# Simon Says! The role of the Chief Science Advisor

Simon Kingham Kaitohutohu Matua Pūtaiao | Chief Science Adviser





Transport Research Colloquium, Wellington, 14 November 2018

# Ahorangi, University of Canterbury

Ahorangi | Professor Simon Kingham Kaihautū, Te Taiwhenua o te Hauora | Director, Geohealth Laboratory Tari Mātai Matawhenua | Dept of Geography Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury

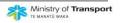
### **Teaching and research interests**

- Impact of the urban environment on individual and community health and wellbeing.
  - Transport
  - Public health
  - Strong community engagement/end user focus.
  - Geospatial science

# Kaitohutohu Matua Pūtaiao, MoT

Kaitohutohu Matua Pūtaiao | Chief Science Advisor Te Manatū Waka | Ministry of Transport

- 2 days a week
- Usually Tuesday and Wednesday
- Purpose
- provide advice to the Ministry on areas that would benefit from scientific input
- champions the Ministry's use of evidence throughout the policy process and its development of wider sector strategies.



## **Science Advisory Board**

Office of the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor Kaitohutohu Mātanga Pūtaiao Matua ki te Pirimia

Home Our Role - Our Community - Our activities -

Links

### The Departmental Science Advisory Network He Rauhinga Tohu Putaiao



## **Research dissemination**

#### Simon says

Simon Kingham is the Ministry's Chief Science Adviser and highlights interesting transport research in this weekly column.



#### Simon Says 26: Are people who already cycle and walk more responsive to an active travel intervention?

#### w/c: 17th September 2018

Paper: Keall M, Chapman R, Shaw C, Abrahamse W and Howden-Chapman P, 2018, Are people who already cycle and walk more responsive to an active travel intervention? Journal of Transport & Health,

#### Comment/Summary:

This study was part of an evaluation of the NZs Model Communities Programme. It aimed to see who (in relation to pre-existing physical activity levels) benefited most from a programme that sought to shift that people already reporting some physical activity in terms of walking and cycling were significantly (24 times) more likely to increase their active travel compared to those who did not report any cycling c achieve "maximum benefit to population health, interventions need to consider physically inactive people in particular and encourage active travel amongst this group".

Overall, the main message is that transport interventions deigned to increase physical activity may have a much larger effect on people who are already active.

#### Simon Says 25: Assessing the economic benefits and resilience of complete streets in Orlando

#### w/c: 10th September 2018

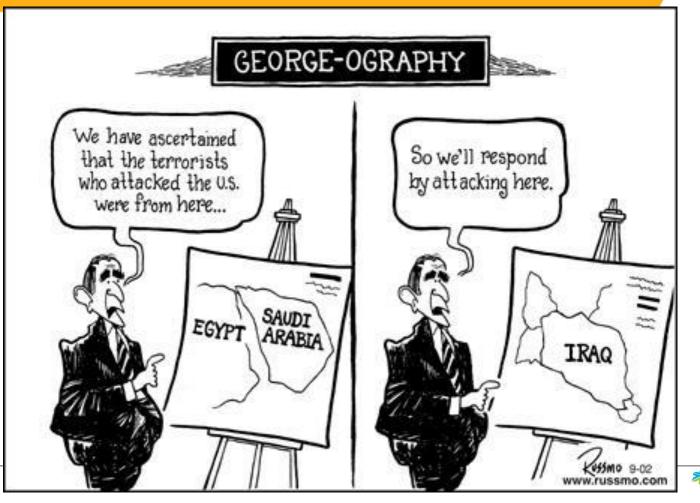
Paper: Yu C-Y, Xu M, Towne S, Iman S, 2018, Assessing the economic benefits and resilience of complete streets in Orlando, FL: A natural experimental design approach. Journal of Transport & Health 8, 1

#### Comment/Summary:



## **Evidence based policy**





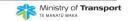
Ministry of Transport

## **Independent advice**



"WHILE DOING THE RESEARCH, KEEP IN MIND THERE ARE ONLY TWO KINDS OF FACTS ... THOSE THAT SUPPORT MY POSITION ... AND INCONCLUSIVE . "





# Link policy makers with research(ers)

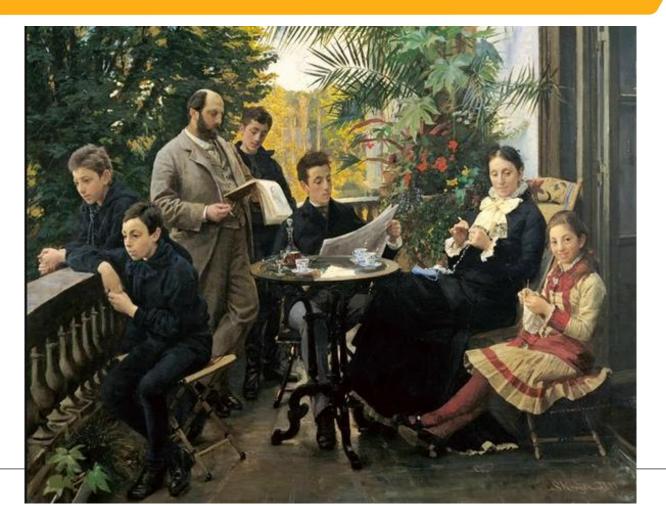






# **Policy makers and researchers**







## Researchers

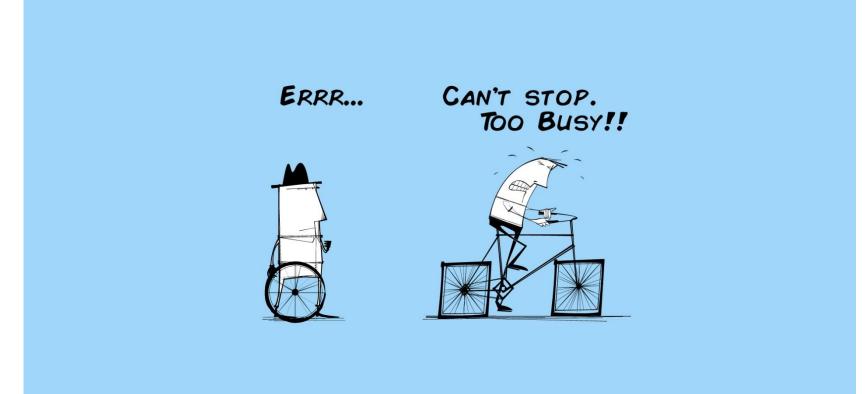






# **Policy makers**





# **Research meets and informs policy**







## Outcome

**Evidence based policy** 

