

8. **COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN STANDING COMMITTEE ON-SITE MEETINGS/INSPECTIONS AND COUNCIL SPONSORED POLICY SEMINARS**

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At a recent meeting the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board discussed the perceived need for the Council to allow greater participation by Community Board members in certain issues.

The Board's particular concerns are:

- (a) In the recent past, the Community Board has, by way of community consultation, brokered suitable outcomes on local issues (an example would be the removal/replacement/enhancement of a streetscape trees issue).

Under current delegated authority levels, the outcome still requires the approval of a standing committee, which may decide to undertake an on-site meeting or inspection to allow members a better understanding of the issue and the Board/community negotiated outcome.

There have been instances where the final decision made by a standing committee differs from the Board/community negotiated outcome.

The Community Board lacks delegated authority to resolve such local issues. The Community Board therefore asks that it be invited, as of right, to assist standing committees in their deliberations on Board recommendations.

- (b) On a regular basis, standing committees of Council receive draft strategy/policy documents for consideration.

A seminar may be scheduled so that the report author/working party can explain the draft document to the standing committee.

If the standing committee then approves the draft it often decides to return it to Community Boards, thus requiring the author to undertake six separate Community Board presentations.

The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board is of the view that a better process would be to have a seminar for all elected members, as a matter of policy. To date, this very rarely happens.

The Board therefore decided that the following suggestions be referred to the Strategy and Resources Committee for consideration:

1. That, in the event of standing committees undertaking further community consultation on Community Board recommended decisions, the appropriate Community Board be invited to assist in such further consultation.
2. That all Council scheduled seminars be open to all elected members to attend.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the Board's suggestions be referred to the Review Working Party for consideration.