NZ Walking Conference 2008 4-5 August, Auckland

Conference Organisers Harding Consultants Ltd

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ABSTRACT FORM

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Phone number	+64-3-374-3461	Fax Nu	ımber +	-64-3-366 3188
Presentation topic	providing access for all			
Presentation title	Providing an inclusive transport environment - it's the small things that matter.			
Presentation Style	Presentation ☑ Workshop / Walkshop □ Other □			
Estimated Time Required	0-10 mins	10-20 mins		20-30 mins

Abstract Remit (500 word maximum)

Providing an environment where as much independent travel for disabled people is a key concern for the future. The development of an inclusive transport environment not only helps to assist with the aims and objectives of the New Zealand Disability Strategy but also ensures that the transport network is accessible for all. The key objectives for the national Disability Strategy that improving the transport network could assist with:

- Provide opportunities in employment and economic development for disabled people; and
- Support quality living in the community for disabled people.

There can often be a gap in the knowledge and understanding between users and the policy makers and engineers who design the transport network. Drawing on experience of working as a Local Council officer in the UK and good practice in New Zealand, the presentation eludes to techniques to include disabeld people at all levels in the 'transport planning' process right down to site visits. Some of the measures referred to include:

- interactive consultation group 'Transport 4 All';
- scheme designs altered positively through consultation;
- changes in policy; and
- education and promotion activities.

The presentation also highlights the areas where practical measures could be made to improve the working situation and results on the ground to benefit all.

Finally, the presentation will refer to the work Beca has been involved in with the development of the New Zealand Road Traffic Standard 14: The Provision and Design of facilities for Blind and Visually Impaired Pedestrians.

Author Profile

Tracy has recently relocated from the UK and for the past eight years has worked as a transport planner in both local government and consultancy in sustainable transport and policy development. She has previously worked with representatives from the disabled community improving policy and implementation consultation with transport users.

Tracy has been involved in a wide variety of projects including Safer Routes to School, School & Workplace Travel Plans, policy development, consultation, scheme design and management, educational & promotional schemes.

She has co-authored and published a book aimed at parents & schools to encourage walking buses for school travel.