# Who wins in the e-mobility revolution? The Māngere e-bike trial.

**Ali Raja1, Hamish Mackie1, Karen Witten2 and Simon Opit2**

**1 Mackie Research, Auckland, New Zealand**

**2 SHORE and Whāriki Research Centre, School of Public Health, Massey University, Auckland, New Zealand**

|  |
| --- |
| While e-bikes for transport and recreation are growing in popularity, there is a risk that those with lower incomes may miss-out and be locked into a narrower range of transport options. A multi-stakeholder partnership has set-up an e-bike trial in Māngere. Taking a strengths-based approach, the trial process is systematically exploring the potential and practical considerations for routine e-bike use in Māngere.  Three stages include: |

**Stage 1 – “Give it a go”** involved three outdoor workshops where community participants could test a range of ebikes in a supportive environment and a final hui to understand perspectives and next steps. Participants enjoyed and greatly appreciated the e-bikes and explored how e-bikes could be used in daily life. There was also support for Stage 2 where e-bikes could be used in more realistic daily settings such as trips to work and other destinations.

**Stage 2** – **E-bikes in daily life** involved approximately 20 e-bikes being used across two waves in real life settings with corresponding evaluation of use, practical considerations, perspectives, and possible financial models for ongoing use. The first wave was targeted towards individuals and households while the second wave engaged with businesses, community organisations, and schools in the local area, and participants were encouraged to explore e-bike use for work-related travel.

**Stage 3** **E-bikes for all** will focus on the levers that are needed to make e-bikes an accessible and attractive option for low-income communities. A Waka Kotahi funded e-bike incentive scheme was deployed to a small number of Māngere residents. Findings from this work hope to inform national policy related to incentivising long-term access to e-bikes in communities similar to Māngere.

This presentation will outline the trials, the findings, and recommendations for future policy and practice.