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## ABOUT US

PLANNING FOCUS is the weekly e-Newsletter of the New Zealand Planning Institute. If you have contributions please contact Melissa Hubbard at [melissa.hubbard@planning.org.nz](mailto:melissa.hubbard@planning.org.nz).

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THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE NEW ZEALAND PLANNING INSTITUTE  
 Thursday, 1st October 2009

**PLANNING**  
 OUR **URBAN** FUTURE  
 World Habitat Day | 5 October 2009  
 Maheretanga Ngā Tāone O Tua  
 Te Ra Nohoanga Ki Te Ao  
[www.auckland.ac.nz/whd](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/whd)



The University of Auckland joins UN-HABITAT in celebrating World Habitat Day, "Planning our urban future." World Habitat Day provides an opportunity to think about the state of urban settlements at home and around the world. The day aims to increase collective awareness of the human habitat and encourage greater responsibility for its sustainable future. Events include a photography competition, the launch of "Sustainability Role Models," a debate, an architecture challenge and other presentations and events. [Click here for more information.](#)



## Bicycle Safety

A major incident on Auckland's Tamaki Drive, a street popular among cyclists, has been the focal point of media controversy. Public response to the media coverage has revealed a strong anti-cycling bias among motorists. In this issue of Planning Focus, we take a quick look at cycling statistics, and our story includes links to recent articles from around the world.

In November, the New Zealand Cycling Conference themed "Community, Connections and the Economy" will be held in New Plymouth. The two day programme (12-13 November) features discussions on pedestrians and cyclists, health and physical activity, planning and design, economics, and more. [Click here for more information about the conference.](#)

## planning headlines

### NEW ZEALAND

- [Making cycling in NZ safer?](#)
- [Opening Manners Mall to buses](#)
- [Mayors vision, culture over cars](#)
- [\\$900m hydro scheme nearer go-ahead](#)
- [New Cycleway Report](#)
- [No wheels for growth](#)
- [Yike Bike](#)

### INTERNATIONAL

- [Get people out of their cars](#)
- [Win-Win transportation solutions](#)
- [A safe bike and pedestrian pathway](#)
- [Parking Spaces to Park Places](#)
- [Looking north for city biking inspiration](#)
- [The Cycle Counters](#)
- [Dedicated cycling lanes](#)

## LATEST JOBS IN PLANNING

- **SENIOR PLANNER**  
[Golder Associates \(NZ\) Ltd](#)  
**Location:** Christchurch or Auckland  
**Level:** Senior  
**Closing:** -
- **SENIOR RESOURCE PLANNERS** [NZ Transport Agency](#)  
**Location:** Christchurch and Dunedin  
**Level:** Highly Experienced  
**Closing:** -
- **POLICY PLANNER PP2 (TEMPORARY)**  
[Rodney District Council](#)  
**Location:** Auckland  
**Level:** Senior  
**Closing:** 08/10/09

# announcements

## Climate Change: What are you doing?

This year, NZPI® will partner with seven international planning organisations to sponsor a three-day online conference in honour of World Town Planning Day.

The Conference will be held between 11-13 November and will feature a range of speakers throughout the world on a variety of climate-related topics of interest to planners. This first-of-its-kind event will use online technology for voice and presentations to link speakers with conference participants in Europe, the Americas, Oceania and other parts of the world.



### How do your plans address climate change?

This is a great opportunity to showcase your innovative work on climate change issues to planners around the world. A call for conference session proposals is now available, and conference sessions will generally feature two presenters during a 90 minute session, including a session for Q&A or workshop discussions.

[Click here to download the call for presentation proposals.](#)

## JOBS FROM LAST WEEK

- **SENIOR POLICY PLANNER**  
[Auckland Regional Council](#)
- **POLICY PLANNER**  
[Auckland Regional Council](#)
- **PLANNER: MONITORING & COMPLIANCE - CONSENTS**  
[Lakes Environmental Ltd](#)
- **PLANNER**  
[Vivian + Espie](#)

[VIEW ALL OPEN POSITIONS](#)

[VIEW JOB SEEKERS](#)

## HAVE YOUR SAY

### Consultation on Infrastructure

The Minister for Infrastructure seeks feedback on its 'Infrastructure: Facts and Issues' paper ([click to view the paper](#)) as part of the first National Infrastructure Plan, a 20-year plan that will be updated every three years from 2010. Submissions on the paper should be made in writing by 5 October.

The Executive Director  
National Infrastructure Unit  
The Treasury  
PO Box 3724  
Wellington

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Ghost Bikes (or Ghost Cycles) serve as tragic reminders of the vulnerability of cyclists operating in street traffic (see [Ghost Bikes](#)).

### Pedestrian and Cyclist Tragedies on NZ Streets

**SEPTEMBER**  
[Elderly Ped in Auckland](#)  
[Otaki Cyclist by Drunk Driver](#)  
**AUGUST**  
[Elderly Ped in Cambridge](#)  
[Overseas Cyclist in CHCH](#)  
**JULY**  
[Auckland Ped Injured by Bus](#)  
[Teen Cyclist killed in CHCH](#)  
**JUNE**  
[Ped and Driver in Manawatu](#)  
[Cyclist Fatality delays](#)  
[Commuter Traffic in Petone](#)  
**MAY**  
[Pedestrian in North Shore](#)  
[Cyclist in Mt. Maunganui](#)  
**APRIL**  
[Dunedin Ped killed by Truck](#)  
**MARCH**  
[Cyclist on 3-year Round-the-World Trip killed in Te Puke](#)

*This list is NOT all-inclusive!*

## Cycling: A Hazard to Your Health?

Several stories on cycling were featured in news around the world this week. Many of our plans emphasise alternative modes of transport, but how well are we implementing those plans?

A [story](#) from Portland, Oregon reports a significant increase in cycling, and planners cite the city's modest infrastructure investments for making the difference. According to the U.S. Census, cycling accounted for 1.8% of work trips in 2000, but the Census Bureau reports an increase to more than 6% in 2008 (American Community Survey). Other Portland residents

drive alone (60%), carpool (8%), take PT (13%), or walk (5%).

Nearby Seattle also gained cycle commuters in spite of its hilly terrain, reporting an increase from 1.9% in 2000 to 2.9% in 2008. Only 53% of Seattle residents drive alone; 10% carpool, 18% take PT, and over 9% walk to work.

Like Portland and Seattle – and unlike most American cities – distant Austin, Texas also lost drive alone commuters, a figure declining to 69% of commute trips (near Auckland's 68% in 2001).

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Cycling: A Hazard to Your Health?

(Continued from page 2)

Austin's meager 0.9% of cycle commuters in 2000 grew to 1.3%. A [story](#) this week reports on investments that New York City has made in cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, resulting in an increase in cycle commuting by 35% ([story](#)), but cycling in New York City still accounts for 0.6% of commuters (2008); 55% use PT and over 10% walk to work.

Likewise, Vancouver's mode share for cycling (3.3% in 1999) and walking (10.7% in 1999) continue to grow as



Learning the rules of urban cycling starts at an early age in Portland. [NZPI Study Tour]



Bicycle parking at a Seattle bus exchange (left), bicycles on buses in Seattle (centre) and commuter bicycles lined up at the Oregon Health Sciences University tram station (right). [NZPI Study Tour]

reported in the 2006 Census (3.7% for cycling and 12.2% for walking). Like Portland, Vancouver has been making substantial improvements in cycling and walking throughout the city.

Both pedestrians and cyclists face hazardous conditions on New Zealand roads – from the German cyclist who was killed in March during the last week of a three year global cycling trip to an elderly woman killed crossing Auckland's Remuera Road a few weeks ago. This week in Auckland, a motorist evidently failed to stop at an intersection before driving into a group of cyclists on Tamaki Drive – a route popular for cycling (see [story](#)). In a subsequent [story](#), the New Zealand Herald reported on the overwhelmingly negative views toward cyclists on public streets in reader comments to the report.

Auckland's rate of cycle commuting (0.7% in 2001) is close to that of frigid Chicago (0.5% in 2000) and hot Phoenix (0.9% in 2000). Likewise, Auckland's share of walk trips in 2001 was a mere 3.1%, just ahead of Austin and Houston but well below Portland, Vancouver, Chicago, New York and Seattle.

Could it be that the only remaining cyclists in Auckland are the hardest and most militant among those who might

enjoy a bike ride? "Normal" cyclists seem to be a rare species, and they may be paying for the attitudes of extreme drivers and extreme cyclists.

Planners must do more than "encourage" policies and plans to "promote" active modes. If cycling (and walking) are to become viable modes of transport, they must become *legitimate* modes of transport in the minds of all road users.

In yet but another consultation opportunity, the Ministry of Transport seeks submissions on New Zealand's Road Safety Strategy. [Click here](#) for more details (**deadline 2nd October**).

Data Sources: Statistics New Zealand, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2008; and City of Vancouver, 2009.



Bicycle parking at a Portland bookshop is designed to look like books on a shelf and to give shoppers a choice on how to arrive. [NZPI Study Tour]

## CONSULTATION

### NZPI<sup>®</sup> Policy Committee

The National Policy Committee was formed as an independent committee charged with developing strategic position statements that could be adopted by the New Zealand Planning Institute<sup>®</sup>. National Policy Statements are intended to be timely and relevant to current planning issues, state a general position that is representative of the members of the Institute, and serve as the basis for proactive statements and submissions to government, the media, and other organisations.

The Committee has prepared two policy statements, and NZPI<sup>®</sup> has now opened these policies for consultation:

[Managing Urban Growth](#)

[Coastal Hazards](#)

Please review the two policies and provide your input prior to their adoption by Friday 16 October. We also want your ideas for future policy statements—send comments and ideas to Keith Hall ([keith.hall@planning.org.nz](mailto:keith.hall@planning.org.nz)).

## Encouraging Cycling

**Kudos for the rides!**  
Free treats when you ride you bike to work on summer incentive days

**cafe**  
533 NE Holladay

**Friday 7-10am\***

June 13th.  
Topic: ByCycle.org

July 11th.  
Topic: Women's bicycling

August 8th.  
Topic: Bikestation

September 12th.  
Topic: Sullivan's Gulch off-street Path

\*Ride your bike to work on these days and get a free drink and treat. Can't come between 7-10am? Bring your bike helmet in any time on incentive days to collect your just desserts

The Bike Committee says **THANKS** for reducing congestion, contributing to better air quality, reducing dependence on oil, staying active & setting a great example to all citizens

**lloydotma**  
Bike Committee

Poster in a café window: A neighbourhood transportation management association (TMA) offers weekly incentives to cycle commuters in central Portland. [NZPI Study Tour]

### OCT

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
			1	2
RMA Amendments Hamilton	RMA Amendments Napier Invercargill	Regional Plan Variation Taupo	8	RMA Amendments Wellington Queenstown
RMA Amendments Christchurch Auckland	RMA Amendments Auckland	RMA Amendments Dunedin	15	RMA Amendments Nelson
19	20	21	RMA Amendments Christchurch Auckland	December PQ Article Deadline
26	27	28	Our Role as Placemakers New Plymouth	30

### NOV

2	3	4	Day 1 - 2nd Generation Invercargill	Day 2 - 2nd Generation Invercargill
9	10	WTPD International Online Conference		
16	Day 1 - 2nd Generation Hamilton	Day 2 - 2nd Generation Hamilton	19	20
23	24	Christmas Get Together Taupo	26	27
30				

### DEC

	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11

NOT ALL EVENTS ARE SHOWN ON THE CALENDAR

## notes

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### CPD WORKSHOPS

#### Implications of the RMA Amendments

This course looks at the practical work-a-day implications, provide a commentary on the changes with a look forward to the potential Phase 2 amendments.

<a href="#">Hamilton</a>	05 Oct	FULL
<a href="#">Napier</a>	06 Oct	
<a href="#">Invercargill</a>	06 Oct	
<a href="#">Wellington</a>	09 Oct	FULL
<a href="#">Queenstown</a>	09 Oct	
<a href="#">Christchurch</a>	12 Oct	FULL
<a href="#">Auckland</a>	12 Oct	FULL
<a href="#">Auckland</a>	13 Oct	FULL
<a href="#">Dunedin</a>	14 Oct	
<a href="#">Nelson</a>	16 Oct	
<a href="#">Auckland</a>	22 Oct	FULL
<a href="#">Christchurch</a>	22 Oct	

#### Our Role as Placemakers

We are involved in creating places! Subdivisions, urban development strategies, traffic design, building or resource consents and all of the other activities planners do serve to create places.

This one-day course is designed for participants from all professions involved in shaping our built environment.

[New Plymouth](#) 29 Oct

#### NEW ! 2nd Generation Plan Development

The workshop is framed around making plans more effective in achieving sustainable management outcomes, working with other council initiatives in an integrated and more strategic way. It will be interactive with regular discussion periods and will include real-life practical case studies.

[Invercargill](#) 05-06 Nov  
[Hamilton](#) 17-18 Nov

▶▶▶ [VIEW THE CPD CALENDAR](#)

### EVENTS

#### [CAPITAL LEADERSHIP](#)

01-03 October 2009 | Wellington

#### [NETBALL TOURNAMENT](#)

3 October 2009 | Palmerston North

#### [REGIONAL PLAN VARIATION](#)

7 October 2009 | Taupo

#### [PEGASUS BAY TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT](#)

13 October 2009 | Invercargill

#### [GOVERNING THE GULF](#)

13 or 15 October 2009 | Various

#### [WINE OPTIONS 2009](#)

22nd October 2009 | Auckland

▶▶▶ [VIEW THE EVENT CALENDAR](#)

The garden city of  
Christchurch, New Zealand,  
will be the delightful venue for one of the most  
important and rewarding Conferences of recent  
times. Join leading planning professionals from  
around the world to chart future pathways for  
sustainable, environmentally aware and  
economically responsible development at local,  
national and international levels.

It will be a memorable event with a full programme  
of renowned speakers, a broad spectrum of  
relevant topics and the chance for you to be  
heard on the most important of all issues –  
safeguarding the future of our communities and  
of new generations. This challenging theme, an  
extensive social calendar and a unique location  
in the world – the famous beauty of New Zealand's  
South Island - make this the 'must attend' event  
of 2010.

Contact us now to express your interest in  
attending or for further information:

[planningpathways2010.com](http://planningpathways2010.com)

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

**International  
Planning Conference**



**CHRISTCHURCH  
20-23 APRIL 2010**

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pathways  
TO THE FUTURE**



Visit the **CONFERENCE  
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**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**  
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*Form download*

The deadline is approaching!  
You must submit your abstract to  
[abstracts@planningpathways2010.com](mailto:abstracts@planningpathways2010.com)  
by Friday, 16 October!



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