'On the Move' Transport EBox references

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The domestic use of vehicles alone is responsible for about 38% of all energy consumption in Canterbury. (Ministry for the Environment - www.mfe.govt.nz)

We each spend approximately $6000 per year on transport! (Automobile Association - http://www.aa.co.nz/motoring/owning/running-costs/car/Pages/default.aspx)

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Big is always not better – transport infrastructure, such as roads and parking spaces, covers 25-30 percent of land in most modern cities * (cited in Ministry for the Environment 27/1/09)

Vehicles powered by fossil fuels (petrol and diesel) release greenhouse gases like CO_2 and nitrous oxide into the air. In New Zealand, transport contributes 18% of CO_2, second only to agriculture (48%).* (Data courtesy of Ministry for the Environment)

By-products from transport, such as heavy metals and petroleum, can contaminate the land and water. Polluted stormwater can make streams and rivers unsafe to swim in, drink, or collect shellfish from. Suspended sediments, from road works for example, can affect water clarity (Ministry for the Environment).

The average New Zealander is responsible for about 8 tonnes of CO_2 emissions, from general day to day activities like commuting to work and school by car and heating the home. (www.carbonzero.co.nz/action/index.asp)

In 2001 the New Zealand Automobile Association calculated the real cost of owning a low-km family-size, three- to four-year-old car at over **$140 a week**, before you put in fuel, or cover parking costs, garaging, cleaning and any extra gadgets or tools (Stats NZ).

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New Zealanders love motor vehicles! Per population, New Zealand has the third highest car-ownership level in the world, behind Luxembourg and Iceland (cited in econmist.com, 26 January 2009).

In Canterbury alone there are about 312,000 cars, trucks and vans on our roads. That's 1.66 vehicles per household! Annually, we spend about 20% of our income on transport, mostly on car ownership and use! (Stats NZ)

The 2007 Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy anticipates an increase of 74,800 additional households between 2006 and 2041. This, combined with an increasing trend in vehicle ownership, will lead to an increasing growth in vehicular traffic.* (Source: Regional Land Transport Strategy 2008-18, p13.) This will equate to a 160% increase in congestion, making commuting time even longer* (Metro Strategy 2006-12).

The New Zealand vehicle fleet (excluding motorcycles) is predicted to increase from 2.5 million vehicles in 2000 to 3.1 million vehicles in 2015 (Stats NZ).

The car is used for 85% of all daily trips in greater Christchurch and 96% of these cars travelling to work have a sole driver and no passengers (Draft Greater Christchurch Travel Demand Strategy).

Used imported vehicles make up an increasing proportion of the light vehicle fleet at approximately 50%, and the average age of the light vehicle fleet is 12 years (http://www.transport.govt.nz).

One third of car trips in New Zealand are less than 2 km in distance (http://www.transport.govt.nz/drivers-passengers/).

Worldwide, motor vehicles contribute 15% of the carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions from human activity and 65% of the toxic carbon monoxide (CO) emissions (Ministry of Economic Development: Energy).
Greenhouse Gas Emissions 1990-2003 Report.

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However, walking accounts for only 20 percent of all household travel trips (Stats NZ).

Fewer primary-school age children are walking or cycling to school and 34% of morning peak traffic is education related (Travel Demand Management www.greaterchristchurch.org.nz).

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Bicycles, the most common form of cycle, were introduced in the 19th century and now number about one billion worldwide! (Cited in Wikipedia, February 2009)

Compared to 80% of commuters using cars, a mere 5.4% use cycles as a way to get to work (Stats NZ).

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A new target has been set to increase Metro patronage to 25 million passenger trips by 2016 (16 million in 2008) (Metro Strategy 2006 - 2012).

If you drive 90 km per hour you would save 20% of the fuel you'd require at 110 km per hour, adding only 12 minutes per 100 km to travel time (Ministry of Transport).