
TE ARA MUA FUTURE STREETS COMMUNITY HUI 22 AUGUST 2019

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION

A community stakeholder hui was held at the Māngere Law Centre on the 22nd August 2019. The main purpose was to share knowledge from what we have learned from Te Ara Mua so far – from the researchers and from community stakeholders. A second goal was to look to the future and discuss how things should progress in Māngere and for South Auckland walking and cycling promotion more widely.

A series of presentations were delivered by the project team and then discussions were held with opportunities for reporting back. The key activities and research lessons from Future Streets can be found at www.futurestreets.org.nz. This document provides a summary of the discussion that we held.

It is hoped that this information can be used by those who are planning further work in Māngere and South Auckland.

1. SUMMARY

1.1. What we learnt

- Town centre walkways and crossings need enforcement as walkways and more walkways needed between shopping centre and Windrush walkway/leisure centre/health clinics.
- Bike lanes used by other mobility types, e.g. walking prams, and for sporting events, but many residents still see them as unused by people biking.
- Infrastructure maintenance, repair, and minor changes should be budgeted in projects – not just installing and walking away.
- Local cultural norms, particularly among Pasifika, are a major barrier to uptake of biking (though not all agreed this was the case) – especially among women and older generations. It will take time and effort for biking to become more widely accepted.
- Promoting walking to school is difficult, parents are used to driving and its hard finding volunteers for Walking School Buses.
- The mana whenua co-design process and resulting stories of place seen as really positive, important to acknowledge and value local people and history
- Communication and promotion of narrative is critical, especially online and through visual media – keeping it simple and relevant to the local community.

1.2. Looking forward/next steps

- Need to invest in and promote transport options for future generations as driving will become increasingly less viable.
- Biking needs to be normalised and incentivised – locals need to see people like them biking in order to consider it themselves. Convenient bike parking and family-appropriate bikes (e.g. cargo bikes, panniers) are also needed. Programmes to improve access to bikes and e-bikes are underway.
- Buses need to be more affordable during the week to reduce traffic and reliance on cars.
- Organise regular local activation events to bring the community together and promote walking and cycling.
- Partner with community groups to build off existing community programmes (e.g. Walking Samoans). Working with respected local stakeholders and institutions is critical to success.
- Incorporate future mode shift into housing planning (e.g. by building Future Streets-type infrastructure and providing shared cargo bikes, storage space for bikes).
- Expand infrastructure beyond Māngere Central and improve access to natural environment such as harbour and maunga.