**City logistics - the last but not least mile**

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City logistics is more important than ever as street space becomes hotly contested as our cities continue to change. Space efficient modes of transport are being prioritised with wider footpaths, new cycle lanes and transit lanes. While at the same time road space is being reallocated for place functions such as new trees, street furniture and outdoor dining.

City logistics is the movement of goods, services, and people in dense urban areas – that “last mile” of transportation. It is the lifeblood of our cities. Yet, all too often it gets forgotten in the excitement of new projects. Too often we hear stories of good transport projects being stalled because a loading zone might be removed or some car parking might disappear. We need to pay better attention to the needs of city logistics while also looking at new ways for goods, services, and people to cover that last mile and reach their final destinations.

Transportation Group New Zealand sent me to Australia and several countries in Europe to explore innovations in city logistics. I found that overseas cities are making use of a range of tools, including urban consolidation centres, cargo bikes, and low emission zones to improve city logistics while reducing VKT, improving air quality and creating more space for people.

The innovations can seem a distant reality for cities in New Zealand. But, in fact, we can see evidence of these innovations already in place here. I will show you how we can supercharge city logistics innovation in Aotearoa/New Zealand to support the changing landscape of our cities.