
REPORT 4
(1215/52/IM)

TRAFINZ ANNUAL CONFERENCE, HAMILTON, 15-18 NOVEMBER 2011

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides information on the New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute's (Trafinz) Annual Conference to be held in Hamilton from 15-18 November 2011, and to seek approval for up to two elected members to attend the conference.

2. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the attendance of up to two elected members at the Trafinz Annual Conference to be held in Hamilton from 15-18 November 2011 and that the costs associated with attending the conference be met from the Elected Members' budget (GVEM01).*
3. *Agree that should the nominated elected member(s) be unable to attend, they may ask another elected member to attend in their place.*
4. *Note that there is a Strategy and Policy Committee Pre-Meeting Briefing on Tuesday, 15 November 2011, and meetings of the Strategy and Policy Committee and Makara / Ohariu Community Board on Thursday, 17 November 2011.*
5. *Note that a report back on the conference will be presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee in accordance with Council policy.*

3. Discussion

The New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute or TRAFINZ has been in existence for over sixty years and represents local authority views on road safety

and traffic management in New Zealand. It exists to lobby the government, to influence decision making on road safety and traffic issues. It also acts as a forum for collectively pursuing traffic issues of interest to local authorities, and for sharing information and advice.

TRAFINZ serves the public interest by advocating for safe, efficient and economical planning and management of traffic. Member local authorities represent more than two-thirds of New Zealand's population.

The organisation is run by a voluntary executive comprising 15 councillors and officers elected at an annual conference. It also has a technical committee of staff practitioners from various member councils, plus the New Zealand Police, who carry out or coordinate the detailed work set by the executive through an annual business plan.

3.1 Conference Theme and Programme

On 11 May 2011 the international community launched the global Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020. The "**ACTION**" theme for the Trafinz 2011 Conference is very well aligned to the global initiative.

The current road safety situation is a pandemic with devastating health, social and economic impacts that threaten other health and development gains that have been achieved in New Zealand and worldwide. Road safety is not a new issue, but over the last decade activity at the international level has gained new momentum.

The 2011-2020 global Decade of Action for Road Safety is also the timeframe for New Zealand's 'Safer Journeys' road safety strategy – which adopts the safe system approach to road safety. It is time for you to take **ACTION**.

The 2011 conference will host a range of speakers to provide delegates with the latest information on actions being taken to achieve positive change in the following areas:

Interaction (Tuesday) - working with communities, multi-agency, multi-discipline

Transaction (Wednesday) - funding and investment

Reaction (Thursday) - responses to road safety and transport sustainability measures

Traction (Friday) - now is the time to act, get moving, and gain traction for a positive change

The draft programme for the conference is attached as Appendix One.

3.2 Considerations

When deciding whether elected members should attend this conference, consideration should be given to:

- the cost; and
- the impact of attendance on the budget

The cost of attendance per delegate is detailed as follows:

Item	Cost (including GST)
Registration	\$1,100.00
Return Airfares	\$460.00
Accommodation	\$915.00
Incidentals	\$130.00
Total	\$2,605.00

The total cost of attendance for two elected members to attend the conference would be \$5,090.00 and the impact on the budget would be as follows:

	2011/12 Budget	Year to Date Expenditure	Unexpended Funds
Total budget for conference fees, travel and accommodation	\$37,500.00	\$4,541.99 ¹	\$32,958.01
Impact of sending two elected members to the conference	\$5,210.00	\$9,751.99	\$27,748.01

The costs incurred will be met from the elected members' conference budget (GVEM01).

4. Conclusion

A decision is required as to whether the Strategy and Policy Committee should approve the attendance of up to two elected members at the Trafanz Annual Conference to be held in Hamilton on 15-18 November 2011.

Contact Officer: *Kirstin Harvey – Team Leader, Committee Services*

¹ This figure takes into consideration the registration and pre-conference workshop costs for Councillor Eagle to attend the Australasian Conference for Public Participation 2011 at the Sydney Masonic Centre in Sydney, Australia, from 19-21 October, as approved by Council on 28 September 2011.

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

This project supports long-term outcome 7.2.2 – “Wellington will operate an open and honest decision-making process that generates confidence and trust in the democratic system”.

2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

Relates to C534: Elections, Governance and Democratic Process.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

There are no Treaty of Waitangi implications.

4) Decision-Making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

Not required.

b) Consultation with Maori

Not required.

6) Legal Implications

Nil.

7) Consistency with existing policy

This report is consistent with existing Wellington City Council policy.