

## 19. PROPOSED STUDY TOUR

Officer responsible:	Chief Executive
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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The Mayor and Chief Executive have been discussing for some time, looking at some cities that have successfully embraced best practice examples of:
  - Urban regeneration
  - Multi-modal public transport systems
  - Central City streetscape improvements.
2. The purpose of a proposed study tour would be to visit and talk directly to participants (councils, development authorities, academics, operators and developers) involved in a range of city development and redevelopment programmes.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. The reason for this interest is that Council, in the next decade, will lead significant change within Christchurch; examples of the drivers for this change are:
  - (a) Council has committed, via the urban Development Strategy (UDS) to increased intensification within the four avenues.
  - (b) Council, through the Central City South Master Plan, is committed to the revitalisation of this area by:
    - improving and expanding the system of lanes
    - actively supporting mixed use development, that is development that contains a blend of residential and commercial uses.
  - (c) The development of the Council's key sites within the Central City South Area will have a significant impact on the future evolution of the precinct.
  - (d) The opportunity to explore a wider range of tools to enable the Council to both teach and encourage, and act as a catalyst in the mandate to effect significant urban change and improvement.
  - (e) The Gehl Report contains a number of recommendations relating to development of the central city area which focuses on integrating public spaces, transport networks and both residential and business communities.
  - (f) Christchurch is a well-planned city in relation to public transport. It is acknowledged that in the future, light rail could form part of Christchurch's public transport offering.
4. We asked the General Manager Strategy and Planning, Michael Theelen, to recommend a proposed itinerary. After discussions and research by his staff, Mr Theelen has recommended visiting some cities located on the west coast of the United States of America and Canada. These cities being San Francisco, Portland, Vancouver and Seattle.
5. **Attached** as Appendix 1, is the proposed itinerary and primary topics of interest.
6. Council's Remuneration Authority's approved policy relating to expenses and allowances payable to elected members states, in relation to the Mayor:

*"The prior approval of the Council is required for any fact-finding travel by the Mayor outside of New Zealand for the purpose of inspecting or evaluating initiatives, facilities or operations which may be of benefit to Christchurch City".*
7. The cost of the Mayor going on this study trip is estimated at \$9,500.00. If approved by the Council, it is proposed that the Mayor be accompanied by the Chief Executive and the General Manager Strategy and Planning.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- (a) The report be received.
- (b) That approval be given for the Mayor to travel to cities on the western coast of the USA and Canada as per the **attached** schedule, at an estimated cost of \$9,500.00.