



The number of people living in our largest cities is increasing quickly, so more people need to move around the city. People need to get to work, to events, shops and other places they need to go. However, our roads and railways were built to cope with much fewer people. Urban Transport policy is about how people can move around in cities. In this activity we'll think about the kinds of policies that are available, and the different costs they have.

→ Go to [policy.nz](https://www.policy.nz) and find the elections in your area

→ Choose an election and browse the candidates' profiles to learn about who is standing

1. Read [this](#) website on Te Ara, showing the increase in the number of people living in cities.
 - Why do you think more people live in cities now?
 - Do you think our cities will keep growing? Why or why not?
2. Now have a look at [this](#) map on the Waka Kotahi (New Zealand Transport Agency) website. It shows current transport projects. Use the map to find a project happening near you:
 - How much is the project estimated to cost?
 - Of the project benefits listed, which do you think is most important? Why? Can you think of a downside to the project?
3. Some people believe roads will remain important, while others believe roads are a thing of the past, and that we should focus on trains, bikes and other forms of public transport.
 - When might roads and cars be better to use than public transport like trains or buses?
 - Where could public transport replace roads and cars without negative effects?

→ Browse candidates' policies in the *Transport* topic

→ Save the policies you agree with by clicking the heart icon

4. Transport projects can be very expensive, and might only benefit people in one area. One example is the proposal to build a Light Rail system from Auckland city to Auckland airport.
 - Imagine you live in Auckland, near where a Light Rail stop might be located. How would you feel about the Light Rail system being built?
 - Now imagine you live somewhere else in Auckland, away from the Light Rail route, and you don't visit the airport very often. Does that change how you feel about Light Rail?
5. For a policy you saved, think about its effect on emissions.
 - Does it help us respond to climate change? How might it impact our emissions?
 - Are any other policies more environmentally friendly? Would they achieve a similar result?