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<p>Corporate Plan Output: Burwood/Pegasus Community Board</p>	

The Board supported my attendance at the TRAFINZ (New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute Inc) Conference in August. This report summarises the conference content and my impressions.

The conference presentations were a mixture of invited speakers and what appeared to be regular presenters for every TRAFINZ conference, such as the Secretary for Transport, New Zealand Police, LTSA, Transit New Zealand and ACC. Certainly for me it was the visiting speakers who provided the most inspiration and new ideas for transportation planning.

The presentation from G. B. Arrington’s was well reported in the media. G.B.’s message was one of planning integrated transportation and land use to create liveable communities. His example from his hometown of Portland, Oregon had light rail as the transportation backbone, but the emphasis was on the long term strategic planning rather than the mode of transport.

David Engwicht from Brisbane has a unique presentation style. His talk, based on his latest book “Street Reclaiming: Creating Liveable Streets and Vibrant Communities”, was so outside the square in many aspects that his message may have been lost with some people. It also relied on changes of attitudes and behaviours rather than the more easily implemented engineering solutions. His belief is that if we get people back using the local streets by walking, sitting out on the street front - reclaiming the street - then built solutions to traffic calming will no longer be needed as the activity and street ownership will slow the traffic on its own. His 5R reduction strategy that extrapolates the waste reduction model to reduced use of vehicles gives some practical ways to Replace, Remove and Reduce car trips to give Reuse of space and Reciprocation for mutual benefit (*see attached, page 53*). His cycle of the results of children being driven to school is also attached and shows the implications of such a change in behaviour.

Living neighbourhood was Liz Ampt's theme. Liz, from Melbourne, specialises in survey design and social research in transportation. She too talked about ways to remove unnecessary car trips and reduce trip lengths. She outlined a specific neighbourhood project called ‘Living Neighbourhoods’ that brought about a sustained change in car usage, as well as making other social impacts. The keys to her travel blending idea was that everyone can make small changes and that these changes give a personal gain.

As always in the conference setting the workshops, networking and informal interaction was where much of the benefit was.

I thank the Board for recommending I attend this conference.

Chairperson’s

Recommendation: That the information be received.