# ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM

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| Paper details |  | | | |
| **Paper title**  **(limited to 6 words)** | The Future of Transport: Autonomous Vehicles? | | | |
| **Overview of presentation** (300-word maximum)  Recent decades have seen rapid development in transport technologies. One of the exciting developments is the advent of autonomous vehicle technology, which promises to change the way people and goods are transported. Autonomous vehicles are widely expected to increase accessibility for people with limited mobility, reduce demand for off-street parking, and increase road safety and capacity. While the development of autonomous vehicle technology may yield substantial economic, social and environmental benefits, we note several potential barriers to their use on New Zealand roads, including compatability of road infrastructure, compatability of regulatory frameworks, and users' imperfect understanding and interaction with the technology.  The development of autonomous vehicles seems likely to affect transport and land use broadly, with key themes being: autonomous vehicles will initially tend to substitute private vehicle travel; non-car transport modes will continue to support New Zealand's transport system; and the nature of parking demand will change. While we are optimistic about the potential benefits of autonomous vehicles, we are somewhat sceptical about their uptake in the short to medium term. More specifically, we expect to observe the following phases in the adoption of autonomous vehicles:  Phase One, 2018-2040: Autonomous vehicles remain relatively expensive; public perceptions shift; regulations are updated.  Phase Two, 2040-2055: Autonomous vehicles become more affordable; driverless taxis and autonomous public transport become common; vehicle ownership rates begin to decline.  Phase Three, 2055-2070: Non-autonomous vehicles rarely used for private travel; public transport services continue to support cities; large-scale off-street parking infrastructure is repurposed.  While the actual adoption of autonomous vehicles is likely to vary from our expectations, we are confident that autonomous vehicles will be part of an integrated transport network, which continues to prioritise walking, cycling and public transport options. These transport modes encourage accessibility while maintaining the human scale design of cities. | | | | |