# Behaviour of Shared User Path Users

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| Ivy Hao, PhD Candidate, The University of Auckland, yhao210@aucklanduni.ac.nz  Douglas Wilson, Senior Lecturer, The University of Auckland, [dj.wilson@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:dj.wilson@auckland.ac.nz" \o "Send email to dj.wilson@auckland.ac.nz)  Subeh Chowdhury, Senior Lecturer, The University of Auckland, s.chowdhury@auckland.ac.nz  Walking and cycling mode volumes have been rapidly growing in New Zealand where new infrastructure is being provided. Active transport modes encourages both health and environmental benefits. Shared User Paths (SUPs) that share pedestrians and cyclists are a common form of off-road infrastructure implementation where space and resource are inadequate for separated cycle and pedestrian paths.  However, the mixing of pedestrians and cyclists (including E-bikes) and now other micro-mobility devices (eg. E–Scooters that have recently been introduced to Auckland and various cities in NZ) raises greater collision and conflict risk between the shared usage, related to the potential travel speed, space requirements and user behaviours. The infrastructure planning, design and management (including operations and maintenance asset cycles) of the SUPs also have significant safety performance and perception effects.    The increased number and usage of SUPs alongside an increasing growth in demand suggests that an evaluation is required of various existing SUP implementations, current design standards / guidelines to ensure both existing and future SUP user demands are appropriately and safely met. It is important that any new transport infrastructure that has changing user trends or new transport technologies or modes introduced are appropriately evaluated to ensure the safe use and operation of all users and especially those more vulnerable to incidents. An evaluation and better understanding of cyclist, pedestrian and other micro-mobility devices on SUP’s will allow improved design and safety guidelines for SUP’s to be implemented.  This study presents the findings of an analysis using online and interview surveys of SUP users in the Auckland region. The aim of this study is to evaluate the safety risk on various SUP elements and users’ perceptions toward various behaviours on SUP’s. The impact of geometric design features, functional and social factors on shared path users’ perception and the infrastructure level of service are explored and reported. |