



Transport Planning Society New Zealand Branch - Chair's Report

As Chair of Transport Planning Society Aotearoa, I can honestly say that 2025 has been one of the most inspiring and rewarding years that I've been part of with this committee. The energy, commitment, and generosity of time and effort from this amazing group of people has been extraordinary, and I feel incredibly fortunate to work alongside them and see what we have achieved together.

One of the true highlights of this year has been the launch of our Professional Development Scheme (PDS) Pilot. This initiative is so important to the future transport planners in Aotearoa, and seeing it come to life has been incredibly meaningful. A heartfelt thank you must go to Savannah, whose leadership, care, and persistence have driven this programme forward. The work she has done to establish mentors, support early-career professionals, and create a genuine pathway toward professional accreditation has been outstanding. This scheme is already building confidence, connection, and community for the next generation of transport planners, and that is something we should all be very proud of.

For the second year running, TPS Aotearoa celebrated International Transport Planning Day with a national awards event held across three physical locations and online. It was a wonderful reminder of the strength of our profession and the people within it. We were delighted to hear from last year's winning project, the Supporting Growth Alliance, and to see so many people come together to celebrate transport planning across the country. The committee, led by Waldo and Courtney, once again delivered an exceptional event, and I am sincerely grateful for their dedication, creativity, and teamwork.

Supporting students and emerging professionals has been a key focus this year. TPS Aotearoa proudly supported the Summer Course in Urban Mobility for planners and urban designers at Victoria University of Wellington, organised by Claire Pascoe, with committee member Roger Burra presenting on what transport planning really means in practice. We also strengthened our relationships with universities, including working with the University of Canterbury and being involved in the Wellington summer school programme. These connections are essential for building clear and welcoming pathways into our profession.

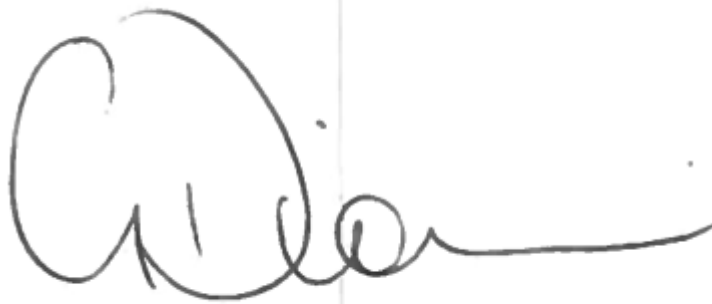
Another important milestone this year was receiving our first Treasurer's Report. While perhaps less visible than some of our other achievements, this marks a significant step

forward in our development as an organisation and gives us confidence in what we are building for the future. Love your work Roger!

There has been so much to celebrate this year. The passion, generosity, and professionalism of this committee always continues to inspire me, and I feel incredibly fortunate to work alongside such a dedicated group of people.

As we approach our fourth year as Transport Planning Society Aotearoa, I feel both grateful and hopeful for what lies ahead. I am so proud to be handing the reins to Jo, who has been an incredible and supportive Vice Chair, who I know will bring strong leadership and a sparkle to the role of Chair. I cannot wait to see her continue to grow and lead this Society into its next chapter.

Thank you all to Committee and Members for an exceptional year. I look forward to what we will achieve together in 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gemma Dioni', written over a vertical line.

Signed:

Name: Gemma Dioni

Role: Chair

Date: 27/2/26