



EDITORIAL

Planning in New Zealand in 2014 has largely been dominated by housing and urban development, potential local government and legislative reforms, and water issues. In keeping with *LPR*'s goal of linking academic research and practical, professional planning, this volume's peer reviewed research focuses on these issues, but with perspectives and issues that are outside the mainstream.

In our lead research article, John Ryks and his co-authors review the opportunities from Treaty settlements and legislative provisions and challenges for Māori participation in urban development, such as the balancing of matawaka and mana whenua perspectives. This is supported by Michelle Ruske's analysis of iwi investment in residential development. These articles are especially relevant for 2015's National Science Challenge 11 on building better, homes, towns and cities.

Water issues are picked up by Ronlyn Duncan and Phil Holland who each take constructively critical views toward some currently well-regarded approaches to resolutions. Ronlyn draws attention to the importance of appreciating farmers' framing of water quality to effectively implement new policies and plans. Phil, a former dairy farmer, analyses the Dairying Clean Streams and Sustainable Dairying – Water Accords drawing attention to missed opportunities to improve them and their credibility. While not focussed on water issues per se, Jay Whitehead and Tracey de Silva explore the views of small and medium sized enterprises to environmental issues and regulation generally. Their findings question expectations that voluntary actions are likely to substantially address the significant environmental issues facing New Zealand despite SME recognition of the importance to business of New Zealand's environmental reputation and their awareness of their effects on the environment.

In this volume, which combines Issues 1 and 2, we have reflective and somewhat contrasting contributions from two highly respected semi-retired planners that challenge aspects of New Zealand's current approach to planning.

I was delighted to learn that Malcolm Douglass (FNZPI), Canterbury United and Regional Council CEO at the time of the 1989 local government reforms and former lecturer at Lincoln, had donated his collection of personal papers to the MacMillan Brown Library archives. In doing so he

produced a summary to help guide potential users of the archive as to its contents. In this 'Postscript' he sets out his major conclusions on a range of issues, including the past and more recent reforms to local government, and in advocating for a return to integrated regional spatial planning he also argues in favour of regional councils comprising a mix of central government appointees and elected local representatives.

Derek Hall, who lectured for many years at Auckland University, provides challenging review and prospective articles advocating a return to a deliberately pragmatic planning approach. *LPR* would welcome responses to these pieces.

The ongoing seismic events that shook Canterbury this decade have enhanced our appreciation of the need for planning for resilience and 2014 has seen many researchers and local authorities co-creating a research programme to respond to the Government's National Science Challenge 10 Resilience to Nature's

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Challenges. This is a truly global challenge and 2015 and the subsequent decade will see significant reinvestment in this furthered domestically and internationally. Planning is fundamental to enhancing resilience and the role of urban Māori in this forms part of the Ryks et al. article.

In our outreach part of this Volume we include the response of some political parties to questions put to them about planning by LPR team member Nicole Read. While the election is long past we felt it interesting to report their comments here as we follow developments with planning legislation over the coming years. I took study leave for part of 2014 and report on some reflections on planning from that visit and a list of accredited professional planning programmes in the USA to assist New Zealand students seeking to spend a semester abroad. Other reports come from our students who attended major planning or geography conferences and our regular item tracking some of our graduates and what they are doing now.

Finally, Lincoln University appears to have turned a corner after the earthquakes, at least in the planning programmes, with Su Valance becoming a full member of the New Zealand Planning Institute in 2014, a new planning staff member Tabitha (Tab) Combs arriving in December and a new Masters in Planning being offered in 2015 (and as this goes to press we have heard it has been Provisionally Accredited by the NZPI). We expect these changes to result in improved timeliness in the publication of future volumes of *LPR*.

Hamish G. Rennie, Editor-in-Chief