

Not so fast! Slowing down for a healthier, wealthier and more sustainable city

For more than a century, a principal goal of transport strategies in the city has been for us to 'go faster', in order to save time. It doesn't seem to have worked, does it? And when we see that going faster isn't saving any time, what do we do? We re-double our efforts, following the dictum of Thomas Eddison:

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work".

We have been ignoring the 'speed paradox', that speed steals our time. What's more, it turns out that it steals our money and our health too. So how do we deal with this? Maybe it's time to rethink our transport strategies to make 'try to go slower' the goal.

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Rodney Tolley - Active Transport Consultant, Researcher, Presenter and Walk21 Conference Director

Dr Rodney Tolley has been involved in the field of active, sustainable transport for over 40 years, first as a university researcher and teacher, and now as an experienced international speaker and consultant. He has led hundreds of presentations, walkabouts and workshops in communities across the world, including over 50 cities in Australasia.

He was a founder member of the Steering Group for Walk21 -

the first International Conference on Walking and Liveable Cities - and has been the Conference Director for the nineteen Walk21 Conferences since then. He was central to the development of the International Charter for Walking, which is has now been signed by over 500 mayors to lead their communities towards better walkability. He is currently finalising his most recent book (with Paul Tranter of UNSW Canberra) on 'Future slow cities: Healthier places to live, work and play'.

His passion is walking – and talking walking.