Improving safety for people who cycle on rural roads
National Research Project and NZ first 2-1 Trial.
Why the research?

- Strong interest from councils wanting to make our rural roads safer for people who cycle

Research purpose
- What is the most cost-effective way to improve safety for people who cycle on low volume rural roads?

- A high proportion of rural on-road crashes involving cyclists result from drivers not giving cyclists sufficient space while overtaking
“The lack of shoulder width, particularly between 0 and 1 metre, results in a greater risk to cyclists”
Research brief

• Investigate the relative risk of cycling on current layouts

• One possible example is the 2-1 layout commonly used in Europe

• Review potential applicability to both New Zealand conditions and to improve safety for people who cycle

• Could include a trial of a selection of treatments
Rural Road Cycle Safety Trial Options

- Instrumented bikes
- Rural Safety Billboards
- Rural cycle route signage
- Smooth shoulder and sweeping
- 2-1 road lane layout
- Rural sharrow marking
2-1 Layout
Hastings had done it.
Trial components – signs, rural sharrow
Trial components – 2-1 road layout
Why choose Roto-o-Rangi Road

- Typical rural road with a typical rural activity
- Rural speed zone of 100km/h
- Vehicle volume in the range of 700 veh/day
- Suitable straight alignment with horizontal and vertical curves
- Good safety record
- Existing recreational cycle route
Reason for site removal

- Vehicle speeds particularly at night did not adhere to 60km/h temporary speed limit
- Observations onsite showed that drivers that some drivers were uncertain on how to position themselves on the road
- All parties involved listened to public feedback, considered behavioural observations onsite, considered compliance with speed limit and decided to cess the trial.
There will be challenges and set backs Low Volume Rural Roads now Front Page News

- We are moving into new territory
- We need to be innovative
- What we do will not always be popular to everyone
- Some things won’t go as planned, but we’ll learn from them
- We need to bring our communities with us
Instrumented bicycle
Inside the lunchbox
How many signs do we have
Learnings
Thank You

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