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New Zealand Walking Conference 2006

Getting There on Foot in NZ Cities and Towns – Taking the Next Steps

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ABSTRACT FORM

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Presentation topic			
Presentation title	IMPEDIMENTS TO WALKING A MODE CHOICE		
Presentation Style	**Presentation** ☒		**Interactive Workshop** ☐
Time Required	0-10 mins ☐	10-20 mins ☐	20-30 mins ☐

Presentation Remit

This study evaluates a case-control design of contrasts between 110 drivers of a walkable distance and 238 walkers to address factors influencing the uptake of walking as a mode choice. To overcome the issue of car dependency or the inability to walk, drivers are selected from those whose cars were found parked in a park-n-ride and who live less than 1km of that car park. This unique group of drivers exhibit a break in car dependency by using public transport but still do not walk to the station. The research uses a 62-item survey to examine twelve factors: Fear of Crime; Trip-Chaining/Car dependency; Weather; Distance/time; Social Pressure; Fatigue and Fitness; Parking charges; Enjoyment of walking; Inconvenience; and Geography. The samples are drawn from two locations: Auckland and Wellington. The results establish that the convenience of a car park at the station induces park-n-ride demand within the 800m radius despite the ability of people to walk, and that no other factor adequately accounts for the decision-making. Notwithstanding, weather, and time factors act to impede drivers, and the ability to walk with others is preferred by walkers. These results are compared within a literature that suggests walking is impeded by the distance, fear of crime and concern for time. While location effects are observed between the groups the results suggest factors thought to influence the uptake of walking have inconsequential impacts on decision-making.

Keywords: Pedestrian, Walking, Car dependency, Travel Behaviour