

Active Modes Infrastructure Group (AMIG) Update

We've reached the end of another year for AMIG. After an online meeting held on Sep 14th, the AMIG team gathered in Palmerston North for an in-person meeting in mid-November, including some site visits the day before our main meeting (see photo below). Thanks Michael Bridge (PNCC) for being our tour guide and host! Here's a few of the things discussed at the most recent meetings:



- More industry **multi-modal training** options are being planned for 2024, with a mix of online webinars, in-person workshops, and short topic videos likely – watch for some programme details in the New Year. Meanwhile, the first Bus Infrastructure Design workshop was held in Christchurch last month, and there is strong interest in having it in other locations like Auckland and Wellington next year.

- Inspired by observations from Europe, Wellington City Council is leading the charge to trial **low-level near-side cycle signals** here in New Zealand. These are small signals placed at about eye height, so that riders can more easily determine whether it is their turn to go. Several Councils around the country have expressed interest in this trial, and work is now underway to prepare a proposal for selecting sites and undertaking before and after observations.



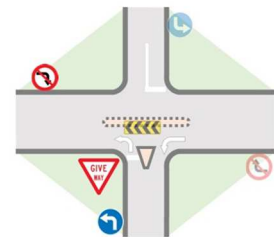
- Some work is going on behind the scenes in the Traffic Control Devices committee to introduce a few new **active mode signs**. These include “EXCEPT PED’NS & BIKES” subplates for NO EXIT signs, and “MERGING” & “CROSSING” subplates for cycle warning signs. We might also see some Rule changes in the New Year to ratify directional cycle signals and maybe two-aspect ped/cycle signals.

- Another piece of work being developed and about to be released is a **Practice Note for Temporary Traffic Management of Vulnerable Road Users** (i.e. people walking, cycling, wheeling, etc). This was initiated by a tragic cycling fatality at a work site in 2019, and should hopefully help to improve providing safely for active mode users around road works.

- As mentioned previously, some new **traffic filtering guidance** is being prepared to help RCAs to implement the recent “Reshaping Streets” legislation (aka the Streets Layouts Rule). Draft content was presented to AMIG for their feedback; it covers details about legislative context, delivery approaches, network planning considerations, treatment options, and design features to use (including signs, markings, traffic calming devices, and street amenity features). An interesting by-product of this guidance is the potential to introduce some new signs in NZ covering various vehicle prohibition and exemptions situations not currently captured here.



Partial Closure (Out Only)



Left In/Out Only

- The 2024-27 transport programme is expanding to include **low-cost PT infrastructure on State Highways**. Examples might include bus stops lacking nearby crossings, signage, shelters, or having very poor footpath access. Interested RCAs can talk to Waka Kotahi about potential projects they have; once these have been received, they will be prioritised with the available budget.

- New material to land very soon in the Cycling Network Guidance (CNG) is guidance on **Cycle Wayfinding signs, Barriers & Fences, and Cycling on Rural Roads**. Also very soon, the old CNG website layout will be converted to a new “tile” layout, similar to other Waka Kotahi sub-sites, hopefully making it easier to navigate.

- Other topics discussed at the recent AMIG meetings included priority cycle lane markings at intersections and crossings, sharrow marking placement past angle parking, and planned improvements to driveway visibility guidance near pathways. Detailed minutes about all these topics can be found on the AMIG website:

<https://nzta.govt.nz/walking-cycling-and-public-transport/active-modes-infrastructure-group/>

AMIG meetings return in 2024 on Feb 22nd, with five meetings planned next year (probably another in-person session in mid-November). If your RCA would like to be part of these meetings, contact Wayne Newman (wayne@cresmere.co.nz) or Gerry Dance (Gerry.Dance@nzta.govt.nz) to get on the circulation list. I am also happy to discuss with you any ideas or issues that you'd like to raise at AMIG.

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