

#### 4. NEW ZEALAND WALKING CONFERENCE 2006 – BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, DDI 941-8549
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Community Board Principal Adviser
<b>Author:</b>	Peter Dow, Community Secretary

##### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Board approval for the attendance of Paul de Spa to the New Zealand Walking Conference in Christchurch on 3 and 4 November 2006.

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Christchurch is hosting the second national conference on walking and liveable communities and is about promoting walking, planning for pedestrians, identifying barriers to walking, and sharing good practice and ideas.
3. The aims of the conference are to:
  - Bring people from a wide variety of sectors together to share information and initiatives and to learn from each other – transport professionals, health and activity professionals, accessibility experts, urban designers, landscape planners, local and national politicians, and advocates for walking and sustainable communities.
  - Upskill professionals and advocates with ideas and examples to take back and apply.
  - Raise the profile of walking within agencies and in the media.
  - Share information on funding for improving the walking environment, walking promotion and information.
  - Give speakers and delegates from the Melbourne Walk21 conference the opportunity to visit New Zealand and share their experiences with New Zealand practitioners and advocates.

##### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4. There are no legal considerations.
5. The registration cost for the Conference is \$325 and would be met from the Board's 2006/07 operational budget.

##### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board gives consideration to approving the attendance of Paul de Spa at the New Zealand Walking Conference 2006 in Christchurch on 3 and 4 November 2006.

##### CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted.