



New Zealand  
**Planning Institute**<sup>®</sup>  
Te Kokiringa Taumata

**NZPI**

**Annual**

**Awards**

**2013**



*Empowering Planners; Promoting Planning Excellence*



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### NZPI Awards Panel

Chair: Andrew Willis

Members: Bryce Julyan

Julie Bevan

Keith Hovell

Please note that individual members of the panel withdrew from all discussion around specific nominations where a conflict of interest could be perceived.





**Recipient:** Kerry Mattingly

**For:** A Masters on “Housing and Transport Expenditure: Socio-spatial Indicators of Affordability in Auckland “.

The Awards Panel considered that the winner of the 2013 Wallace Ross Graduate Research Award met the criteria of the Award in focussing his research on a very topical and timely issue within and beyond the world of planning, that of Affordable Housing in the Auckland region and in particular, how it is measured.

The research identified a well-established body of literature concerning the negative environmental impacts of urban sprawl and associated levels of vehicle use. It also noted that proponents of low density urban fringe development assert that urban sprawl is merely consumer preference writ large, and a means of urban development which is conducive to supporting housing affordability.

This ideological tension between environmental ideals and housing affordability evident in the public debate led the author to challenge conventional measures of housing affordability arguing that if housing affordability arguments are used to justify sprawl, then the definitions and methodologies of housing affordability need to be re-examined.

The research asserted that the existing one-dimensional view of affordability ignores transportation costs, which represent a sizable proportion of household expenditure. Consequently, narrowly construed definitions of housing affordability are misleading indicators of housing stress.

The study quantitatively examined intra-metropolitan combined housing and transport affordability in Auckland. The research utilised disaggregate zonal data (largely derived from the 2006 New Zealand census) to develop comprehensive indicators of commuting costs. These indicators were applied to give an integrated affordability index for each statistical area unit within Auckland City. The results suggest that once commuting costs are incorporated into measures, a very different pattern of affordability emerges.

The Awards Panel was pleased to note that these research findings will be used to achieve a more comprehensive understanding of housing affordability across Auckland and to inform debate on issues such as urban growth strategies.



## Wallace Ross Graduate Research Award

The New Zealand Planning Institute Wallace Ross Graduate Research Award shall be made from time to time to any member (s) of the Institute undertaking research that advances planning practice, process and theory. The award will recognise excellence in research. The criteria are:

- research which adds to the canon of scholarship on planning in New Zealand; and/or
- demonstrates or investigates improvements and enhancements in the practice of planning.



**Recipient:** Liam Winter

**For:** Outstanding scholarship

The Reginald Hammond Scholarship is awarded annually for the final year of study for an accredited planning degree at the undergraduate or post-graduate level in New Zealand. The scholarship has a value of \$4,000 and has been established to support a worthy recipient in their final year of study.

This year’s winner of the Reginald Hammond Scholarship is a young man who not only excels academically but manages to do so whilst funding his studies through twenty hours a week of paid employment. His academic achievements are formidable, including:

- 2013 - Most promising Student Year 1 – Bachelor of Planning
- 2011 – First in course Award
- 2012 – First in course Award
- An academic transport strewn with A’s

The winner’s academic referees had this to say:

“This young man is one of the top students I have ever taught. He will make a major contribution to the profession in the future”.

He is a studious person who is excelling academically. However , he also possesses other qualities. He is a leader and role model who is humble about his achievements and encourages others to succeed. He is well respected both by his peers and staff as he is an open minded person who is considerate of diverse opinions, yet confident enough to contribute in a meaningful and thoughtful manner. He produces work of exceptionally high quality, showing excellent knowledge and understanding of complex issues. He consistently demonstrates an ability to think critically about complex planning issues and articulates his ideas clearly and succinctly.



### Reginald Hammond Scholarship

The Reginald Hammond Scholarship is awarded annually for the final year of study for an accredited planning degree at the undergraduate or post-graduate level in New Zealand. The planning degree must be recognised as an Accredited degree in the year in which the application is made. The applicant must be a New Zealand citizen or have permanent resident status in New Zealand. The scholarship has a value of \$4,000.

The award of the scholarship will be determined by the Awards Committee who will be guided by the following considerations:

- The academic achievement of the candidate which will be determined by reference to their academic transcript.
- The financial circumstances of the candidate, and
- The recommendation of two (2) referees, one of whom must have taught or supervised the candidate.

Reginald Hammond - the first New Zealander to complete a Town Planning qualification which led to him being appointed the first Director of Town Planning in 1926.

**Recipients: Napier City Council and Harrison Grierson**

**For: The Maraenui CPTED Assessment Project**

The NZPI Awards panel considers that the winners of the 2013 Rodney Davies Project award has met the Award criteria through their work on crime prevention through environmental design.

In 2011, Harrison Grierson was engaged by Napier City Council to prepare a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design report of the Maraenui Shopping Centre and surrounds. The Maraenui community is rated 10 on the New Zealand Deprivation Index and suffers from significant levels of anti social offending and violence. This has contributed to widespread perceptions of Maraenui as an unsafe and unloved community. The report required a review of all existing literature and plans; consultation with the community, including local school children, business owners, key Council staff and support agencies; a detailed survey and analysis of the site; and recommendations which were prioritised by effort, cost and impact. Recommendations were used to inform a concept plan which helped to illustrate strategic principles for regeneration and reflected key social, cultural, economic and environmental themes.

Napier City Council was supportive of the project and included funding for capital works in the Draft Long Term Council Community Plan at an estimated cost of \$2.2 million. The first stage has been completed with construction of a new playground area and toilet facility. Subsequent stages will involve opening up the central open space, construction of a new skate park and performance stage and the completion of roading changes and an entrance feature. Community ownership is seen as crucial to the success and longevity of any work completed, with community projects to be undertaken at each stage of the green's development. In 2012 the project was awarded a high commendation by the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology, for the Adam Sutton Crime Prevention award.



### Rodney Davies Project Award

The New Zealand Planning Institute Rodney Davies Project Award shall be made annually to any member or organisation, group, or body which has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute, and shall recognise innovative and creative excellence in the undertaking and completion of a project involving a physical work or development. The award will recognise excellence in:

- The processes which lead to the identification of the need for or justification of the project,
- The planning processes undertaken in formulating the project including research, consultation,
- The evaluation of alternatives and decision making, and
- Any physical, economic, cultural or social change which has been result of the project.

Rodney Davies - had extensive involvement with the NZPI over its life including holding the position of President. He was elected our first Life Fellow in 2009.

## Best Practice Awards

New Zealand Planning Institute Best Practice Awards may be made annually in the following five categories:

1. Strategic planning & guidance (inclusive of professional evidence)
2. District / Regional planning
3. Integrated planning and investigations (inclusive of AEE reports, monitoring processes and reports)
4. Consultation and participation strategies and/or processes
5. Non-statutory planning

The awards will be made to any individual, organisation, group, or body who/which has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute, and will recognise outstanding creativity, innovation, and service. Plans and processes eligible for this award include:

- the development of a LTCCP, Iwi Management Plan, district or regional plans, structure plan, national policy statement or standard, guidance and practice notes
- advice and service to the community
- the use or development of a natural or physical resource, or
- the protection or conservation of a natural or physical resource, or a significant improvement in the amenity or quality of the community and/or the environment in any area.

### Commendations:

The NZPI Awards Panel often receives a high quantity and quality Award nominations and it proves a difficult exercise to separate some of those nominations in terms of quality. For that reason the Awards Panel is able to choose to confer Commendations.



**Recipient: Auckland Council**

**For: Auckland Plan - a New Planning Paradigm for Auckland**

The commendation recognises the first spatial plan of its kind in New Zealand, a 30-year plan for all of Auckland. The plan provides the framework for how Auckland will grow and change over the next 30 years as Auckland copes with an anticipated 1 million additional people.

For the first time in Auckland's history there is a widely shared vision to be the world's most liveable city and a single, comprehensive plan to deliver this vision for all of Auckland.

The Auckland Plan was developed immediately following one of the most significant public sector reforms in New Zealand's history. It provides the framework for integrated planning in Auckland, delivering on the promise of the Auckland local government reform.

It was developed within the space of just 17 months under challenging circumstances with a new governance model and a new organisation bringing together staff and functions from eight different legacy councils and 40 legacy CCOs.

The Auckland Plan is not just a council plan, it is a plan for all of Auckland and Aucklanders. People are at the heart of the Auckland Plan – shaping not only the plan's content but the genuine way people were engaged with and listened to.

The Plan reflects a process of listening, learning, balancing and evaluating. The Auckland Plan created a new way of working between council and communities, and demonstrated best-practice in co-production with stakeholders. Many creative and innovative planning approaches were tested and applied during the plan's development including: the new workshop-style hearings forum, the 'fast, simple, bold' approach, the targeted youth engagement campaign, online people's panel, and the application of geo-spatial and creative design elements in a new and dynamic way.



#### Commendation—Strategic Planning and Guidance

The NZPI Awards Panel received a high quantity and quality of Award nominations in 2013.

Indeed it proved to be a difficult exercise to separate some of the nominations in terms of quality.

For that reason, the Awards Panel has chosen to confer three 'Commendations' in 2013. The first of those commendations relate to the Best Practice: Strategic Planning and Guidance Category.

The Strategic Planning and Guidance (inclusive of professional evidence) Award category is made to any individual, organisation, group, or body who/which has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute. It recognises outstanding creativity, innovation, and service.

**Recipient: Christchurch City Council**

**For: Christchurch Transport Strategic Plan**

The process of creating the Christchurch Transport Strategic Plan (CTSP) began before the Christchurch earthquakes. Post earthquake the objectives of the CTSP changed dramatically. There was now a pressure to deliver a policy document which offered a clear message of where Christchurch's transport aims and objectives would focus. The post earthquake environment meant that there was now the added pressure to deliver the document within a short time frame in order for the policies to affect and shape the city's rebuild.

The CTSP brought together a variety organisations involved in Transport delivery in Christchurch. Each of these organisations had their own objectives and interests yet the CTSP was able the bring together and successfully manage these, sometimes conflict interests, in a document which has the backing of all stakeholders. The collaborative effort involved in producing the CTSP highlights the strong relationship between the respective transport organisations and offers a positive future for the rebuild of the Christchurch's transport network.

The 'One Network' approach and the 'Link and Place' philosophies identified in the CTSP keep Christchurch at the cutting edge of best in town planning. The One Network approach identifies that transport modes need to be considered collectively and that the transport network should be utilised in it's entirety in order to maximise efficiency. 'Link and Place' brings together land use and transport planning, acknowledging that transport routes are also important places in their own right, and should be planned and designed as such.

The CTSP represents a mile stone for transport planning in Christchurch. It gives the city a single common vision for what the collective goals for transport in the city are, clearly defining how the city's transport network will progress over the next 30 years. Its timely completion is a testament to the strong relationship between all involved.

**Commendation—Integrated Planning**

The NZPI Awards Panel received a high quantity and quality of Award nominations in 2013. Indeed it proved to be a difficult exercise to separate some of the nominations in terms of quality. For that reason, the Awards Panel has chosen to confer three 'Commendations' in 2013. The second of those commendations relate to the Best Practice: Integrated Planning Category.







**Recipient: Palmerston North City Council**

**For: Palmerston North City Council Plan Change 1**

The Proposed Plan Change 1 (PPC1) was the first plan change promoted as part of the Palmerston North City Sectional District Plan Review. The plan change was a review of the Inner and Outer Business Zones of the Palmerston North City District Plan. PPC1 represents the completion of the final stage of the Council's Retail Strategy, which recognised that it was areas supported by pedestrian-based core retailing that were most at risk from large format retail development establishing on the periphery of the city.

PPC1 has taken a laissez-faire market driven planning framework and successfully introduced an integrated centres based planning approach with greater control over urban design matters. On the control continuum, PPC1's planning approach has been a large shift for a provincial centre.

PPC1 is a visionary plan change that set a comprehensive planning framework to control development in the city centre over the next 20 years. The ability to draft an innovative and progressive planning framework was established on a sound base created by:

- A comprehensive strategic policy document;
- A rigorous research and evidentiary based planning approach;
- Good quality technical reports;
- Political vision;
- Plan drafting that pushed the boundaries and took some risks;
- A comprehensive communications plan that clearly articulated the extent of change; and
- Most importantly, the plan change did not get lost in the detail, but rather kept a constant eye on the bigger picture established by the Retail Strategy.

In a provincial city context, PPC1 is a good example of second generation plan making that has set a sound platform upon which to progress the Palmerston North City Sectional District Plan Review.



#### Commendation—District Planning

The NZPI Awards Panel received a high quantity and quality of Award nominations in 2013. Indeed it proved to be a difficult exercise to separate some of the nominations in terms of quality. For that reason, the Awards Panel has chosen to confer three 'Commendations' in 2013. The third and final of the commendations relate to the Best Practice: District Planning Category.

**Recipients:** Porirua City Council, Greater Wellington City Council, Wellington City Council and Ngati Toa Rangatira

**For :** Porirua Harbour & Catchment Strategy & Action Plan

The NZPI Awards panel considers that the outstanding collaborative efforts involved in addressing major issues relating to one of New Zealand's iconic harbours to be worthy of this best practice award.

The project involved a multi-agency approach to addressing the poor health of the Harbour and tributary streams. This approach involved a total of 14 agencies working together over a four-year period to develop the Harbour and Catchment Strategy and Action Plan (the Strategy). It also involved a wider four-year public consultation and engagement process.

The Strategy which was adopted by the key parties in December 2011 recognises that the Harbour estuary is a unique and treasured natural environment and specifies prioritised actions to implement the three key objectives:

- reduce sedimentation rates
- reduce pollutant inputs
- restore ecological health.

The Awards panel believes that the development of the Strategy demonstrates how a best practice consultative approach transcends the limitations that a non-statutory document often has. In this case the development, commitment, adoption and funding of the Strategy by the 14 agencies involved, as well as the wider public, means that implementation and success is ensured.



**Best Practice Award:**

Consultation and Participation Strategies/and or Processes

The New Zealand Planning Institute Best Practice Award may be made to five categories. The consultation and participation strategies and/or processes Award category will be made to any individual, organisation, group, or body who/which has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute, and will recognise outstanding creativity, innovation, and service.

**Recipients: The Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team, Environment Canterbury, Christchurch City Council and Beca**

**For: SCIRT Collaborative Approach to Global Consenting Framework**

The 2013 winners of the Best Practice award for integrated planning has in the view of the Awards Panel, amply demonstrated best practice in their collaborative approach to the repair and rebuild of infrastructure devastated by the Canterbury earthquakes.

Following the Canterbury earthquakes of 2010-2011, the damage to infrastructure such as the water, wastewater and stormwater networks, roads, bridges, and retaining walls was extensive.

To undertake the \$2.2billion repair and rebuild programme in a coordinated and cost effective manner, the Christchurch City Council established an alliance with CERA and NZTA as the client funders, and Fulton Hogan, Downer, McConnell Dowell, Fletcher Construction and City Care as the 'delivery teams' – the Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Rebuild Team (SCIRT).

With up to 150 work sites open at any one time across the city, the massive scale of the work has had the additional complexity of extensive and on-going investigations to assess asset damage and ground conditions. These challenges presented a unique opportunity to develop a consistent consenting framework for a suite of global consents for typical construction-related activities. This was achieved through intensive and ongoing collaboration with between SCIRT, Christchurch City Council, and Environment Canterbury. The global consent solution provided a unique environment for the five SCIRT delivery teams to work together to 'raise the bar' in complying with these global consents, developing a risk-based management plan approach and developing innovative tools and techniques to address the challenges.

These responsive and collaborative solutions enabled the physical works to be carried out in an environmentally sound manner, while not slowing down the recovery with undue regulatory barriers, meaning the planning solutions have provided value for money for the people of Christchurch. These innovations are likely to leave a lasting legacy in the environmental and construction space.

### Best Practice Award:

#### Integrated Planning and Investigations

The New Zealand Planning Institute Best Practice Award may be made annually in five categories. The Integrated planning and investigations (inclusive of AEE reports, monitoring processes and reports) Award category will be made to any individual, organisation, group, or body who/which has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute, and will recognise outstanding creativity, innovation, and service.





**Recipients: Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitahi Trust, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Boffa Miskell Ltd**

**For: Ngāti Rangitahi Iwi Environmental Management Plan**

The NZPI Awards Panel considers that the 2103 recipients of this award have amply demonstrated best practice in developing an Environmental management plan.

The Ngāti Rangitahi Environmental Management Plan is the catalyst for Ngāti Rangitahi playing an active and constructive part in the enhancing of socio-economic and cultural aspects of environmental planning and resource management from the coastline of Matatā to the inland lake of Tarawera and the Waikato River.

The Plan is a first generation plan that provides practical guidance for hapū members involved in resource management. The Plan is a living document and continues to evolve in its application and guidance.

The Plan was prepared by Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitahi Trust with support from a secondment from Boffa Miskell Ltd, and resources from Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Department of Conservation, Whakatāne District Council, Rotorua District Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, and Taupō District Council.



### **Best Practice Award— Non Statutory Planning**

The New Zealand Planning Institute Best Practice Award may be made to five categories. The Non-statutory planning Award category will be made to any individual, organisation, group, or body who/which has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute, and will recognise outstanding creativity, innovation, and service.

**Recipient: Auckland Transport and Beca**

**For: Khyber Pass Rd Corridor Management Plan**

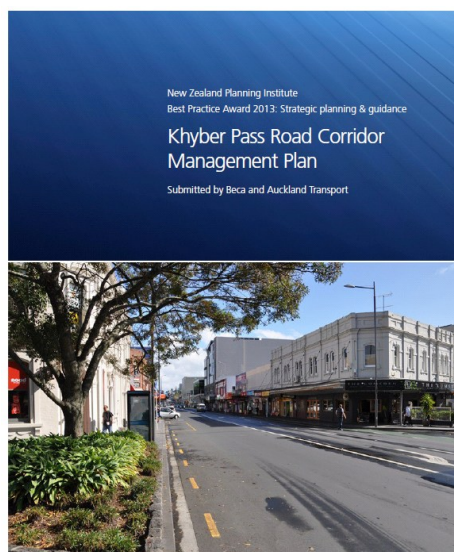
The winner of this category in 2013 has demonstrated a high level of strategy and planning excellence in developing a corridor management plan for one of the key priorities within the Regional Land Transport Strategy 2010-2040.

Situated between the Newmarket Metropolitan Centre and the City Fringe Centre of Newton, the Khyber Pass Road corridor provides a vital east-west connection and access to local businesses and residences. It is also an important access point to enter and exit State Highway 1.

In developing the vision for an integrated land use and transport plan, the Beca and Auckland Transport Planning teams employed a collaborative approach, engaging multi-disciplinary technical teams from Auckland Transport, Auckland Council and NZ Transport Agency and consolidating their inputs into two intensive workshops. This enabled them to break down silos and develop a fully integrated CMP solution together, which balances competing local preferences, needs and aspirations for the corridor.

The CMP provides ‘place-making’ value to an existing environment that is busy, complex and used by a high number of people who live, work or play in the area. It has a bit of everything – including train and bus public transport, pedestrian and cycling facilities and cars. As a complex case study, this CMP’s achievement is significant and a good ‘best practice’ example. It is also presented in a visually pleasing and user-friendly way so it can easily be disseminated to non-technical people.

The CMP will allow Auckland Transport to achieve its vision for the environment, providing a considered and consistent approach to projects going forward, thereby progressively and cost-efficiently improving the Khyber Pass environment.



**Best Practice Award—**

**Strategic Planning and Guidance**

**The Strategic Planning and Guidance (inclusive of professional evidence)**

**Award category is made to any individual, organisation, group, or body who/which has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute,. It recognises outstanding creativity, innovation, and service.**



**Recipients: Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitīhi Trust, Bay of Plenty Regional Council and Boffa Miskell Ltd**

**For: Ngāti Rangitīhi Iwi Environmental Management Plan**

The Nancy Northcroft Planning Practice Award is the Institute’s supreme award for excellence in planning practice. It recognises: -

- Creativity and innovation in the methods involved,
- The quality and innovation of presentation of any report or material,

The extent to which best-practice planning process and practice, including sustainable management is promoted. The Nancy Northcroft Award is selected by the Awards Panel from the winners of the Best Practice Award across all categories and the Project Award.

The Ngāti Rangitīhi Environmental Management Plan is the catalyst for Ngāti Rangitīhi playing an active and constructive part in the enhancing of socio-economic and cultural aspects of environmental planning and resource management from the coastline of Matatā to the inland lake of Tarawera and the Waikato River.

The Plan is a first generation plan that provides practical guidance for hapū members involved in resource management. The Plan is a living document and continues to evolve in its application and guidance.

The Plan was prepared by Te Mana o Ngāti Rangitīhi Trust with support from a secondment from Boffa Miskell Ltd, and resources from Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Department of Conservation, Whakatāne District Council, Rotorua District Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, and Taupō District Council.

The plan was in the view of the Awards Panel an outstanding example of good practice. The document itself was extremely well presented and easy to read. The content was clear and succinct and reflective of the good practice collaborative community planning that underpins the plan.

The plan was also innovative in a number of key areas, such as the synthesis of multiple planning regimes and plans. The quality of the plan is even more impressive when the tight timeframe and budget under which the plan was developed is considered. A worthy recipient of NZPI’s supreme award for excellence in planning practice.

The Nancy Northcroft Planning Practice Award is the Institute’s supreme award for excellence in planning practice. It shall be made annually to any member or organisation, group or body, provided that such organisation, group or body has amongst its number a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute.

The award recognises excellence in planning practice and shall recognise:

- Creativity and innovation in the methods involved,
- The quality and innovation of presentation of any report or material,
- The extent to which best-practice planning process and practice, including sustainable management is promoted.

The Nancy Northcroft Award is selected by the Awards Committee from the winners of the Best Practice Awards across all categories and the Project Award.





**2012 Award Winners**



Congratulations to all  
2012 NZPI Award Winners

