

**Transport Forum Wednesday 30th October**

The focus on Auckland’s transport is a hot topic. Three presenters gave their take on the future for Auckland’s transport planning for the next 30 years. The [Integrated Transport Programme 2012-2041](http://www.aucklandtransport.govt.nz/about-us/publications/PlansProgrammes/Pages/default.aspx) is updated 3-yearly and details the planned development of Auckland’s transport network.

**Matt Lowrie from the Auckland Transport Blog** presented the [Congestion Free Network](http://www.congestionfree.co.nz/). This is a collaboration between the analysts at the [Auckland Transport Blog](http://transportblog.co.nz/) and [Generation Zero](http://www.generationzero.org.nz/) to reallocate the budget from the Integrated Transport Programme (ITP). As Matt and an audience member pointed out, the ITP as it stands is ***planned congestion***. There will be increased congestion (not to mention increased CO2 emissions) despite the $24 billion investment between now and 2040. The Congestion Free Network proposes a new investment plan that achieves a congestion free network for 2040, at half the cost. Some of the key indicators Matt presented that show Auckland wants a transit oriented transport network are: a decreasing number of vehicle kilometres travelled, decreasing driver licencing, and decreasing number of vehicles purchased. [***See Matt’s presentation here >***](http://www.thesustainabilitysociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/The-Congestion-Free-Network-Matt-Lowrie.pdf)***>***

**Bevan Clement** from the University of Auckland discussed what makes a liveable city from a transportation point of view. Bevan also presented the team at the University of Auckland working in transportation research: from materials performance, to data management and systems assessment. [***See Bevan’s presentation here >>***](http://www.thesustainabilitysociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Sustainability-and-Transport-Bevan-Clement.pdf)

**Pete Clark, the General Manager of Auckland Transport’s Strategy and Planning Division presented the Integrated Transport Plan including the increase in congestion and emissions despite the investment planned to 2040. Pete’s presentation contains a lot of great data relating to the forecasts for public and private transport. A discussion about the proportion of people who use public transport during Auckland’s peak hours (7am-9am) raised some key insights. Of all trips in Auckland public transport makes up only 9% but of all trips travelling to the CBD 50% are by public transport.**

**Pete also pointed out that the projected population growth around Karaka is forecast to be the equivalent population of Hamilton by 2040! A huge number of people - all requiring transportation.** [***See Pete’s presentation here >>***](http://www.thesustainabilitysociety.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Integrated-Transport-Programme-Peter-Clark.pdf)

**The discussion session following the presentations was interesting and heated. This focussed on the content of the presentations and included a brief discussion on the cost of air pollution in Auckland. Particularly that those health costs not being incorporated into transport planning, in reference to this discussion the audience was directed to** [this State of Auckland web-site](http://stateofauckland.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/air-quality-report-card/auckland-reporting-area/)**.**