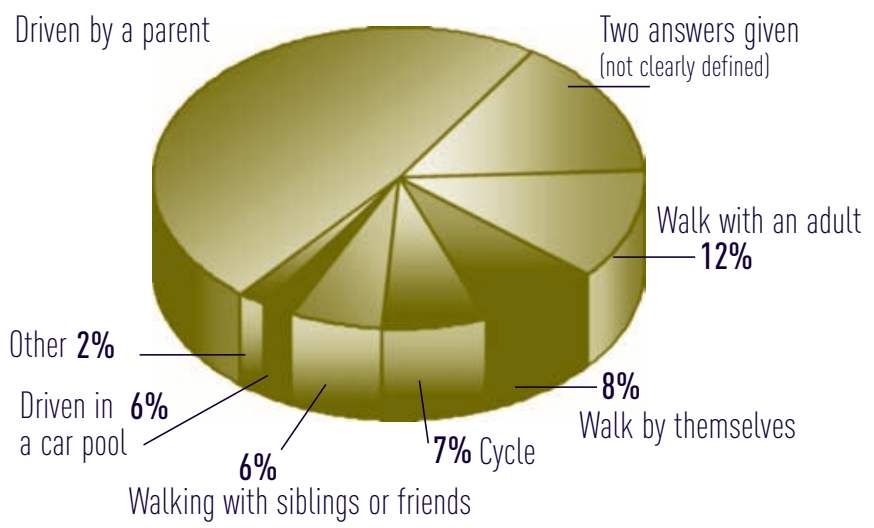
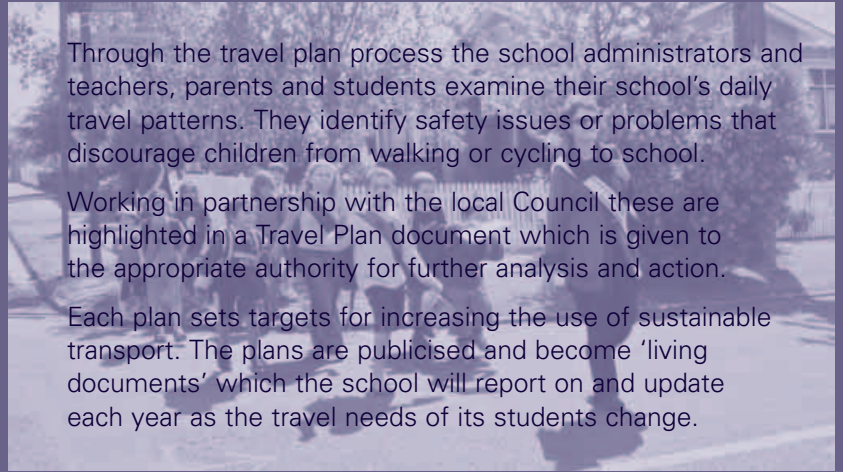
A School Travel Plan is:

- A programme and partnership which aims to:
- reduce car travel
 - improve safety and the environment for walkers and cyclists
 - help improve facilities for walkers and cyclists
 - help improve bus services
 - An outline of the school's needs and problems regarding travel to and from school
 - A document written by the school

Why do we need a School Travel Plan?

A School Travel Plan can:

- Help reduce car travel danger, congestion and pollution outside your school
- Help to encourage pupils and staff to walk and cycle in safety and in a more pleasant environment. A school 'safety zone' can transform children's journeys with crossing points, traffic calming and lower speed limits on nearby roads
- Help to make a bid for funds for facilities like cycle storage and lockers for your school
- Help to provide road improvements outside your school
- Help to raise levels of physical and mental health and social well-being in your school



Travel pattern of Vauxhall School

A survey of the current travel patterns of Vauxhall School identified that just under half of the students arrived by car.

The school identified the following specific actions in their Travel Plan:

Reduce Traffic Congestion

- Install key infrastructure to ensure that gains are permanent
- Install Kea Crossing outside main gate
- Add "Drop Off" zone outside school
- Extended "No Parking" restriction on the opposite side of the road
- Separate short and long term parking
- Improve pedestrian and cycling facilities

Encourage healthy alternatives to car travel

- Introduce two Walking School Buses
- Change the School's policy for allowing children to cycle to school
- Change the School's policy and allow other modes of getting to school (scooter / skateboard)
- Review cycle routes children identified
- Upgraded and introduced new routes
- Encourage parents living close to each other to car pool via links in the school newsletter

Increase Road Safety and Awareness

- Continue the LTSA RoadSense programme
- Provide information on road safety to parents of new entrant children
- Provide information on School Travel Policy
- Newsletters
- Prospectus
- School Web Site

Local success with Travel Plans can be seen on the North Shore. Vauxhall, Bayswater and Browns Bay Primary schools have all developed Travel Plans for their schools. Bayswater Primary is already seeing the benefits – more kids are developing road safety awareness and a healthier lifestyle by walking and cycling and the school has seen a reduction in the number of cars at the school gate.

For more information school travel plans contact: rae-anne.kurucz@arc.govt.nz or donna.goodwin@eeca.govt.nz

Way to Go! Learning to travel...

Questions, questions...

Why do we travel the way we do? What are the reasons that so many of us take the car alone to work, study or the shops? Is it cheaper, more convenient, safer, faster, more environmentally friendly, socially more acceptable or just a habit that we've got used to? Or, are our perceptions of other forms of transport just so bad that we don't even consider them?

Internationally, a growing number of projects recognise that continued road-building is not a sustainable solution to coping with increasing numbers of cars. As a result, developers, planners and community workers have started to team up to consider the issues around why people travel and what could be done to change travelling behaviour. The emphasis is on moving away from driving a car to using public transport, walking and

Being community-based, Way to Go! involves households, schools and businesses in the New Lynn, Kelston and Glen Eden area of Waitakere City. Its main focus is on improving the perceptions of bus travel, cycling and walking by providing relevant quality information to help people make travel decisions which are better for them. Essentially, the project tries to help people assess their current travel habits and learn new ones with the certainty that, for some trips, other modes of transport will be cheaper, quicker and more convenient.

The campaign has been designed with a high level of community involvement to make sure that the information and messages are directly relevant to the target population and the area in which they live.

Personalised marketing programme

The core of the campaign is the personalised marketing programme which targets 5,500 households in the area. A telephone call from Rideline – the ARC travel information centre – identifies the most relevant information for each household. The householders then receive a personalised information pack which could include maps for walking and cycling, public transport time-tables, a first-timer's public transport guide, a local area transport centre map, information on more efficient car use and a family activities pack. Participants who do not already

cycling in a bid to ease congestion and reduce impacts on air quality and the wider environment.

Far from being 'anti-car', these projects make a distinction between high value and low value car trips. Low value trips are those which could be taken with little extra cost or inconvenience by another mode of transport, combined with other trips, shifted to another time or shared with someone else. It is these trips that are the focus of behaviour change projects, easing congestion to improve the flow of higher value trips.

Way to go! is a programme developed as part of the Auckland Regional Council's Big Clean Up campaign. The programme has been developed in partnership with Waitakere City Council and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority.

use public transport are also sent free weekly-trial bus passes as an incentive to try public transport.

School travel plan

As part of the programme, Fruitvale Primary school is developing a school travel plan. This involves mapping the routes that students take to get to school, their mode of travel and then identifying solutions to local travel issues. The school travel plan approach is based on the excellent work that is taking place at a number of schools on the North Shore (see page ***). Other schools in the area will receive the transport section of the City Issues resource kit developed by the Environmental Education department at the ARC.

Local businesses

As part of the wider community involvement, local businesses at Lynn Mall are also being contacted and offered similar information to the households to help employees find out their choices for the journey to work. The project will also encourage the businesses to trial a local car-share to work scheme.

Social marketing

Based on the what the community have had to say, a marketing campaign is being carried out through on-bus advertising. Slogans and catch-phrases highlight the main reasons to change their travel habits. These will feature both inside and outside buses that travel through the area.

Infrastructural changes

In addition, a number of physical changes are planned for the area. These include the upgrade of a park and ride site by the local transport centre and a number of improvements to pedestrian crossings – making the area more walkable. In direct response to the community consultation, the Transport Centre itself is due for a repaint, improved signage and graffiti removal.

Overall it is intended that the Way to Go! campaign will help to enforce the message that improving the transport situation is a collaborative effort where everyone can play a part. Also, by reassessing our current travel habits and learning new ones we can all contribute to reducing congestion and pollution.

For more information contact Bill Smith 3662000 ex.8308

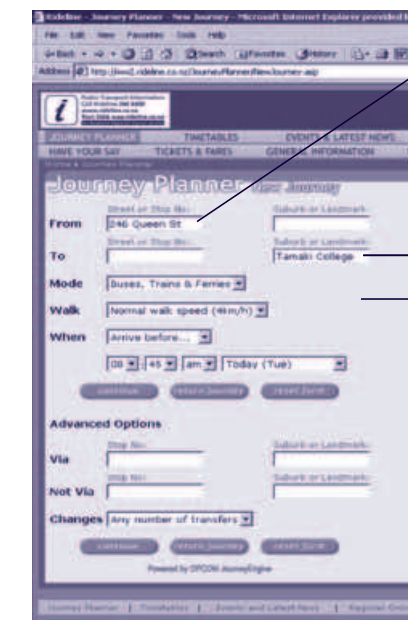
For public transport information call Rideline 366 6400

www.rideline.co.nz

The Rideline website is designed to help you gather all the information you need to travel by public transport in the Auckland region. It complements the following:

- Rideline phone service (phone 366 6400)
- Text messaging service (3666)
- WAP service (wap.rideline.co.nz).

Interactive journey planner For planning a trip by public transport, the backbone of the website is the interactive journey planner.

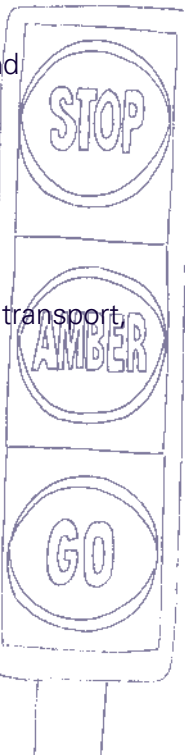


Where you are leaving from. You can choose an address, intersection, suburb or landmark, (entering information in the appropriate field).

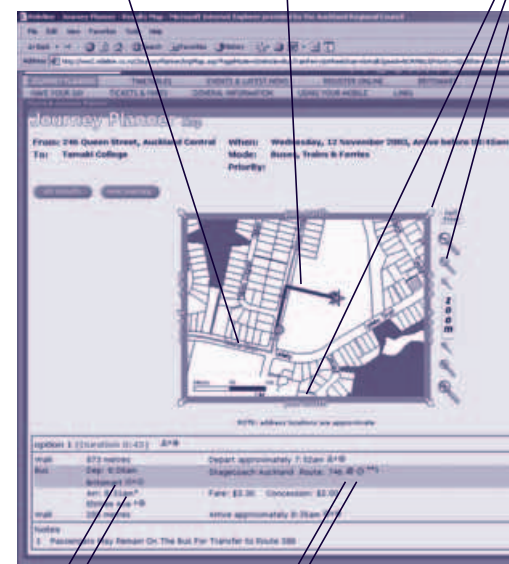
Where you are going to.

When you want to arrive. You can also specify when you want to depart or if you want the first or last service for the day.

The journey planner will then ask you to confirm the details of where you are travelling to and from, and will then return a choice of 5 journey plans. If you want to know more about your journey plan, you can check out the maps.



The pink lines shows the route the bus takes. The blue lines shows the walk you need to make. These help you navigate around the map.



Click these icons for different views of the map.

Click these icons for more detail about this and other trips.

Text messaging



You can also text message your request to the Rideline journey planner.

Use the website emulator on the website to practice free of charge.

To the left is the text message that you would enter to get the next trip from Vodafone House to the Zoo and the result you would receive on your cellphone.

As well as the features above there are many other sections including information on fares and forums where you can discuss issues with other website users and ask questions.

The best way to find out what you can do on the website is to go to www.rideline.co.nz and try some of the features for yourself. If you require further assistance, go to the Have Your Say section and either ask through the forum or e-mail the webmaster.



Three cheers for the people!

Community action brings about compulsory emissions testing
After a two year regional effort to get action on Auckland's air pollution problem, last month the government announced it would introduce nationwide mandatory vehicle emissions testing as part of the Warrant of Fitness from 2006.

Vehicle emissions are linked to asthma, bronchitis and respiratory problems, and are estimated to cause around 250 premature deaths every year.

As 80 per cent of Auckland's air pollution is caused by

vehicle emissions, the Government's decision was a huge triumph for people from all sectors of the community who pulled together for the air quality campaign.

Diary of action...

The campaign kicked off with **0800 Smokey** – with over 55,000 calls to the hotline dobbing in polluting cars – in one instance the same smoking vehicle was dobbed in 67 times!

The ARC then commissioned a study by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric research to study over 40,000 vehicles at 16 different sites around the Auckland region, in order to build up a vehicle emissions profile.

September 2002

ARC Big Clean Up members were asked to send post cards to the Minister of Transport, Paul Swain, to help the ARC lobby the government to take action on vehicle emissions. By January this year, the Minister had received over 2000 postcards.

July 2003

Air quality lobby group Clean Air Auckland held a protest at the Nelson Street on-ramp to highlight the issue of vehicle emissions to Auckland motorists. The protest featured placards asking for clean air for the region's children, and demanding vehicle emissions testing.

August

The air quality lobby group presented an ongoing petition to the Minister for Auckland Issues and Associate Minister of Transport, Judith Tizard, demanding the introduction of emissions standards, mandatory vehicle emissions testing with the Warrant

The study produced some surprising results, with twenty-year-old cars that were well-loved and well-cared for having much lower emissions than the worst emitting 2001-2003 models. There were also only 120 cars out of the 40,000 tested without a WoF for more than six months, which showed that the majority of polluting cars could be picked up in through emissions testing with the WoF.

A particularly scary finding was that Auckland vehicles emit three times the amount of hydrocarbons and double the amount of carbon monoxide and nitric oxide than vehicles in the United States.

of Fitness, and the introduction of cleaner fuels faster than currently scheduled. (The completed petition, with 3000 signatures, was presented to Judith Tizard on October 1, by Clean Air's Nancy Eisenburg).

September

The ARC presented the results of the NIWA study in a report, which was sent to the Ministry for the Environment, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Transport, and Minister for Auckland Issues and Associate Minister of Transport Judith Tizard, along with a letter appealing for emissions testing as a part of the WoF in light of the new evidence.

October 1

The government finally bowed to pressure and announced that vehicle emissions testing was to become compulsory, as it is in almost all other OECD countries!

Congratulations and thank you to all of you who took action to save Auckland's air!

Enjoy the Ride

FACT:
OPINION:
FACT:
FACT:

Aucklanders rely heavily on their cars.

We need to look at other ways of getting around.

There is already some action you can take to help Auckland's traffic problems and you need to encourage your family and friends to do the same.

You have another task to do.

TASK ONE > Read the following information. Ideas to help traffic congestion in Auckland.

Park and Ride

People park their cars at a train or bus station in order to use public transport.

Parking facilities need to be provided for this purpose.

Shuttle Service

Buses and vans take people from bus and train stations to work, shops and entertainment venues.

Ferry Services

Ferries run from places such as Waiheke Island, Half Moon Bay and Devenport to Auckland City.

New Services could run from East Coast Bays, West Harbour or other parts of Auckland.

Cycleways and Pedestrian Walkways

These provide a safe and convenient alternative to the car.

Ride-share

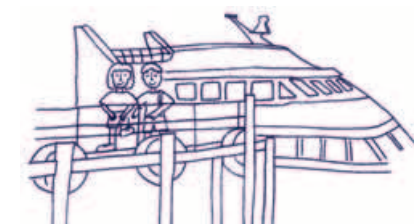
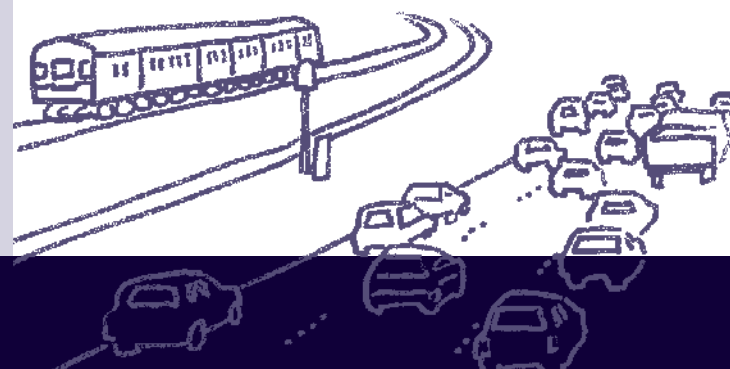
People share their journeys to and from work by car. Auckland Healthcare runs a computer-based programme that enables staff to log on and find a match with other staff wanting to carpool. It also runs a shuttle bus for its employees.

Bus Lanes

These operate during peak traffic times on main roads through the suburbs and alongside motorways. Buses have a lane of their own and can thereby avoid heavy traffic reducing the journey time.

Suburban Trains

Train services and stations will be improved to attract more passengers.



TASK TWO > Advertising Campaign

Design an advertising campaign for one of the ideas to help reduce traffic congestion in Auckland, listed on the previous page.

Complete this student planner to help you.

- 1 List which community groups will be the focus of your campaign.

- 2 Select one group to target.

- 3 What messages do you want to get across about your chosen service?

- 4 The campaign could be for radio, television, newspaper, internet or billboards and must include at least four of the following:

- Press release
- Song
- Timetable of events
- Logo
- Video clip
- Goods / products to give away
- Script or jingle (tape)

How about sending your ideas to the Auckland Regional Council!

Reduce Your Rubbish School Challenge

Earlier in the year schools throughout the Auckland region were prepared to put their rubbish habits under the spotlight and enter the Reduce Your Rubbish School Challenge. The competition, run by the Auckland Regional Council and partnered by most other local councils offered prizes to the value of \$8,000 for environmental projects of the winning school's choice.

Here are the results:

Category 1 - Active Schools

- 1st = Windy Ridge School - \$2000
- 2nd = Verran School - \$1000
- 3rd = Avondale Intermediate - \$500
- 3rd = Remuera Intermediate - \$500

Category 2 - Beginning schools

- 1st = Dairy Flat School - \$2000
- 2nd = Woodlands Park School - \$1000
- 3rd = Greenhithe Primary School - \$500
- 4th = Northcote Intermediate - \$500



Windy Ridge School – winners of the active category (schools who have been reducing rubbish for more than one year)



Dairy Flat School – winners of the beginners category, holding their school rubbish trophy, created by their property manager.

In all of the winning schools the judges were impressed with the children's participation in the range of waste reduction projects. These included recycling systems, worm farms, reducing the amount of paper, litterless lunch days, designing and making calico bags, and even requesting food available at the school canteen come in recyclable packaging!

It was also evident that there were some great partnerships going between children, teachers and property managers.

Congratulations to all **our winners!**

We hope to run the challenge again to encourage more schools to take

Environmental Action!

Websites

<http://www.arc.govt.nz/?820627A3-397C-44B7-AB23-0D8C4145CD96>

ARC – information on transport in the Auckland region, public transport options, walking, cycling, road safety etc

<http://www.rideline.co.nz/>

Rideline – website includes journey planners, forums, timetables for buses and trains in the Auckland region, information on Britomart

<http://www.ltsa.govt.nz/>

Land Transport Safety Authority – on this website you'll find factsheets, research, information on community programmes etc

<http://www.ccc.govt.nz/saferoutes/>

Safe Routes to School – Christchurch City Council's programme which originated with school road safety investigations, and has developed to include a strong behavioural and promotional emphasis of encouraging safe and active travel to school

<http://www.ecan.govt.nz/Buses-Transport/from-a-to-b.html>

From A to B – Environment Canterbury's education resource for kids (ages 5-8) to learn about riding the bus

<http://www.roadsafeauckland.org.nz/home.cfm>

RoadSafe Auckland – includes a whole section of school resources and information

<http://www.eeca.govt.nz>

EECA (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority) – includes information on walking school buses, efficient driving and sustainable transport

http://www.nzsta.org.nz/wFrameset_Content.asp?PageID=10000261&LevelOne=10000261

NZ School Trustees Association – this website includes a forum for chatting about school transport issues

<http://www.doi.vic.gov.au/doi/internet/transport.nsf/headingpagdisplay/managing+public+transporteducational+programs>

Australia Department of Infrastructure – links to various different public education transport campaigns that are run in Australia

Sustainable Transportation – teacher resources about transportation in relation to learning for a sustainable future
www.schoolnet.ca/future/teacher/publications/trans/society/content.htm

www.roadsense.co.nz/

RoadSense – a great website about travel safety, with lesson and unit plans for teachers, games and activities for kids, and factsheets and information for parents and the community

Resources

Auckland Regional Council

City Issues – Transport - Air Quality

In all Auckland primary and intermediate schools. Free downloads available from our website. Free.



Environmental Education Catalogue

Auckland Regional Council produces a wide range of resources for schools – books, fact sheets and posters on many environmental topics. See the Environmental Education catalogue for complete details.

Contact

Customer Service Centre (09) 366 2000

(for callers outside the toll free area please phone 0800 80 60 40)

Website

www.arc.govt.nz

click on Education / Education resources

Or visit our website for free download
www.arc.govt.nz/education/resources

Lots of resources and free downloads.

Hit the web and save the planet!

The Auckland Regional Council has just launched a new website for kids! The site aims to recruit children into become **secret agents** – and their mission?

Protecting the environment!

Brightly coloured, animated and highly interactive, the site uses games, puzzles and activities to educate children about environmental issues, and then encourages them to take action to do something about it.

Environmental missions

Agents are given "missions" to carry out – each drawn from the key messages of **The Big Clean Up** – be it protecting our stormwater drains, planting trees, or clearing our smoggy Auckland air.

The "Clear Air" and "Smart Move" missions suggest small things children can do that will have an impact on congestion and vehicle pollution in Auckland – things like emptying the car boot, taking a walk (instead of a drive) and getting a Walking School Bus started in their neighborhood.

Real prizes

Kids score points on the site by completing the missions – and high scorers can win real prizes, as well as accessing bonus downloads and activity sheets.

Fun activity sheets include model trains and buses that children can print and build, and the site features fun online games, illustrating key environmental points that the Council is promoting. In the "Clear Air" game, players drive a bus that literally gobbles up the cars on the road (cutting down congestion), while skidding past oil slicks and smog created by other vehicles.

With the help of the site's host, cartoon superhero, **Agent Ani**, protecting the environment is portrayed as cool, fun and important. But, unlike many kid's clubs on the web, this one is no imaginary gimmick - the missions that children are sent on are the real thing – and the site's designers are hoping that the opportunity for children to become real secret agents will be too good to miss!

The site is aimed at children between 6 and 12. You can visit it at: www.arc.govt.nz/kids

Save the drain for the rain!

Paint the grate and get free paint!

The first **50** schools to register get **free** paint and brushes delivered to your school!

This summer, secret **Enviro-agent Ani Vector** has a mission for all Envirokids - to help prevent pollution in our stormwater drains, which run into our streams and the sea.

Your Mission:

- Paint the stormwater grates in and/or around your school
- Include a message about stopping pollutants from going into the sea/waterways such as Poison the sea, poison me; Save the drain for the rain; I only drain rain.
- Take a photo and post or email to us at Auckland Regional Council – to be posted on our website, published in E Vibe and sent to local community newspapers.



YOUR MISSION:

SAVE THE PLANET



FOR REAL

Hit the Web www.arc.govt.nz/kids

BECOME AN AGENT

games • prizes • comics • action • fun