



2025 Community Transport Symposium

Organisational Sustainability: Securing our Future

Wednesday, 12 March

9am – 3pm

**JetPark Hamilton Airport Hotel & Conference Centre
201 Airport Road, Hamilton**

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|----------------|--|
| 8:45am | Registration Opens |
| 9:30am | Welcome, Housekeeping & Introductions
Pamela Storey - Chairperson, Waikato Regional Council
Bridget Doran - Director, Bridget Doran Consulting |
| 9:40am | Opening Presentation: The Past, Present & Future of Community Transport in Aotearoa
Bridget Doran
<i>Describes the evolution of community transport in Aotearoa, its current state, and future possibilities. This presentation will set the stage for understanding the critical role of community transport to support wellbeing in the context of changing politics and climate.</i> |
| 10:00am | State of the Community Sector in NZ
Holly Snape - Chief Executive, Community Waikato and Chair, Community Networks Aotearoa
<i>Gain insights into the current state of the community sector in New Zealand. Holly will provide an overview of challenges and opportunities facing community transport providers in their role to support resilient communities.</i> |
| 10:10am | Provider Stories
<i>3 community transport providers share their success stories, experiences, and challenges they've had to overcome.</i> |
| 10:30am | Laughing Yoga with Neil, followed by Morning Tea |
| 11:00am | Conversation with a Councillor
Angela Strange - Councillor and Deputy Chair, Regional Transport Committee, Waikato Regional Council
<i>Hear about Council's role in growing community transport, their outlook on the future, and goals for transport in the Waikato. Councillor Strange will discuss the creation of the Community Transport Fund, the importance of planning and community advocacy, and the role of community transport in supporting a well-functioning regional transport network.</i> |

11:30am

Breakout Sessions #1

Option A: Building a National Profile for Community Transport

Amantha Bowen - Community Transport Lead, Waikato Regional Council

Nigel King - Team Leader, Transport Policy and Programmes, Waikato Regional Council

Consider how to elevate the profile of community transport on a national level. This workshop covers strategies for engaging with decision-makers and securing long-term support for community transport using your sphere of influence.

Option B: What Could Success Look Like? Brokering Relationships & Creating Economies of Scale

Bridget Doran and Sarah Gibb - Community Advisor, joined by colleagues from Community Waikato

Discover strategies for building successful partnerships and achieving economies of scale in community transport. This workshop addresses the power of collaboration to optimize resources, create financial sustainability, and develop shared resources.

12:15pm

Lunch

1:05pm

Community Transport in the Context of NZ Laws and Policies

Bridget Doran and James Llewellyn – Managing Director, Taith Consulting

Community Transport is an umbrella term for what we broadly describe as volunteer-based transport services. But what is included, what is not, and how does it fit in NZ transport policy? James will present a policy and funding framework, and Bridget will summarise the NZ transport policy context, including ways we could raise the profile of community transport, so it receives more recognition, more support, and more funding.

1:45pm

Breakout Sessions #2

Option A: Community Transport and Climate Change

Bridget Doran

This session will highlight the environmental benefits and the importance of sustainable transport solutions. It will discuss the role of community transport as part of a just transition to sustainable access.

Option B: Risk Management in Community Transport

Cheryl des Landes - Clinical Safety and Risk Manager, Hato Hone St John

Julie Taverner - National Community Transport Manager, Hato Hone St John

Understand the importance of risk management in community transport. This session will cover volunteer support, passenger obligations, and the limitations of community transport services.

2:30pm

Closing Panel

Facilitated by Bridget Doran

3:00pm

Programme Ends

*** Please note the programme is subject to change ***