

Road Safety Trust – Extending Road User Workshops

May 2013 has been spent primarily on the following areas:

1. Working with stakeholders: local groups and the transport industry.
2. Research for future resources

Stakeholders.

1. TOLL NZ

The month started with the opportunity to a ride along with TOLL NZ in a FCL unit (pulls containers to the port) and sit down with trainer Kurtiss Pihema. Kurtiss is an operations trainer for Toll NZ and road cyclist. Toll NZ does a lot of work with Kmart where Jane Farrelly, who was killed in Taupo, worked. Toll is a very community minded company and coupled with the connection to Jane/Kmart want to be part of the road safety/road user discussion.

We discussed rural and urban routes. Issues we identified:

Cyclists' lack of awareness around:

1. Truck movements at intersections
2. Road contour's effects on truck movement and sudden pinch points (vehicles with trailers even on a slight road curve swing extremely close to the curb)
3. Truck weight and stopping distances

Drivers' lack of awareness around passing distances:

1. The vacuum effect
2. Drivers are so skilled at being able to maneuver a truck with millimeters of clearance – in some emergency cases this is to a cyclists advantage but in daily practice may be too close.

The human factor in incident investigations was also discussed. The majority of accidents are coupled with daily life factors that may have played a part in driver distraction. Kurtiss also took the time to explain how the port works and how back-ups can possibly put pressure on traffic in and out of the site.

Toll has agreed to work with the RUW programme. Jena requested the chance to observe one of their morning safety briefings in order to gain a better understanding of how RUW material can be adapted to short interactions, possibly on a more frequent basis. Julian and Jena will observe the Toll session on June 5, after which a plan for future RUW will be made in collaboration with Toll.

2. Transpower and Taupo

Work with Transpower has been a process of building trust within the company and Taupo community. Transpower is sensitive to the fact engaging with RUW was the request of Jane Farrelly's family. Taupo community is very focused on mapping trouble spots on the road and the difficulties or in some people's eyes the impossibility of trucks and cyclists sharing rural roads.

However progress is being made and Transpower has opened up to conversations beyond their Communications representative. Dates are being set for Jena to present before the Road User Group (RUG) created last month, and present at a Transpower Health and Safety BBQ in July. Ideally a traditional workshop would be run with the RUG from which learning could be communicated to the wider community and resources on rural roads created. At the same time shorter sessions could be done with individual companies that fit into regular Health and Safety initiatives. Jena will be spending some time on the ground in Taupo to encourage this approach.

Transpower will also be sponsoring a mapping application called "Right Road" which will aim to provide preferred cycling routes which visitors could access to inform their route decisions while riding on Taupo roads. Jena met with the initiative's founder, to discuss how RUW learning could be channeled into the app.

3. Meet & Greets throughout June.

June is a busy month of meeting local groups and stakeholders. Here is an overview:

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| 5 June | AUCKLAND: Jena and Julian, Observation of TOLL safety briefing |
| 5 June | DUNEDIN: Jena meeting Charlotte Flaherty (DDC – Transport Operations), Spokes Dunedin, and Management from 4 of the major bus companies. |
| 6 June | DUNEDIN: Additional meeting with council and TBC meet & greet with RTA rep |
| 12 June | TAUPO: TBC Jena to meet Transpower reps and observe training presentation/format at Transpower Health and Safety BBQ |
| 19-21 June | CHRISTCHURCH: Jena meeting (TBA –Spokes, council, RTA, and BikeNZ representatives) about future RUW work 2014/2015. |
| 24 June | WELLINGTON: Jena in meeting with Mike Noon, AA (2:30PM). |
| 25-26 June | WELLINGTON: Additional meets with Bus & Coach and Marilyn Northcote are being scheduled. |
| 27/28 June | TAUPO: TBC Jena to present to RUG |

Research for future resources

1. Discussions are underway with BikeNZ about the benefit of setting up a neutral website for the programme which both Bike and CAN could link to. The desire for a separate site is around maintaining a degree of neutrality for the sake of working with partners on the transport industry. Ideally it would show endorsements from BikeNZ, CAN, the RTF, NZTA, etc.

The website could provide promotional material, video resources, etc for public access. Cycle Action Auckland and Auckland Transport have expressed a desire to have the videos we create readily available for cyclists and drivers a like.

2. Communications Plan. Jena will be collaborating with Amy on a joint communications plan for the RST work over the next month. Target audiences and channels have been identified. The biggest challenge in this task, as it relates to RUW, are the unknowns in the programme itself, which is still being defined as investigation continues with the trucking industry.