

## National Infrastructure Unit

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**From:** John Maclaren [jmaclaren@xtra.co.nz]  
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**To:** National Infrastructure Unit  
**Subject:** Making a submission on the National Infrastructure Plan

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Greetings

I have only just heard about Treasury's schedule for the National Infrastructure Plan so only have time to submit a couple of points:

### **Making better use of existing infrastructure**

Road traffic surveys on urban local roads need to measure more than just the volume of motor traffic a road is capable of taking. There appear to be no traffic surveys that consider the needs of all users, yet we are all supposed to be sharing the roads. The greater the volume of motor traffic the worse the safety for cyclists and pedestrians. There appear to be no traffic surveys that measure the difference in traffic levels between school term time and school holiday time. Without such data really efficient use of existing infrastructure cannot be achieved.

One of the commonest causes of congestion on local roads is caused by children being taken to school in cars instead of walking or biking. In many towns I believe that some relatively low cost changes to road priorities and speed limits would overcome the perceived dangers of children taking themselves to schools but too often the legislation about making such changes prevents them from being made.

Local authorities should have more authority for selection speed limits on residential local roads and be allowed to have extended trials in particular locations to establish safe routes to schools and shopping areas and other local needs. The existing road classifications for speed limits are too much of a barrier to development of local safety strategies and creation of People Friendly Towns. They actually cripple development of Neighbourhood Accessibility Plans (NAPs) and discourage people from leaving their cars at home for short journeys.

Please add me to the circulation list for future information on these matter. Thanks.

Regards

John Maclaren  
*John and Anne Maclaren*  
153 Taylor Street  
Cambridge 3434

Tel: (07) 823 7555  
Email: [jmaclaren@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jmaclaren@xtra.co.nz)

Active Transport website: <http://www.netwhare.com/solutions.html>  
Email: [jmaclaren@netwhare.com](mailto:jmaclaren@netwhare.com)