



Boffa Miskell

website: [www.boffamiskell.co.nz](http://www.boffamiskell.co.nz)

email: [info@boffamiskell.co.nz](mailto:info@boffamiskell.co.nz)

News Item

# BEST PRACTICE IN PLANNING RECOGNISED

7 April 2008



## **A Boffa Miskell-led study received a Best Practice Award at the New Zealand Planning Institute's (NZPI) annual planning awards, announced on 4 April 2008..**

The study, Visitors' Centre and Transport Mode Option Studies Report for Maungawhau Mt Eden, was commissioned by the Auckland City Council in 2007.

The council had earlier completed conservation and management plans for the sacred maunga (mountain) of Maungawhau Mt Eden. The volcanic cone is an important landscape feature, significant archaeological, geological and cultural site visited by over 1.2 million people annually.

The council had identified two key issues that needed to be addressed if the special values of the maunga were to be preserved and protected, which were the impact of vehicle traffic on the maunga and the lack of visitor facilities able to cope with expected increase in visitor numbers.

Boffa Miskell led a multi-disciplinary team to assess and recommend options for a visitor facility and alternative energy-efficient transport to take visitors to the summit.

The NZPI described the report as "an excellent example of best practice in planning analysis" and considered that it "exemplifies best practice in terms of providing realistic and environmentally sustainable solutions".

"We brought the Boffa Miskell 360 approach to this project with good effect," says Boffa Miskell planner and project leader, Peter Hall. "That means bringing together a range of skills to consider the issues and potential solutions from different perspectives to ensure well balanced and sustainable recommendations".

"Our Boffa Miskell team encompassed project management, planning, landscape architecture and cultural advisory skills. We also drew on the expertise of external architects (Architectus), traffic engineers (T2 Engineers), quantity surveyors (WT Partnership), archaeologists (Clough and Associates), structural engineers (JAWA Structures) and interpretation design (Logan Brewer Production Design). Valuable input from representatives of Ngati Whatua o Orakei provided the project team with an understanding of the significance of the maunga to manawhenua."

For further information on the project please contact Peter Hall or Marguerite Pearson at our Auckland office.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

### AUCKLAND

Ph: +64 (09) 358 2526

### TAURANGA

Ph: +64 (07) 571 5511

### WELLINGTON

Ph: +64 (04) 385 9315

### CHRISTCHURCH

Ph: +64 (03) 366 8891