The Council is teaming up with some of Wellington’s brightest entrepreneurs and community leaders to bring local smart energy projects to life. Wellington’s transport system is a high priority for Government, while ensuring safety for pedestrians and cyclists will be a top priority.

Our approach accommodates all modes of transport – cars, truck, train, buses, bicycles and walking. We want people to feel confident about switching transport modes and less reliant on using private cars.

Our transport strategy supports our urban development strategy. By focusing more intensive residential development around places of work, shops and other facilities in key centres, we can improve access to public transport and also reduce the need to travel.

Better, more efficient and resilient transport connections indirectly help grow the economy. New transport routes, for example, provide development opportunities alongside the roads and can lead to an uplift in land values in areas now connected to the network.

We are working with Greater Wellington Regional Council on the Public Transport Spine Study. The outcome of this study will help guide future investment in the city’s public transport network.

The NZ Transport Agency plans on investing hundreds of millions of dollars over the next eight years on a range of state highway projects including the Basin Reserve, Memorial Park, Inner City Bypass enhancements and the Buckle Street to Colombo Drive project, including a second M. Victoria tunnel.

Over the next three years, the Council is also investing over $130 million on renewal and maintenance of infrastructure to develop their projects in a fun and inspiring environment with ease and so people and businesses can connect.

What are the 8 Big Ideas?

Wellington City Council recognises that in order to prosper we need to invest in the things that grow our economy.

The 8 Big ideas, although in their formative stages, aim to set out a priority agenda for the next three years to provide investment opportunities and confidence in the city’s growth.

While each idea is at a different stage of development, collectively they have the ability to improve key aspects of the city and meet the needs of our growing population.

The Zephyrometer is the world’s oldest working anemometer, designed by its owner, meteorologist Norman Lawler. Lawler was responsible for the first weather station in New Zealand, at the Botanic Gardens in 1886. Since then, the Zephyrometer has been a valuable tool for measuring wind speed and direction.

Our Wellington

8 Big Ideas: Better land transport

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One of Wellington’s favourite pieces of public art is going in for a service.

The Zephyrometer at the corner of Eva Bay Parade and Cobham Drive was presented to the city in 2003 by Meridian Energy, with the assistance of the Wellington City Council, and is part of the Marion Wind Sculpture Walk.

After 10 years at the exposed coastal site, the elegant leaves sculpture that always responds to wind speed and direction is in need of some care and attention.

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The Wellington environment can be very windy,” says City Arts Manager Natasta Pečeko-Jevens. “The Zephyrometer has been exposed to the wind and salt all for a number of years so it’s certainly due for some maintenance. We know how much people enjoy this sculpture, so we’ll be doing our best to get it back up and running in time for those chilly winter months.”

A regular assessment in early 2013 found the Zephyrometer’s movement wanting, and it’s likely some bearings will need replacing. The giant orange needle and concrete structure in which it sits will be repaired and repaired on site, while the mechanics will be shipped to Pinna’s workshop in Christchurch for an inspection on maintenance.

Scuffling and flogging will be going up from 24-28 February, with some work – to take the needle down – taking place around 5 March. Depending on weather conditions, the sculpture will be down for up to six weeks. For more details please phone 499 4444 or email info@ewc.co.nz

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