

WELLINGTON CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Youth Council Meeting **12 August 2009**

Present:

Jack Marshall
Elesha Edmonds
Ben Ogilvie
Katja Heesterman
James Butcher
Zoe Doole
Intisar Muketar
Nurul Sultan
Duncan Armstrong
Nigel Smith
Ruth Corkill
Tapiwa Bururu

Waylon Edwards

Apologies:

- Dipti Manchanda; Essen Vicente; Rebecca Bullen

Welcome:

- Elesha welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the two new members of the Youth Council.

Presentation – Greg Campbell, Principal Transport Planner – Cuba Street/Manners Mall:

- Greg Campbell went through the consultation process and plans for the new connection between these two areas. Outlining the new proposal of a shared space concept for cars and pedestrians. There has been a change in the previous proposal due to feedback received during the consultation process. Council will be consulting on the new proposal. The question was raised to Youth Council around what they would want to see in the shared space.

▪ **Questions & Comments Raised:**

- The initial plan showed Cuba Street as only being partially pedestrian, is this a change in plan? *There has been a move towards more pedestrian friendly spaces and this is what Council are looking at.*
- If you are making more pedestrian space will Council also be providing more carparking as carparks will be removed from this area? *Council are looking at converting current angle parks on lower Cuba Street to parallel parks which will reduce the number of current parks in the area to possibly 30 with the possibility of this number being reduced further. Parks will need to be provided in this area to access and service the shops and provide a degree of security on weekends. This decision has been made due to an estimated lessening of cars using this area.*
- How do you estimate vehicle usage of the area? *Council have a transport model.*
- You said that Council want to democratise this space. Do you think that having carparks will enable this as generally people do not like to walk between cars to cross roads? *Council at getting away from a formed carriageway and creating a situation where there is some ambiguity.*
- What about having no carparks in the area? *Councillors did not want to make this a no parking space for the reasons above and this was outside the design parameters.*
- What about providing a cluster of carparks only in one area or end? *This is one option that could be looked at.*
- What is the proposed flow of traffic? *Traffic basically travels in the reverse direction of what there is now and this should reduce the number of cars coming through.*
- This will create a non cyclist friendly area having to avoid pedestrians. *If cyclists want to get somewhere quickly and safely then they will probably chose an alternative route.*
- It was suggested that carparks not be put in the area as it was felt that this would make the area unfriendly for pedestrians but provide loading zones instead.
- How will this affect the shops on Manners Mall at the moment and are Council doing anything for them? *A lot of businesses are not too concerned about this new development.*
- Will there be carparks provided in Manners Mall? *No – foot traffic and busses will only be allowed through with the possibility of allowing taxis through in the weekend.*
- What kind of shops will there be in the new area? *Council would be encouraging outside dining and hopefully this activity may increase in the area.*
- How long will this development take? *If Council approves the proposal we will start on the Manners Mall section next year and build the next section in 2011. Council want this development finished in time for the Rugby World Cup.*
- It was thought that one of the main problems with the street will be that you cannot force a change in business for the area.

- How will the traffic coming from Cuba Street be managed? *This is something that is being looked at at the moment.*
- Will there be any bus stops? *There will be one outside the area between Burger King and Arty Bees.*
- It was noted that Te Aro Park does not work at present because it is too hard to access and cross the roads.
- A concern was noted about having a shared space for vehicles and pedestrians as you will not be able to just stop and talk to people and maybe all the space should not be shared space. *Cars should be moving too slow to be of a concern to pedestrians.*
- How would speed limits be affected? *As part of the proposal Council are proposing to reduce speed limits from Willis Street to Lambton Quay and Willis Street to Courtenay Place. There will be no set speed limit in the shared space because traffic will slow down automatically.*
- How do we make a submission on this proposal? *You can make a submission between 28 September to 23 October.*

Suggestions for the area:

- As there is not much sun in this area it was suggested that instead of planting trees as noted in the design, shrubs and gardens should be developed and seating like the existing seating in Manners Mall.
 - Have a structure like a water feature or art feature as this will make the area more appealing.
 - It would be nice to have seating areas that are arranged so that people can sit together.
- Greg noted that the Councillors have not made a formal decision on this proposal as yet. A paper will be taken to Council on 7 September. From there the consultation process will start with Council expected to make a decision in early December.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

- Changes to be made to the draft Minutes included: change of name from Simon Butcher to James Butcher, change NZ Body of Nations to Model Unit Nations and add Dipti to the list of attendees on this day as well.

The Minutes with these changes were accepted by Jack and seconded by Intisar.

General Business:

- **Unicef Surveys** – there were no more surveys to hand in.
- **Diversity Forum** – Ben, Essen, Elesha and Rebecca will be attending.

- **Training for Youth Council** – the suggested date of 30 August for leadership training did not suit most members. The weekend of 19-20 September was suggested. Georgie will confirm this date and email members.

Areas of interest suggested for the day included: the organisation of events; facilitation; cultural diversity and communication with the wider public.

- **Kilbirnie Mosque** – the Mosque is having an open day this Saturday from 9.00am to 3.00pm.
- **Kilbirnie Town Centre** – if anyone is interested in participating in the reference groups they need to email Georgie.

Next Meeting: 26 August 2009