

A stylized landscape with rolling hills in shades of green and brown. White footprints are scattered across the hills, suggesting a path or movement. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern.

# Sarah Burrows

School Zones and environment changes;  
how they can be effective in a rural setting

Living Streets Aotearoa





*Rodney*  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Waitoki School

*TravelWise*

thinking transport.

# Waitoki School - Before

- Rural location
- On Kahikatea Flat Road – 70km/h
- In a small township
- School Bus Transfer Station for connections to other schools and colleges in the area



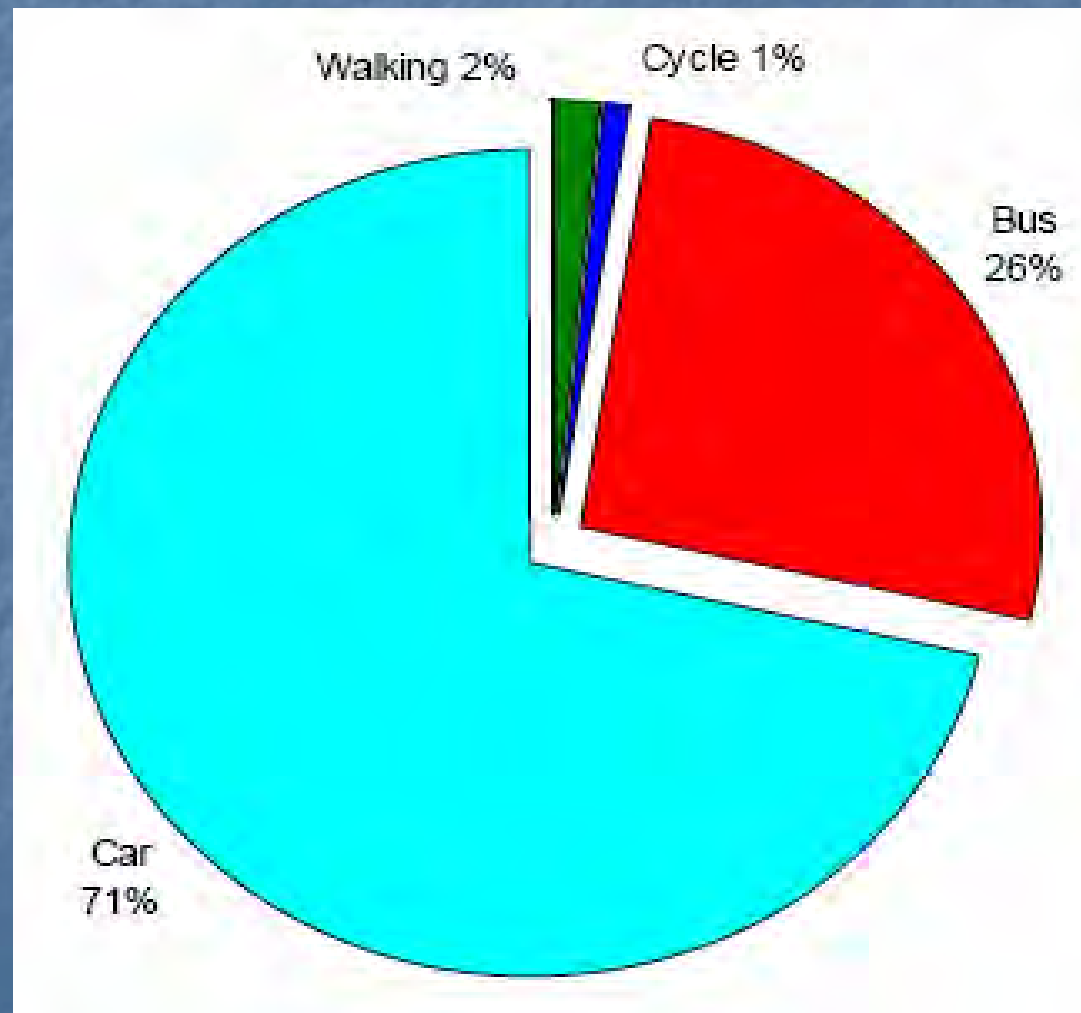


# Forestry/Quarry area



**Lots of big thundering trucks  
right outside the school gate!**

# Survey Results showing Current Travel Modes



# Safety Concerns from parents survey

- Speed of traffic perceived to be >100kph
- Bus Stops close to the roadside
- Lack of footpaths

*50% of parents believe the journey to school is very unsafe*

# STP SURVEY RESULTS

What would make the journey safer?

- More footpaths / cycle ways

(90% of parents)

- Slower traffic

(86% of parents)

- Safe places to cross the roads

(45% of parents)



The Solution..

Total Package

Engineering

Education

Enforcement

Encouragement



# 360 degree commitment

**School** – Principal, BOT, Teaching staff, pupils

**Council** – Engineers, Capital Works, School Travel Planner

**Police** – PEO to educate and Traffic Police to enforce

**ARTA** – STC

**Community** – Parents and children, local residents and businesses

**Bus Companies/PT providers**

# Engineering Action plan

- Lower speed limit
- Install School Zones
- Investigate Footpaths

# Speed Limit

- 50km/h speed limit was imposed through the village
- Police presence to enforce the new speed restrictions





# Installation of School Zones



- Raising driver awareness of the schools location and to drive appropriately

# Kerb Extensions and coloured surfacing





# Fluro Bollards





# School Warning Signs on both sides of the road



# Solar Panelled Flashing Lights



# Additional approach roads also treated





# Finished Design



# Shared Walkway – Cycleway



On-going Project



# Shared Walkway – Cycleway

- The footpath construction is still happening – behind schedule due to weather conditions
- Bridge – is an ongoing issue but it is hoped to have the redesign and budget in the forthcoming year





# Does it make a difference?

- Since the installation of the reduced speed limits, and prior to the works starting on the new footpath, the number of children cycling to school rose from  $<1\%$  to approximately  $>10\%$
- The number of children walking increased considerably

# Vehicle Speeds through Waitoki

- Number of Vehicles over a full week that traveled >60km/h in the 50km/h zone

SCHOOL	BEFORE	AFTER	% REDUCTION
Waitoki	19081	6821	64%
Matakana	2301	728	68%
Orewa North	208	105	50%
Red Beach	7251	3990	45%
Totals	28841	11644	60% OVERALL

# Education and Enforcement

- The Waitoki Walking School Bus is ready to start as soon as the construction is completed – thanks to Parent Coordinators
- Cyclists are ready to ride!
- PEO to train and educate pupils
- Ongoing TW team support







It is expected that the current figures of <2% walking and <1% cycling to school will massively increase making Waitoki a truly sustainable TravelWise rural school!



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