



Road to Hero – Becoming a Chartered Transport Planning Professional

Wikipedia states that a superhero has “abilities beyond those of ordinary people, and fits the role of the hero, typically using his or her powers to help the world become a better place or dedicating themselves to protecting the public”. Transport Planners work in the sphere where a decision about land-use changes and urban form can affect how people move around and access what we need, and conversely, we can also create a change to the transport system that affects the way that neighbourhoods and communities are shaped.

Following a poster presentation at the Transportation Group Conference in 2021, a conversation was started across the motu about creating a place where the transport planning superheroes, comprising many people from diverse backgrounds and education, could call home and to be able to work through a process for professional development and achieve recognition of who they are and what they do.

Through the support of the Transport Planning Society in the United Kingdom, the Transport Planning Society of Aotearoa New Zealand was established in February 2022. The partnership between the two societies allows for Transport Planners in New Zealand to achieve the Transport Planning Professional (TPP) Qualification, which provides recognition of specific transport planning skills. There are different pathways to achieve this qualification depending on your skills and experience.

Building capability and mana in our industry and increasing the knowledge base of our societies members is a positive step in creating a trusted profession that can champion good for the community, the environment, and our health.

If you would like to discuss your options for becoming a superhero, get in touch. In the words of Captain Planet, “The Power is Yours”.