



## Best Practice: Integrated Planning and Investigations

**Recipients: Wanganui District Council , Opus International Consultants Ltd and Horizons Regional Council**

**For: The Wanganui Urban Transportation Strategy**

The Wanganui Urban Transportation Strategy sets out the direction for Wanganui's transportation network over the next 30 years, and will influence many of the Council's future decisions relating to infrastructure development and land use planning. The Awards Panel was impressed by the strategy's recognition that the transportation network is not just about building roads, and that it is also about healthy communities, the consolidation and careful planning of land use, and efficiently using existing infrastructure before expanding into new.

The project team consisting Wanganui District Council, Horizons Regional Council, and Opus International Consultants Ltd worked closely together, equally contributing throughout the process. A local team, seamlessly supported by a wider network of experts, was a key to the project's success. Rui Leitao, Wanganui District Council's Roding Manager, and Project Manager for the project, was delighted with the process and the result, and praised the efforts of the team when he said "what makes an outstanding team is taking the big step up! It's the demonstrated passion for the project, the open and honest interaction between all parties, a focused commission with common goals, objectives, and the drive and ownership by the team."

The Awards Panel considered the Wanganui Urban Transportation Strategy was an outstanding example of integrated transport planning involving team work across a broad spectrum.

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.

