



Travel Report

Date: 13/09/2011
Prepared for: Netball Taranaki
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Netball Taranaki has completed the initial stages of the travel plan process by completing both the site audit and community travel survey. Following are the results from this.

A travel plan is a tool for managing the travel generated by an organisation with the aim of reducing environmental impacts, improving health outcomes, saving money for individuals and organisations and reducing traffic congestion.

The survey has demonstrated that just under a quarter of the people coming to the Waiwhakaiho netball courts arrive walking, riding or taking the bus. The remaining 75% are currently travelling via car. Of those that do come in a vehicle either as a sole occupant or with passengers 69% of these people were keen to look at using more sustainable forms of transport some of the time.

This is great news for Netball Taranaki, and with a few new initiatives and incentives there is great potential to see some significant reduction in car usage and the potential to significantly reduce the congestion concerns at the Waiwhakaiho netball courts.

Background from site audit

The main netball courts for Netball Taranaki are based at 615 Devon Street East, just west of the Waiwhakaiho Bridge on State Highway 3. Their second entrance is on Raiomiti Street in Fitzroy. During the Saturday games in particular there is huge congestion around the site disrupting traffic, disturbing residents in Fitzroy and creating an unsafe environment for pedestrians accessing the courts.

The cycling terrain to the Waiwhakaiho netball courts is flat with good access from the Coastal Walkway. There is no cycle parking available at the courts, there are changing and shower facilities however they are of a fairly low standard. The pedestrian routes around the courts are in pretty good condition, they are well signed and direct. There is also great access to the courts from the walkway along the Waiwhakaiho River that connects to Merrilands. There are some safety concerns between pedestrians and vehicles, as the main entrance to the courts is on State Highway 3, and also at the rear entrance due to the large number of people bringing their vehicles to the courts.



There are no covered motorcycle or scooter parks available. The nearest bus stop is five minutes' walk from the courts in Fitzroy; the stop does have a seat, is safe and well lit and has timetable information. However there is only the one bus service that runs on the Saturday providing limited options for members.

There is public car parking space available for approximately 80 cars and six car parks provided for officials and café staff on site. There is a lot of free car parking available around the Waiwhakaiho site however due to the number of people who drive to the courts congestion and parking is a huge concern.

Netball Taranaki does not provide information on cycling, bussing or walking to the courts to members or staff. Netball Taranaki communicate with them members through their e-newsletters and via their coaches.

Results from survey

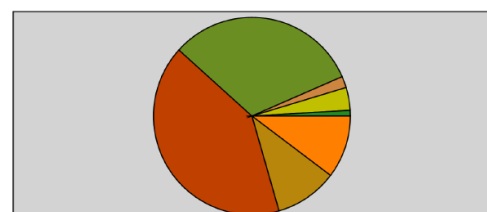
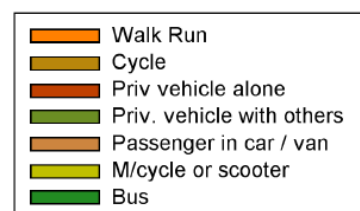
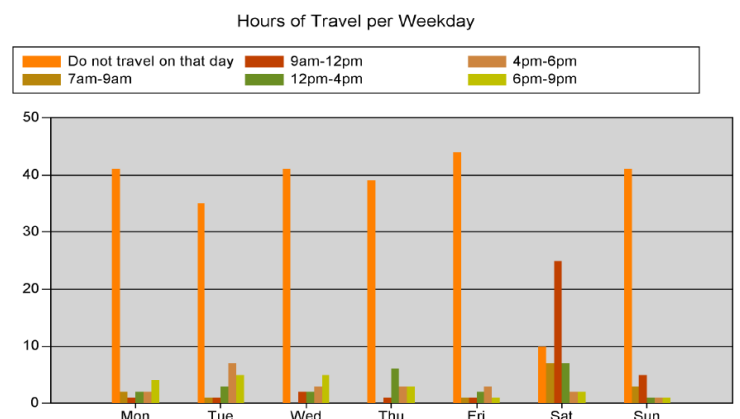
The survey was completed on 31/08/2011 with 52 responses from a possible 700 a 7% response rate, the following information is based on those respondents.

The respondents to the survey indicated that the majority of members are at the Waiwhakaiho Netball courts between 9am-12pm on a Saturday. With a few people there at other times during the week.

Members were asked to identify what forms of transport they had used the previous week to get to the courts.

Throughout the week vehicles with a sole passenger were the main mode of transport at 41%, driving with a passenger or being a passenger in a vehicle was a total of 34%, 10% of members are cycling, 10% of members are walking/running with 1% taking the bus and 4% arriving by motorbike or scooter.

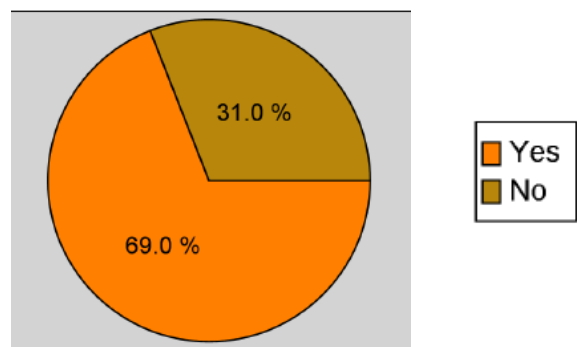
The survey indicated that the majority of employees (96%) used the same transport for their return journey home.





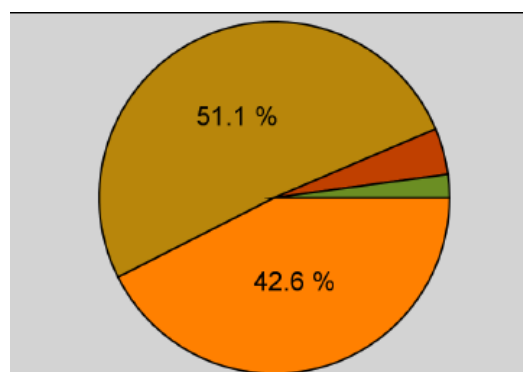
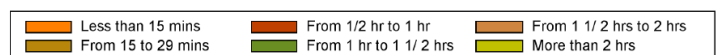
This graph indicated that 69% of members that were not already travelling sustainably or 27 out of the 39 are keen to look at more environmentally friendly forms of transport some of the time.

Club members willing to try environmentally friendly methods of travel



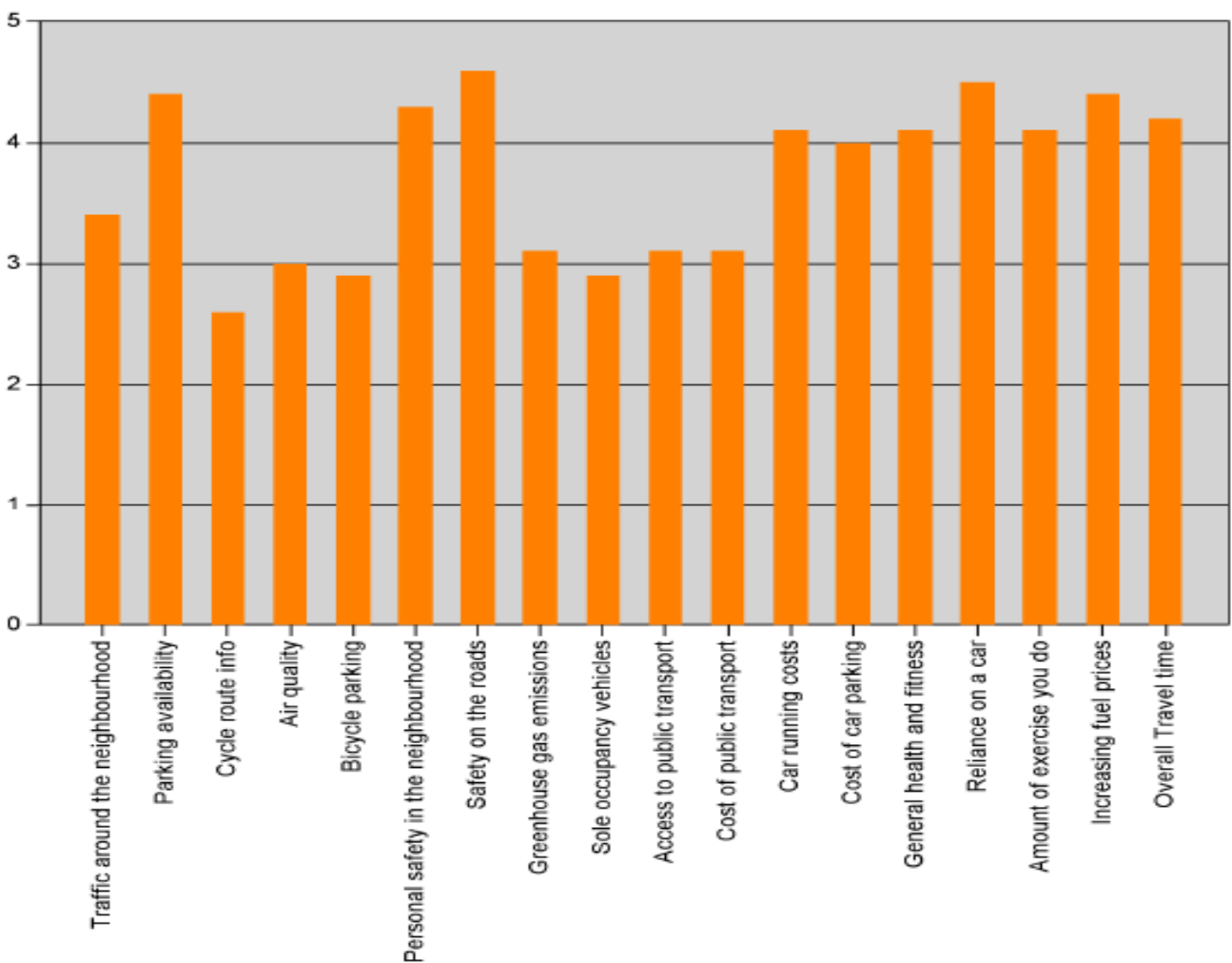
51% of members that are driving to the courts are traveling between 15-29 minutes, 43% are driving less than 15 minutes while a few of the members are traveling more than half an hour to get to the courts.

Length of Travel from Home to Clubrooms / Meeting Venue (Driving)



This graph identifies a number of different transport issues and what is or is not important for members at Netball Taranaki. There were a number of issues that had a similar level of importance the most important was safety on the roads, followed closely by reliance on a car, parking availability, rising fuel prices and personal safety. These were then followed by amount of exercise, health and fitness and the cost of running a vehicle.

Importance of Transport Issues when Travelling to Clubrooms / Meeting Venue

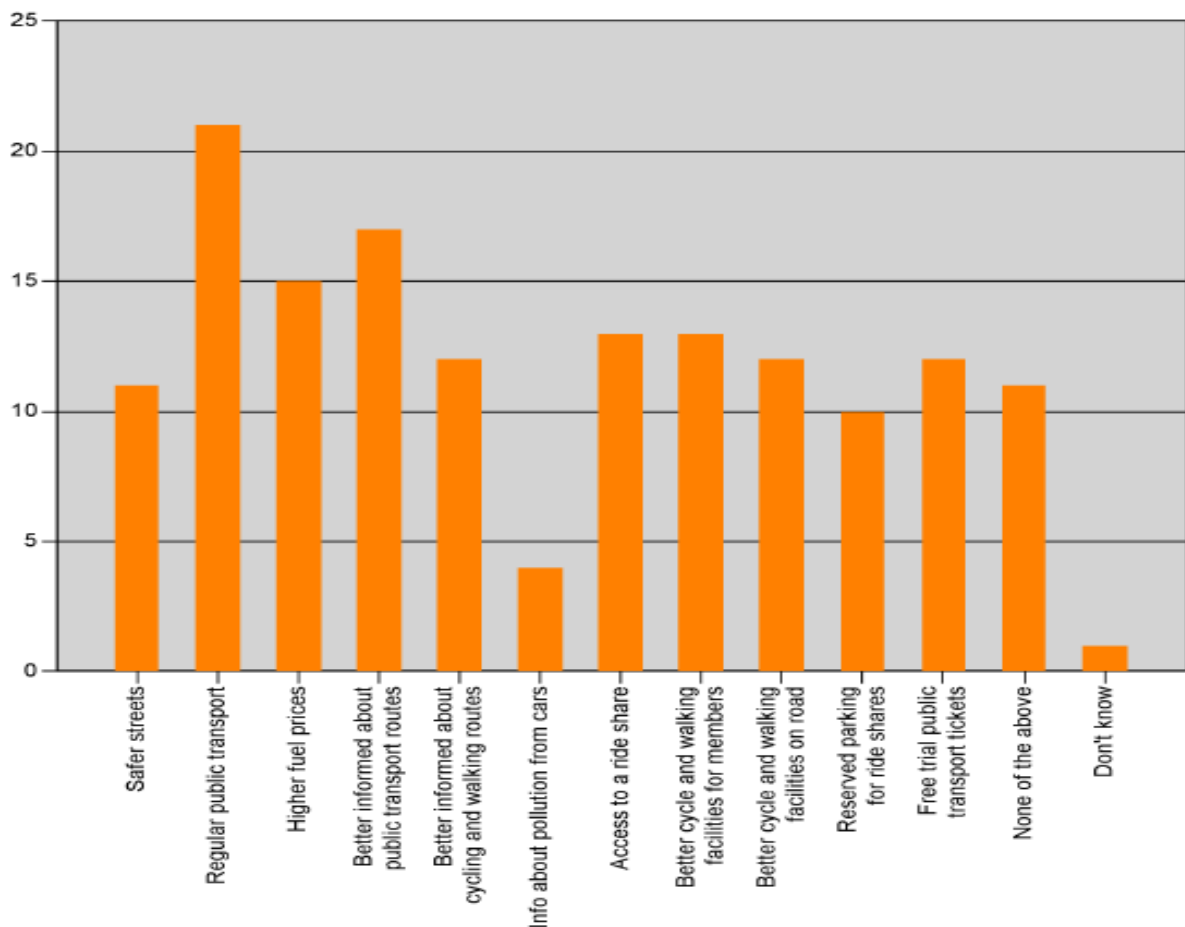


Appendix A identifies further comments from members of what factors effect their choice of travel to the netball courts.



The graph below identifies which incentives have been indicated by Netball Taranaki members as possibilities to encourage them to use active forms of transport more often. Regular public transport was definitely indicated as key with 21 votes out of the 52. This was followed by being better informed about public transport routes (17 votes), rising fuel prices (15 votes), access to a ride share and better cycle and walking facilities for members (with 13 votes each), being better informed about cycling and walking routes, better cycle and walking facilities on road and free trial public transport passes (12 votes) were identified as possible incentives to encourage more sustainable travel.

Influence of Various Factors on Reduction of Car Use

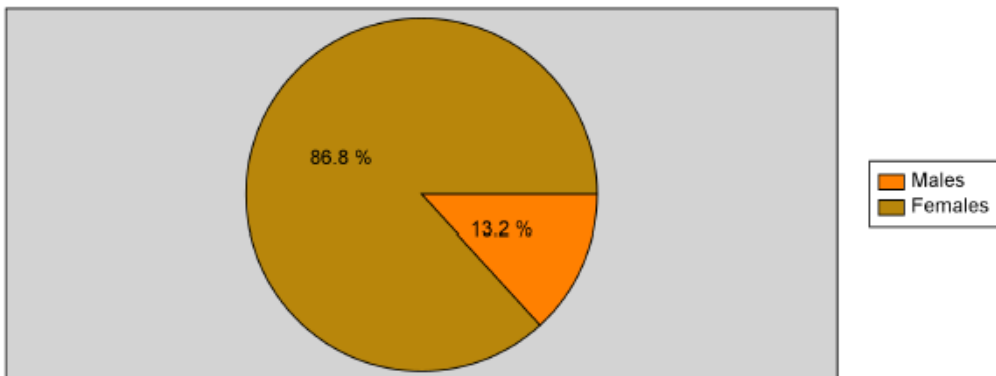


Appendix B identifies further comments from Netball Taranaki members of other suggestions that could further encourage sustainable travel.

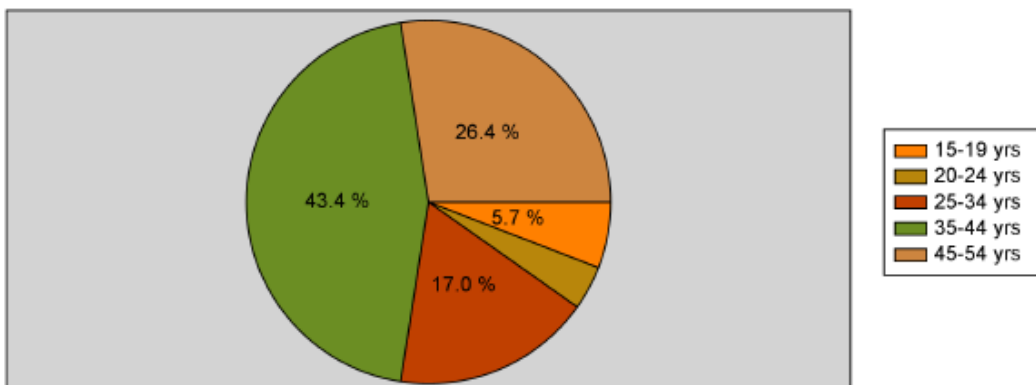


87% of the respondents to the survey from Netball Taranaki members were female with a wide range of age groups from 15 – 54 years.

Proportion of Male / Female Survey Respondents



Age Groups of Survey Respondents



Recommendations:

The easy fixes:

1. Provide information/maps on good walking and cycling routes to the courts and have this information available online.
2. Provide a weather report online for game days, and feed information through coaches.
3. Promote ridesharing to the courts, set up a Netball Taranaki portal on the Let's Go ridesharing website (www.letsgo.greenride.com)
4. Provide information on the bus route to the courts.

The long term fixes:

1. Introduce a rideshare car park for people who arrive with three or more in the car.
2. Develop an incentive scheme for members who arrive at the courts not in a vehicle.
3. Improve biking and walking facilities at the courts, including bike racks, changing rooms, showers and drying facilities.
4. Develop a specific access map to the courts, highlighting more park and walk options.
5. Develop an initiative that encourages teams to incorporate into their warm up active travel to the netball courts (it could incorporate the whole whanau).

Next Steps:

- Develop some objectives for your travel plan. (See Appendix C for an example of a travel plan document including objectives).
- How are you going to reach these objectives, what actions do you need to put in place. Who is going to be responsible for each action and what are the timeframes?
- Do you need to have your travel plan written up into a document? (see Appendix C)
- How are you going to communicate this with your members?
- How are you going to monitor whether your travel plan is having an impact?

Conclusion:

Netball Taranaki could really benefit from developing a travel plan. With the current congestion issues at the Waiwhakaiho netball courts on a Saturday if a culture can be developed which supports less car use it can only benefit members, local residents and aid in congestion reduction, improving safety on road.

43% of those driving to the court are traveling less than 15 minutes, this is an easy win for walking and cycling and with the upgrade about to happen to the Waiwhakaiho walkway easier access will be created to walk, ride or park and walk. With good and consistent messaging and senior members leading by example there is great potential to see some positive changes and develop some camaraderie around reducing dependence on vehicles.

The Let's Go team at New Plymouth District Council are keen to continue to work with Netball Taranaki to further develop their travel plan and see some direct results.



Appendix A

460 no public transport

461 bad weather!

462 have to use my care every time as we dont have access to public transport

463 I live in Bell Block but work in town so it is not such a big deal the area I live in as generally come from work

467 Don't Have Any At This Stage

468 Convenience & ability to change plans at the last minute by having your own transport

469 Time, number of passengers,

470 No pblic transport available, too dangerous to cycle on my road due to trucks

471 The weather and how much time I have available, where possible and time permits I like to walk.

474 If drivers were more cyclist friendly I would be more inclined to bike. Also my sport is Netball so winter weather puts me off from walking or cycling.

475 we have no other method of transport to our games.

477 Long distances

478 the amount of equipment I need to take with me

482 I can spend anywhere between 2 - 4 hours at Netball Courts, so transport has to work around me

483 With family members going to the games, it is not always an option to bike or walk. We do lots of exercise in this form, but to get to the game with the gear and family members, the only option is vehicle.

485 congestion around the netball courts

494 Easy access

498 None

500 Distance in the middle of winter to netball

501 There is no public transport and distance travelled is 15km+ so no choice but to drive.

502 Nil

503 Timeline

507 Convenience



Appendix B

461 club/school van could pick members up

466 Car pool.

467 Not Sure

469 Car Pool

474 Road safety - biking is great but very dangerous around New Plymouth, car users do not seem to worry about cyclists.

477 Family life styles

485 Car pooling to club

492 A bus service that fits with Netball times from Waitara

495 We are travelling to a sporting venue with our children. They are not old enough to attend by themselves. It is also in their best interests that they have whanau support at these events.

498 Draw for prizes for those who turn up environmentally friendly

500 Please note, the purpose of me completing this survey was in relation to travelling to/from Waiwakaiho Netball Courts. I DO walk to work from a parked car (4 blocks away from workplace). I DO use the walkway & I DO cycle. My answers are in connection with travelling to/from netball courts only.

501 Nothing. It's a long way, game times vary during the day, no public transport option exists.

502 Nil

503 na

507 Frequent and cheaper bus fare and more bus routes
