

Hitching Post

Research Results from Tirohanga and Harbour View



Hayley Comrie
Matthew Naushutz
Lucy Milne
Zane Melsom

Eco Camp Project

- 16 youth
- Undertook several environmental projects
- Surveyed Tirohanga and Harbour View, door to door



What is the Hitching Post Scheme?

- Posts installed for Wellington and Hutt CBD
- People choose to pick up hitchhikers
- Exists in San Francisco and Cuba



Trialled in Maungaraki

- Used by students
- Usually picked up in 2 minutes
- I waited 20 minutes, no luck



Respondent Details

- 108 respondents
- 56% had heard of the scheme
- Equally male and female respondents
- Mix of ages from teenage to elderly



Overall Conclusion

- 21% strongly in favour
- 37% in favour
- 22% neutral
- 21% opposed
- 7% strongly opposed



Strongly in Favour – 21%

- Many wanted or needed the service
- Slightly younger
- Few more males
- Keen to pick up hitchhikers
- Keen to support youth
- Did not believe hitchhikers or drivers were at risk



In favour – 37%



- 58% in favour or strongly in favour
- Not fearful of safety
- Could clearly see benefits for community
 - Reduction in car use
 - Enhance community spirit
 - Help those without transport
- More likely to need the service

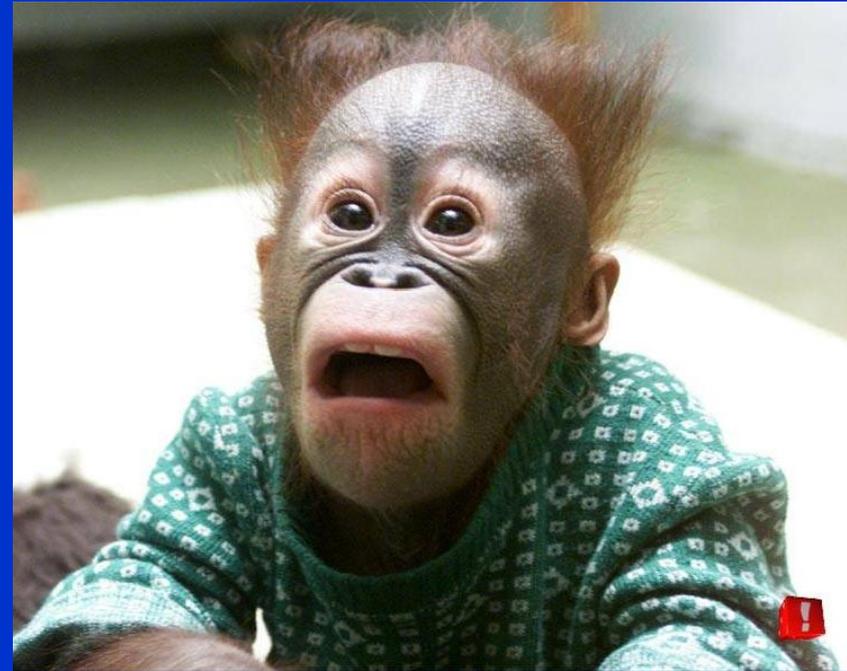
Neutral – 22%

- Neutral to slightly in favour in all of their responses
- Reasonably willing to pick up people
- Middle aged
- No need for transport



Opposed – 14%

- Fearful of safety issues
- Slightly more female
- Had no need of the service



Very opposed – 7%

- 7 people
- 3 teenagers
- Not concerned about safety
- All responses and comments suggested not community minded
- Appeared cynical



Benefits to community

(Likely or very likely)

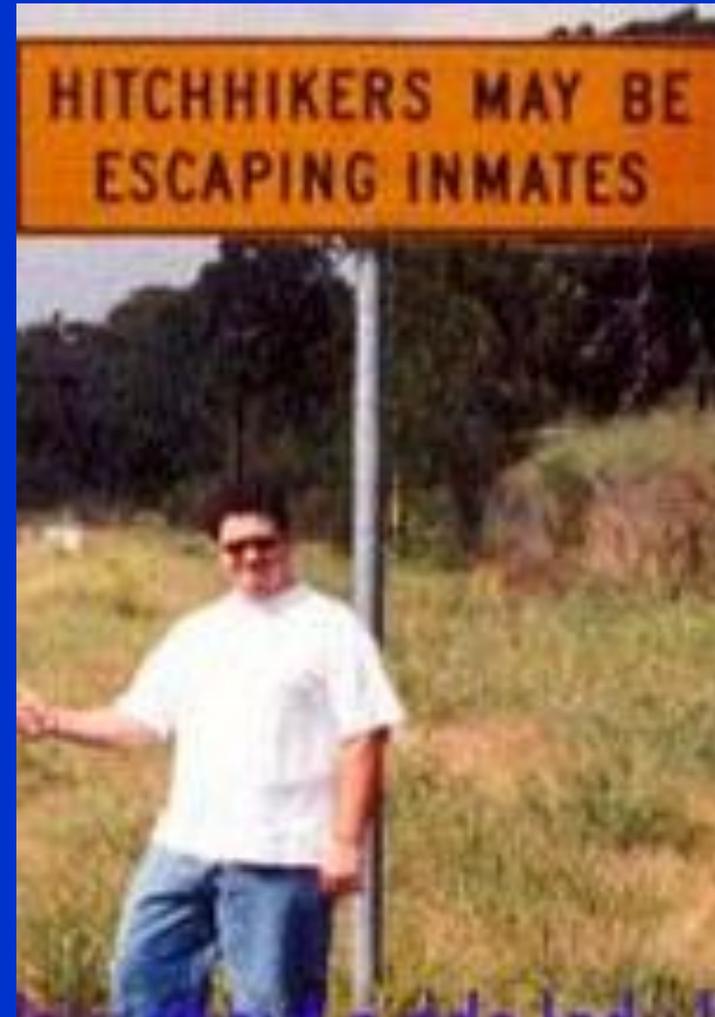
- 72% - enhance community spirit
- 70% - contribute to reducing vehicle use
- 84% - assist residents without transport



Safety fears

(Likely or very likely)

- 24% - put hitchhikers at risk
(1% very likely)
- 30% - put drivers at risk
(2% very likely)
- Safety fears common to those opposed to the scheme
- Women more fearful



Willingness to pick up people (Willing or very willing)

- Most willing to pick up
 - Especially elderly (64%)
 - Then females (58%)
 - Then teenagers (42%)
 - But not males (35%)
- Males happier to pick up anybody



Likelihood of Hitchhiking

- 28% willing or very willing to try hitchhiking if they needed it
- 24% likely or very likely to need transport
- Couldn't imagine themselves as hitchhikers
- 88% drive a vehicle
- Suburb wealthy
- Some thought would work better in poorer suburbs
- Younger



Recommendation

- Introduce hitching post scheme to Tirohanga and Harbour View
- Consider introducing to Belmont and Korokoro with limited bus services
- Extend in Normandale especially where no bus service
- Survey opinions in Taita and Pomare
- Survey usage in Maungaraki
- Gain publicity to encourage usage



A speed limit sign on a road. The sign is white with a black border and contains the text "SPEED LIMIT GO FOR IT". The background shows a road with white lane markings curving into the distance under a dark sky.

SPEED LIMIT

**GO
FOR
IT**