

Cyclist skills training

Newsletter No. 2

The vision for cyclist training is:

a New Zealand where everyone has the opportunity to become a confident and capable cyclist



Welcome

This is the second of a series of newsletters to update you on progress on the development of cyclist skills training in New Zealand

The cyclist skills training guide aims to provide a consistent 'best practice' approach to the delivery of cyclist training in New Zealand. It caters for a range of trainees and suits both school and adult training environments. It aims to ensure that trainees demonstrate their ability at each level.

Version 2 of the guide

Version 2 of the *Cyclist skills training guideline* is now available on the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) website.

The key differences are:

- > terminology has been updated
- > core skills/observable outcomes
- > summary tables updated
- > more diagrams and pictures
- > intersection clarification .

Follow the links below for a copy:

Guideline

www.landtransport.govt.nz/road-user-safety/walking-and-cycling/docs/cyclist-skills-training.pdf

Updated summary guide

www.landtransport.govt.nz/road-user-safety/walking-and-cycling/docs/cyclist-skills-guide-summary.pdf

Please note that the NZTA site is only interim and a portal to the old sites where the links are. If you would like a hard copy of the guidelines please contact us.

Funding

The amended Land Transport Management Act (LTMA) has resulted in significant changes to land transport funding. Under the *Government policy statement on land transport funding* (GPS), a target has been set to increase the number of walking and cycling trips by 1% per year by 2015. Cyclist skills training is one of the key initiatives under the national walking and cycling strategy *Getting there by foot, by cycle*.

Approved organisations are encouraged to consider cyclist skills training in their communities and to work and/or partner with other interested parties to develop programmes based on the guide.

The NZTA has released *Regional land transport programme guidelines for 2009-2012* to assist approved organisations with their preparation of their 2009-12 regional land transport programmes (RLTPs). Refer to page 19 for walking and cycling facilities and page 76 for specific reference to cyclist skills training.

The link is: www.landtransport.govt.nz/funding/nltp/guidelines-2009-12/docs/rltp-guidelines-09-12-v1.pdf

Funding opportunities are available through the community-focused activity class, conditional on providers developing (or progressing towards) a programme based on the guide. It is envisaged that in the medium term the NZTA will only fund cycle training programmes consistent with the RLTP guidelines. However, the NZTA recognise that there will need to be an interim period to enable existing programmes to be adapted to the guidelines.

Feedback welcome

We expect to revise the *Cyclist skills training guidelines* again in 2009, so feedback is welcome. Send responses to cyclisttraining@nzta.govt.nz.

Instructor workshop 8-10 October 2008

Fifteen cycle trainers from across New Zealand came together recently for a workshop to gain an understanding of the New Zealand guidelines and share ideas with other cycle training providers. The workshop enabled a lot of lively discussion and debate between the instructors as well as providing a positive networking experience with a range of cyclist trainers across New Zealand. It was encouraging to see the vast amount of experience and passion for cyclist training in New Zealand.

A full evaluation of the workshop will be presented at the next Cyclist Training Advisory Group (CTAG) meeting planned for early December. The NZTA are looking at holding more workshops in 2009.

Many thanks to NZTA, Opus International Consultants (facilitators) and Bike NZ for hosting the workshop. Also thanks to Helen Harris (NZ Police), Michele Hendren and Kristina Carmichael (Christchurch City Council Cyclesafe) and Patrick Morgan (CAN) for facilitating components of the workshop.



Trial programmes

Following the instructor workshop on 8-10 October, the NZTA are seeking interested cycle trainers to trial the guidelines in 2009. The purpose of the trial is to seek feedback on the use and adaptability of the guidelines. It is likely that the trial programme expectations will focus on one or two training groups and seek feedback from trainees, parents (if applicable), teachers (if applicable) and course instructors. The evaluation component requirements will be available to cycle trainers in December 2008.

Other information

- > North Shore City Council has just released a research report *Tempting teens to cycle*, by Brian Horspool. Follow the link below for a copy of the report: www.northshorecity.govt.nz/?src=/transport_and_roads/travelwise/school-travel-research.htm
- > Cycle Advocates Network (CAN) have developed a discussion forum with the aim of sharing best practice and discussing issues relating to teaching people to ride bikes.

How to join:

1. Visit <http://can.org.nz>.
2. Select 'new user' at bottom right.
3. Follow the instructions.
4. Tick the box at 'Join Cycle Training Network'.

You don't have to be a CAN member to join the network. Contact cyclctraining@can.org.nz if you have any questions.

- > Feedback on the guideline is welcome. Send response to cyclistraining@nzta.govt.nz.

Cyclist training organisations

NZTA have an extensive database of organisations undertaking or interested in cyclist training in New Zealand. Please forward us details of anyone interested in keeping in the loop with cyclist training.

For further information

Gerry Dance

Senior Policy Advisor (Walking & Cycling)

NZ Transport Agency

T: 04 894 6362

E: Gerry.Dance@nzta.govt.nz

Rachel Algar

NZ Cyclist Skills Training Project Manager

Opus International Consultants Ltd

T: 07 834 1827

E: Rachel.Algar@opus.co.nz

