Do you know what the cultural barriers to increasing walking and cycling are?

Beca

make everyday better.

Equity needs to be as important as efficiency

By understanding community views and aspirations we can better provide infrastructure that meets the specific needs of different parts of the community.

Check for updates

Planning Research

Disparities in Bicycle Commuting: Could Bike Lane Investment Widen the Gap?

ACSP Connecting educators, researchers and students

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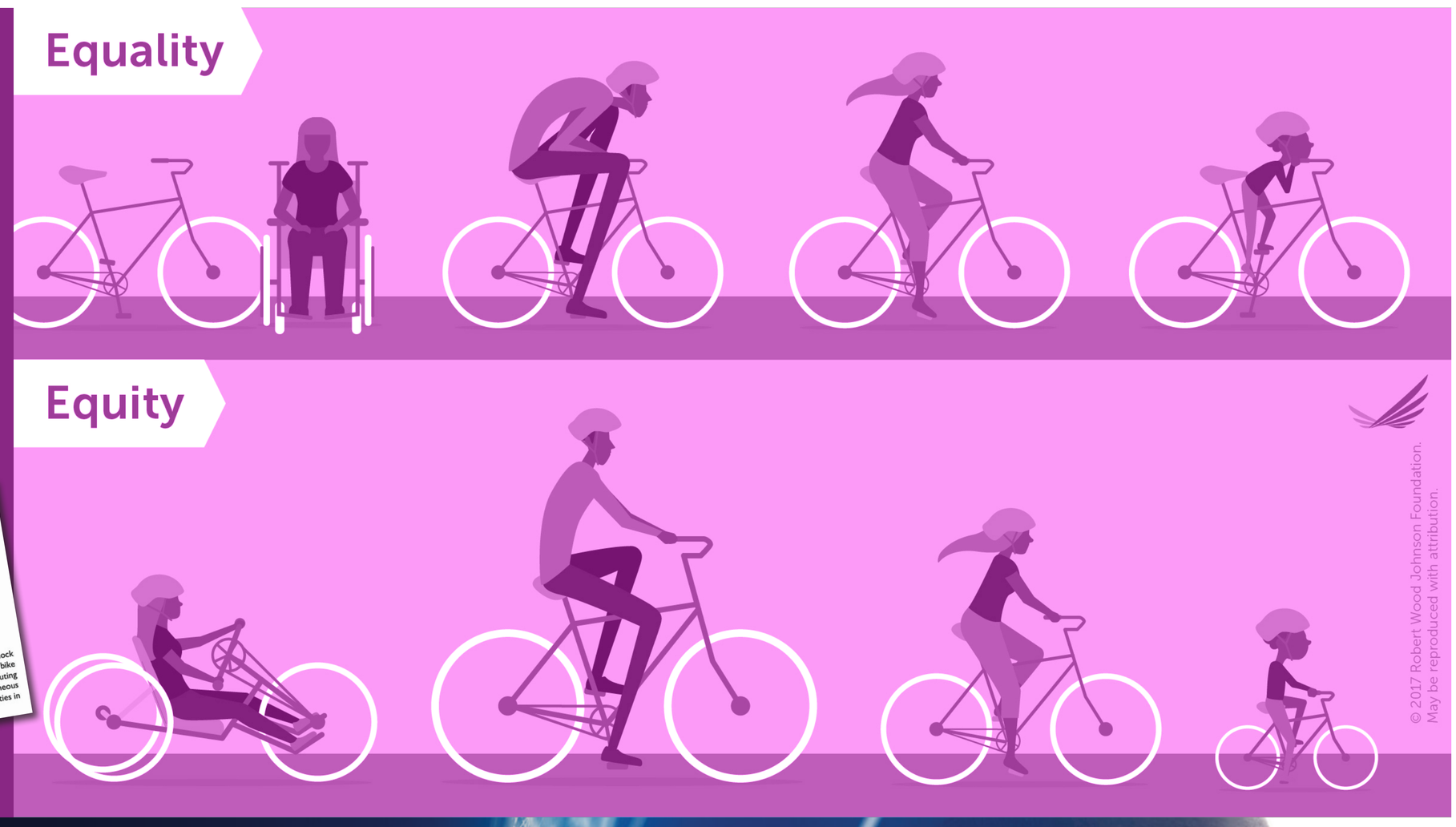
SAGE

Lindsay M. Braun[1]

Abstract
This article examines how bicycle commuting is associated with bike lane access and sociodemographic advantage at the block group level in twenty-two U.S. cities. Using regression models with interaction terms, I find that associations between bike lanes and bicycle commuting are stronger among more advantaged block groups, due primarily to limited bicycle commuting in disadvantaged block groups even when bike lanes are present. This indicates the importance of considering heterogeneous effects in planning research and suggests that bike lane investment, in isolation, could widen sociodemographic disparities in cycling and its benefits if non-infrastructure barriers to cycling are not also addressed.



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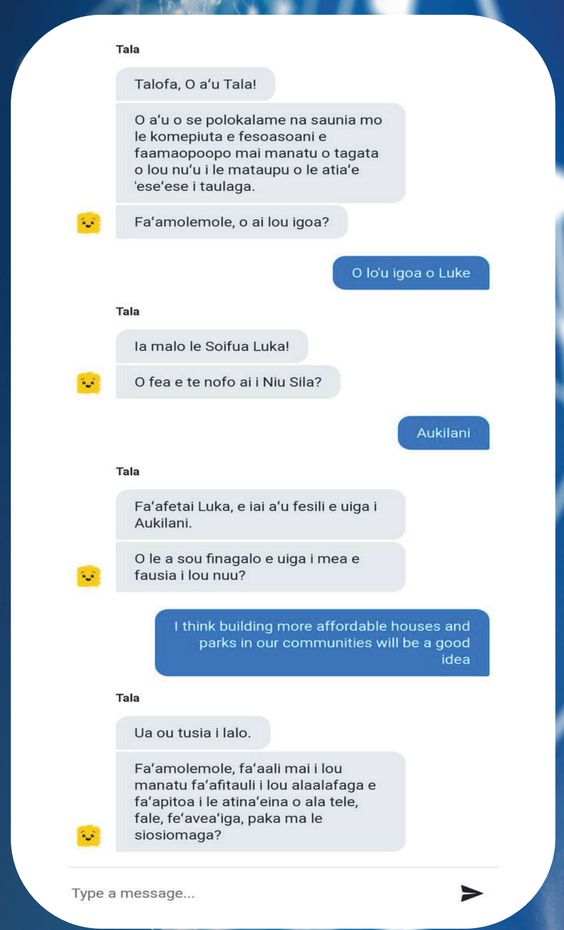
Conversational Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is capable of communicating and understanding conversations. Beca has trained Tala to mimic a consultation expert by asking open questions and understanding what the user wants to talk about.

The AI automatically processes the conversation providing an insights dashboard that provides strategic trends and themes, and related verbatim comments.

Tala engages voices that aren't often heard.



The Talanoa Project

What we did: we created **Tala**, a conversational agent that was trained to consult appropriately in Samoan, getting people's views on community issues.

How we did it: we ran the consultation with members of the Samoan Community in Auckland, ranging in ages from 17 to 70, including community elders; we also collected their feedback on their experience and their thoughts on the future use of AI to consult with the community.

The result: we proved that AI is a cost effective, appropriate and welcomed way for members of the Samoan Community to provide consultation feedback and improve community equity in the provision and design of infrastructure and services.

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