**CAN Do 2017: Getting more kids on bikes – discussion notes**

Sunday 26 March 2017

*Current situation:*

* 14% of kids get some bike skills training through multiple providers, such as Pedal Ready, Bikes in Schools.
* ACC and NZTA are working together on the cycle skills training programme, with input from education and health sectors.
* Bikes in Schools is one example of a great in-school based programme that provides bicycles and tracks in the schools, costs c.$50k to set up
* Only 2% of kids’ trips to school are by bicycle (almost none)

*What excites people about getting more kids on bikes?*

* More adults in the future cycling
* Emotional connection kids provide for parents to cycle too
* Most potent way of normalising cycling
* Fun
* Kids build confidence and independence through cycling
* Cycling builds kids’ values and freedom
* It’s not just about bike riding, it’s about building empathy and cooperation
* Teachers now want to be involved too – another positive change
* Remind us we have a rich outdoor heritage, with challenges, and we can conquer them and deal with risk
* Opportunity: schools can share their cycling resources (this is happening too)
* Barrier: key is to get parents comfortable
* Opportunity: close roads around schools at pick-up time
* Flexible approach is good – let kids cycle when they want to, don’t make them
* Balance bikes for pre-schoolers is a great investment too
* Offer bike maintenance skills
* Kids love riding to school partly due to that sense of danger
* See it as part of being a kiwi kid

*Volunteers to be involved in CAN’s initiative to get more kids on bikes:*

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| Who, from where | Volunteered to do |
| Graeme Lindup, New Plymouth | track design |
| Jan Nisbet, Kapiti | Skills – bike maintenance |
| Linda Beatson, Wellington | pedal ready te Aro school/park |
| Ron Beernink, Wellington | advocacy to community, more ciclovia events |
| Paul McArdle, Hastings | Lobby local and central government |
| Russell Tregonning, Wellington | Explore interest/needs of local primary schools |
| Joelle Xavier, New Plymouth | Identify interest from schools |
| Miriam Sharland, Palmerston North | Cycle skills (doing Cycle Skills Instructor course) |
| Claire Pascoe, Wellington | abstract for Asia Pacific Cycling Conference |
| Paul Bruce, Wellington | Cycle schools in hilly Brooklyn |
| Ron Paulin, Timaru | fix up existing bikes |

*Other ideas needing a volunteer:*

|  |  |
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| Relating to: | Suggestion: |
| Kids love biking, but parents can be nervous.  Many of today’s parents are in the “missing generation” who didn’t learn to cycle. | Get unconfident parents on bikes |
| School concern about potential public health and safety liabilities may limit their willingness to share facilities. | CAN to get a lawyer to prepare an opinion to address potential concerns about public health and safety liability of a school who lends its Bikes in Schools gear (bikes) and/or track facilities to other schools, send around schools boards of trustees. “So you want to let someone else use your track and bikes?” |
| Spread the joy | Promote the school cycling track resources to the community for use in weekends |