

Decarbonising Transport

Transportation
Conference

9–12 May 2021
Hilton Auckland



Poster presentation welcome from Aurecon

1. **Welcome:** Welcome everyone to Decarbonising Transport and specifically to the poster presentations and viewing.
2. **Who you are:** I'm Ian Wroe and I'm Aurecon's Sustainability & Climate Change Leader for New Zealand.
3. **Sponsor:** Aurecon is really pleased to be sponsoring this year's event at a time when we are at a real turning point for decarbonisation in New Zealand.
4. **Decarbonisation in transport context:** Decarbonisation of transport requires significant transformations and companies and governments around the world are competing to develop electric vehicles, hydrogen-powered fleets, or exploring fossil fuel replacements, like biofuel or synthetic gas. It's not just how the transport system is powered that is important, but also how it is used. Shifting from private vehicles to public transport, or moving to active modes like cycling and walking, have been shown to have a huge effect on carbon emissions. These sorts of behavioural changes are a feature of many carbon reduction programs worldwide. COVID-19 has shown the size of the impact on carbon emissions when travel patterns change. The speed with which the impacts of COVID-19 were felt by the transport industry was significant, with aviation, road, rail and bus systems experiencing rapid declines in customer numbers. A study from Nature found that, in April 2020, when significant portions of the world went into lockdown, global emissions dropped by 17 percent.
5. **The posters:** I've had a chance to have a brief look at some of the posters and many of these important themes are explored in the poster content. We've got a real range from education and training to how we rebuild from COVID-19, to influencing passenger choices and the more technical emissions reduction strategies and tools. It's exciting to see such diversity and enthusiasm and I encourage you all to take the time to look through them and speak to the presenters.
6. **The opportunity:** I've been involved in advancing climate responses within business for many years and I've never seen such momentum now as we have in the transport sector. It's a very exciting time and we must ensure that we grasp this opportunity.
7. **About Aurecon:** At Aurecon, we have a long-standing commitment to social responsibility. As engineers, designers, and advisors, we recognise we have an opportunity and responsibility to use our knowledge and our expertise to help solve some of the world's most complex problems, including challenges around climate change and sustainability. In December 2020, Aurecon made a commitment to become net zero carbon in its operations by 2025. The move to decarbonise our business and transition our services is part of Aurecon's plan for a 100 percent net zero emissions future. We are a business that is not only helping our transport clients to decarbonise, but we are going through this process ourselves.
8. **Finish:** I'm really excited to welcome you to this poster presentation and I hope you enjoy the rest of the conference.