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**MINUTES**

**TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2009  
(Reconvened Thursday 12 November 2009)**

**9.19AM – 10.30AM  
10.45AM – 12.34PM  
1.05PM – 3.12PM  
3.26PM – 4.01PM**

**Committee Room 1,  
Ground Floor, Council Offices,  
101 Wakefield Street  
Wellington**

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**PRESENT:**

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Mayor Prendergast (Deputy Chair) | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.00pm, 1.05pm – 3.07pm, 3.09pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 3.34pm, 3.45pm – 3.54pm)                             |
| Councillor Ahipene-Mercer        | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.34pm, 1.05pm – 2.22pm, 2.25pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)  |
| Councillor Best                  | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.34pm, 1.16pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)   |
| Councillor Cook                  | (9.20am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.30pm, 1.05pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)   |
| Councillor Coughlan              | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.34pm, 1.19pm – 2.54pm)  |
| Councillor Foster                | (9.19am – 9.22am, 9.23am – 10.30am, 10.47am – 11.45am, 11.49am – 11.51am, 12.34pm, 1.05pm – 1.30pm, 1.35pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm) |
| Councillor Gill                  | (9.19am – 9.29am, 9.31am – 10.30am, 10.51am – 12.34pm, 1.05pm – 2.38pm, 2.50pm – 3.12pm)  |
| Councillor Goulden               | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.50am – 12.34pm, 1.06pm – 2.22pm, 2.28pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)  |
| Councillor McKinnon (Chair)      | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.34pm, 1.05pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)   |
| Councillor Morrison              | (9.19am – 9.59am, 10.03am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.34pm, 1.05pm – 1.51pm, 2.03pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)                            |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Councillor Pannett    | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 11.57am, 12.00pm – 12.32pm, 1.25pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)   |
| Councillor Pepperell  | (9.19am – 9.35am, 9.36am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 11.32am, 11.33am – 12.00pm, 12.03pm – 12.34pm, 1.05pm – 2.45pm, 2.48pm – 3.08pm, 3.26pm – 3.41pm, 3.45pm – 4.01pm) |
| Councillor Wade-Brown | (9.19am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 12.34pm, 1.05pm – 3.12pm, 3.26pm – 4.01pm)  |
| Councillor Wain       | (10.04am – 10.18am, 10.22am – 10.30am, 10.45am – 11.43am, 11.49am – 12.34pm)   |

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Ritchie  
 Councillor Coughlan (early departure)  
 Councillor Gill (early departure)  
 Councillor Pannett (lateness after lunch)  
 Councillor Wain (lateness and early departure)

225/09P **APOLOGIES**  
 (1215/12/IM)

**NOTED:**

*THAT the Strategy and Policy Committee:*

1. *Accept apologies for absence from Councillor Ritchie.*
2. *Accept apologies for early departure from Councillors Gill.*
3. *Accept apologies for late return after lunch for Councillor Pannett.*
4. *Accept apologies for lateness and early departure from Councillor Wain.*

226/09P **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**  
 (1215/52/IM)

**NOTED:**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

(Councillor Cook joined the meeting at 9.20am.)  
 (Councillor Foster left the meeting at 9.22am.)  
 (Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 9.23am.)

227/09P **ORAL HEARINGS – PROPOSED CHANGES TO MANNERS MALL / LOWER CUBA STREET**

(1215/52/IM)

(REPORT 1)

1. Patrick Morgan (Submission 68) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Morgan thought it is a smart move to unclog Manners Mall and allow buses through. It was suggested that pedestrian activity needed to be prioritised over any parking in lower Cuba Street. Parallel parking is the best and safest option. The layout of lower Cuba Street could be designed in such a way to make it obvious that it is a shared space.
2. Robert Clegg (Submission 162) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Clegg firstly corrected an error in his written submission. He noted that, contrary to what he said in his written submission, the sun does fall on Cuba Street at various times during the day.

(Councillor Gill left the meeting at 9.29am.)

(Councillor Gill returned to the meeting at 9.31am.)

In addition to this, Mr Clegg suggested lower Cuba Street become a completely pedestrian area. He did not see how buses and pedestrians could safely use the same area. He would like to see transport moved away from the Cuba Street / Manners Street precinct altogether. He felt that shared space would encourage people to view the area as a recreational area.

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 9.35am.)

(Councillor Pepperell returned to the meeting at 9.36am.)

3. James Barber (Submission 294) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Barber raised concerns regarding car parking in lower Cuba Street. He feared drivers would lack awareness and this would impact on pedestrian safety. Encouraging people to park in lower Cuba Street would encourage thoroughfare traffic looking for parking. Mr Barber was pleased to see the potential for a 5 kilometre per hour speed limit. He expressed concern regarding circle acts and the lack of space in lower Cuba Street for performers and their audiences. It was felt that opening Manners Mall to buses would result in a negative impact on Wellington's culture. He strongly encouraged shared use of Mercer Street.
4. Brian Jameson and Rob Martin (submission 67) addressed the Committee on behalf of TRANS ACTION. They spoke in support of opening Manners Mall to buses. Buses on the Golden Mile are unreliable and opening Manners Mall would reduce congestion. They believe there are a range of other measures that could be taken to

increase the efficiency of the bus service. It was suggested that light rail be developed to run through the central business district, through Newtown and to the airport. Trams are an ideal complement to the current system and are practical and affordable. The Council was encouraged to undergo a study into light rail with Greater Wellington Regional Council immediately.

(Councillor Morrison left the meeting at 9.59am.)

5. Jim Jajjo (submission 183) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Jajjo owns a kebab shop in Manners Mall. He explained that owning a business in Manners Mall is hard work and the rents are very high. Concern was expressed regarding the viability of his business if Manners Mall is opened to buses. Mr Jajjo believed his business would be negatively affected by the proposal.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 10.03am.)

(Councillor Wain joined the meeting at 10.04am.)

6. Bernard O'Shaunessy (submission 123) spoke in support of his submission. Mr O Shaunessy believed the Council had inappropriately used funds to misinform ratepayers. He proposed that Manners Mall remain as it is and that all of Manners Street and lower Cuba Street be included in the Mall. He suggested that buses be diverted from this area altogether.  
**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 123A.

(Councillor Wain left the meeting at 10.18am.)

7. Tom Law (submission 361) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Law was concerned about the process and the open mindedness of the Councillors. He also believed the submission documents were inaccurate and that there would not be enough room for buses to pass each other at the Manners Street / Willis Street intersection.

(Councillor Wain returned to the meeting at 10.22am.)

Mr Law also believed that vehicles and pedestrians do not mix well and this is a serious safety issue. He questioned whether the Council would be taking responsibility for each accident. Mr Law suggested this proposition is actually the first step towards light rail in the City.

(The meeting adjourned at 10.30am for morning tea.)

(The meeting reconvened at 10.45am. When the meeting reconvened Mayor Prendergast and Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Best, Cook, Coughlan, McKinnon, Morrison, Pannett, Pepperell, Wade-Brown and Wain were present.)

8. Gail Irwin (submission 169) addressed the Committee in support of her submission.

(Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 10.47am.)

Ms Irwin did not want to see Manners Mall opened up to buses. She believed it is far too valuable an asset as it is and did not see how it will benefit transport at all. Lower Cuba Street would not provide a suitable replacement.

(Councillor Goulden returned to the meeting at 10.50am.)

It was noted that there are many other areas in Wellington that are bad for buses, for example The Terrace and Newtown.

(Councillor Gill returned to the meeting at 10.51am.)

Ms Irwin questioned whether bus drivers had been consulted and thought they should be giving feedback on the problem areas. She suggested there was a need to have better control of the traffic in the central business district. One way streets are difficult to navigate and are confusing for visitors. She would like the Council to develop an online street system.

9. Bernard O'Shaunessy submitted on behalf of John Henry (submission 226). Concern was expressed regarding figures used in other submissions as it was felt that the positive figures came from self-interested groups. Comments made by NZ Bus were condemned. It was also noted that information would be sought from groups responsible for the campaign encouraging people to text their support for the proposal. It was felt that the campaign had faults as there was no option to text opposition to the proposal.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information 226A.

10. Mike Brown (submission 223) addressed the Committee on behalf of Wellington Airport Ltd. Wellington Airport Ltd was primarily interested in the Manners Mall proposal as it is a significant step in the Ngauranga to Airport route. The Ngauranga to Airport route is an important aspect in the roads of national significance. It is fundamental to the overall concept of a corridor of roads of national significance that all parts of the road work well together. The Golden Mile is a critical part of this.

11. Dale Rangihaeata (submission 100) addressed the Committee on behalf on Mojo. Mr Rangihaeata thanked the Council for turning the City into a great place to work and live. He noted the great vibe on Willis Street which continues down Mercer Street and into the Wakefield / Victoria Street intersection and entrance to Civic Square. However, this is greatly in contrast to Bond Street. Mr Rangihaeata would like to see a similar vibe in Bond Street. There is a natural connection from Bond Street to Cuba Street behind the West Plaza Hotel. It would be great to turn Bond Street into a more inviting space. He would love to see Bond Street become a lane with an alfresco feel. It was suggested that this would encourage more cafes to move to Bond Street and would be a great compliment to the lower Cuba Street developments.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 100A.

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 11.32am.)

(Councillor Pepperell returned to the meeting at 11.33am.)

12. Benoit Pette (submission 140) addressed the Committee on behalf of Mon Ami. Mr Pette works in Bond Street and suggested that improvements be made to include Bond Street in the Wellington cosmopolitan scene. He noted the strong contrast between the main streets in Wellington and the arterial lanes. He would like to see Bond Street become akin to Woodward Street, although not shutting it off to traffic. He believed that this would add vibrancy and culture to the central business district.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 140A.

(Councillor Wain left the meeting at 11.43am.)

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 11.45am.)

13. Nick Sargent (submission 357) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Sargent supported the proposal, particularly because of the additional space in lower Cuba Street. Mr Sargent has had experience as a Councillor who has seen a Main Street turn into a pedestrian only space. He said this had added much vibrancy to the town and suggested removing private cars from the Golden Mile completely.

(Councillor Wain returned to the meeting at 11.49am.)

14. Kerry Tankard (submission 333) addressed the Committee in support of her submission. Ms Tankard thought the saving of twenty six seconds to two and a half minutes sounds very similar to the Transit explanations for Caro Drive.

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 11.49am.)

(Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 11.51am.)

However, she did not believe the Caro Drive developments had eased congestion at all. Ms Tankard suggested removing cars from the Golden Mile altogether. She also suggested removing company car parks from the central business district.

(Councillor Pannett left the meeting at 11.57am.)

(Mayor Prendergast left the meeting at 12.00pm.)

(Councillor Pannett returned to the meeting at 12.00pm.)

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 12.00pm.)

15. Kent Duston (submission 353) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Duston supports the proposal. He has been convinced by shared space arguments. He noted many benefits from lower Cuba Street becoming a shared space and suggested it would be useful to extend this to the Michael Fowler Centre to complete the linkage to Civic Square. Mr Duston would also like to see fewer car parks. He suggested a car park charge where the first thirty minutes were free and then eight dollars per hour after that.

(Councillor Pepperell returned to the meeting at 12.03pm.)

Mr Duston would also like more motorcycle parks in the plan.

16. Jacqueline du Fresense (submission 246) addressed the Committee in support of her submission. Ms du Fresense thought it would be a great shame to open Manners Mall to buses in order to make the bus journey a few minutes faster. Instead it was suggested that Manners Mall needed a few trees and better care. She said Manners Mall is a socially relaxed area with good feng shui and it would be a shame to destroy this.

17. Ian Drysdale and Warrick Taylor (submission 372) submitted on behalf of the Wellington Residents Coalition. They expressed their opposition to the proposal. Manners Mall was described as a traffic free oasis, enjoyed by many people. They felt the loss of Manners Mall would not be adequately compensated by the lower Cuba Street developments. They also believed the document gives a false impression of the plan. They thought if the intent was really to save time, then more routes should be looked at.

(Councillor Cook left the meeting at 12.30pm.)

(Councillor Pannett left the meeting at 12.32pm.)

(The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.34pm.)

(The meeting reconvened at 1.05pm. When the meeting reconvened Mayor Prendergast and Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Cook, Foster, Gill, McKinnon, Morrison, Pepperell and Wade-Brown were present.)

(Councillor Goulden returned to the meeting at 1.06pm.)

18. Pauline Swann (submission 267) addressed the Committee in support of her submission. Mrs Swann spoke in opposition to the proposal. She would like Manners Mall to remain a mall and be upgraded. She did not think the time savings justified the proposal.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 267A.

19. Will de Cleene (submission 246) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr de Cleene agreed with the proposal. However, he hoped that lower Cuba Street would be a predominantly pedestrian space. He preferred scenario one from the plans, with modifications to the parallel parking to reduce the number of parks.

(Councillor Best returned to the meeting at 1.16pm.)

(Councillor Coughlan returned to the meeting at 1.19pm.)

20. Dennis Montgomery (submission 163) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Montgomery was opposed to the proposal and tabled his suggestions for alternative solutions.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information 163A.

21. Nigel Foster (submission 239) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Foster was generally supportive of the proposal but did not think this alone would solve the problems with the buses. He suggested extending Cuba Mall to provide adequate compensation for the loss of Manners Mall.

(Councillor Pannett returned to the meeting at 1.25pm.)

Mr Foster found the information provided misleading and lacking in hard facts.

22. Richard Tingey (submission 374) addressed the Committee on behalf of The City is Ours. Mr Tingey expressed his disapproval at the AC Nielson Survey used. He said this was a consumer preference type of survey.

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 1.30pm.)

Mr Tingey said there was disparity in the assessment that 68% were in favour of Manners Mall as this combined those who are strongly in favour and those that are somewhat in favour. He thought the Golden

Mile concept as a whole was not a good idea. He suggested that an honesty system of getting on buses could be implemented here.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 374A.

(Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 1.35pm.)

23. Ann Bain (submission 387) addressed the Committee on behalf of the Association of Blind Citizens. The Association reluctantly agreed to the proposal as long as it remains as safe as possible for the vision impaired. Improvements could be made to lower Cuba Street and Wakefield Street to make it easier for vision impaired. It would be ideal if lower Cuba Street was pedestrian only as opposed to shared space.
24. Brent Blann and Geoff Norman (submission 415) addressed the Committee on behalf of Mana Coach Services Ltd. They believed that the proposal would solve problems associated with travel times. This could be further improved if the Council makes it possible for buses to pass one another.

(Councillor Morrison left the meeting at 1.51pm.)

They would like to see tests done to ensure buses can turn at Perrett's Corner. They also asked the Council to look into providing better access along Manners Mall when there are emergencies and breakdowns, and consider the situation when there are parades and events.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 2.03pm.)

25. Phillippa MacDonald (submission 425) addressed the Committee on behalf of the Disability Reference Group. The Council was encouraged to do some forward planning. The proposal was supported provided safety measures for people with disabilities were established. The concept of shared space is acceptable if it is clearly defined. This is an ideal opportunity to fix the current problems with the bus stops on lower Cuba Street.

(Councillor Ahipene-Mercer left the meeting at 2.22pm.)

(Councillor Goulden left the meeting at 2.22pm.)

26. Bruce Emson (submission 440) addressed the Committee on behalf of NZ Bus Ltd. NZ Bus Ltd are very supportive of the proposal. There was fierce opposition to the initial plan to turn Manners Street into a mall as it was anticipated it would cause congestion. Businesses were also opposed to the original construction of the Mall as they had believed that it would cause a significant loss of business.

(Councillor Ahipene-Mercer returned to the meeting at 2.25pm.)

However, Mr Emson said the bus drivers were also supportive of the proposal. Drivers said the congestion is at its worst between Willis Street and Taranaki Street. This is the first step in the Ngauranga to Airport project and was a vital part. Mr Emson also said that when a timetable loses integrity and reliability there is a loss in customer numbers. Work has been done at Perrett's Corner to show that buses will be able to pass each other.

(Councillor Goulden returned to the meeting at 2.28pm.)

Mr Emson was of the opinion that the proposal is the best option to solving the current problems with the buses. He thought it was exceptional value for money and would greatly enhance urban development. He was also in favour of the lower Cuba Street proposal.

27. Michael Vash (submission 450) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Vash was in favour of the proposal but considered that east bound traffic may still cause a problem. He suggested that there would also still be a problem with buses going to Brooklyn and Aro Valley as they will still have to use Victoria Street. Mr Vash also asked the Council to consider leaving the taxi stand at Bond Street and Dixon Street.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 450A.

(Councillor Gill left the meeting at 2.38pm.)

28. Eliza Sutton (submission 399) addressed the Committee in support of her submission. Ms Sutton was supportive of the proposal. She thought the proposal would create a more cohesive system and save on journey times. Ms Sutton was also supportive of the shared space concept planned for lower Cuba Street. She noted that this worked well in many other countries.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 399A.

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 2.45pm.)

(Councillor Pepperell returned to the meeting at 2.48pm.)

(Councillor Gill returned to the meeting at 2.50pm.)

(Councillor Coughlan left the meeting at 2.54pm.)

29. Tim Raddish (submission 216) addressed the Committee on behalf of the New Zealand Taxi Federation. Mr Raddish supported the proposal. He asked that serious consideration be given to the plan to move the Dixon Street taxi stand to Victoria Street. He suggested that a taxi stand in Victoria Street is too difficult to get to and too far away

from the main shopping area. He also asked that thought be given to taxis being able to use Manners Street when it is opened up for buses.

30. Tony Randall and Jim Candiliotis (submission 360) addressed the Committee on behalf of the Johnsonville Progressive Association and Newlands Paparangi Progressive Association. Mr Randall noted that the Associations are in favour of the proposal. Buses are the fastest growing mode of transport in the City. Because of this, issues such as capacity must be addressed. Concern was expressed regarding the lack of a wider investment plan for buses and it was suggested that the bus system should not be split over too many entities. It was also suggested that Manners Mall be opened up to north bound buses while retaining the current route for the south bound buses.

(Mayor Prendergast left the meeting at 3.07pm.)

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 3.08pm.)

(Mayor Prendergast returned to the meeting at 3.09pm.)

(The meeting adjourned at 3.12pm for afternoon tea.)

(The meeting reconvened at 3.26pm. When the meeting reconvened Mayor Prendergast and Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Best, Cook, Foster, Goulden, McKinnon, Morrison, Pannett, Pepperell and Wade-Brown were present.)

31. Kent Clark (submission 191) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Clark opposed the proposal in principal, primarily because of the cost. He suggested spending a little on improving Manners Mall. He was also in agreement with the need to progress and improve public transport. To this end, Mr Clark suggested removing cars from the Golden Mile.

32. Peter Glensor, Brian Baxter and Gavin Lawrence (submission 449) addressed the Committee on behalf of Greater Wellington Regional Council. The focus for Greater Wellington at this stage is on the Ngauranga to Airport corridor. A high quality public transport spine is a critical part of this. The Manners Mall proposal will go a long way towards an efficient and reliable transport network compared with any of the other steps in the wider plan.

(Mayor Prendergast left the meeting at 3.34pm.)

(Councillor McKinnon asked Bernard O'Shaunnessy to leave the meeting for continued disruption and interruption of other submitters at 3.40pm.)

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 3.41pm.)

(Mayor Prendergast returned to the meeting at 3.45pm.)

(Councillor Pepperell returned to the meeting at 3.45pm.)

33. Greg Bodnar (submission 439) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Bodnar was in favour of the proposal in principal and thought that getting rid of the Mercer Street intersection would be a blessing. He said it was important to consider amenity and safety of the area, and acknowledged that many users will have conflicting goals.

(Mayor Prendergast left the meeting at 3.54pm.)

34. Simon Cross (submission 300) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Cross was supportive of the proposal. He thought it would disperse groups congregating on Manners Mall which is a positive move. He suggested that this proposal will encourage more use of the buses which in turn will mean fewer cars on the road and improve bus speed. Mr Cross also thought there would not be a negative impact on shops and businesses as this is not the case in other areas. He also emphasised the Rugby World Cup 2011 and how this is an excellent opportunity to showcase Wellington to the rest of the world. He believed this proposal would be very beneficial for Wellington.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 300A.

The meeting adjourned at 4.01pm and reconvened on Thursday 12 November at 9.17am.

**THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2009****9.17AM – 10.45AM****10.58AM – 11.54AM****PRESENT:**

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Mayor Prendergast (Deputy Chair) | (9.17am – 9.58am)  |
| Councillor Ahipene-Mercer        | (9.17am – 10.45am, 10.58am – 11.54am)                    |
| Councillor Best                  | (9.19am – 10.45am, 10.58am – 11.54am)                    |
| Councillor Cook                  | (9.21am – 10.16am, 10.19am – 10.45am, 10.58am – 11.54am) |
| Councillor Coughlan              | (9.17am – 9.33am)  |
| Councillor Foster                | (9.19am – 10.35am, 10.58am – 11.54am)                    |
| Councillor Gill                  | (10.10am – 10.45am)                                      |
| Councillor Goulden               | (9.17am – 10.45am, 10.59am – 11.54am)                    |
| Councillor McKinnon (Chair)      | (9.17am – 10.45am, 10.58am – 11.54am)                    |
| Councillor Morrison              | (9.17am – 10.02am, 10.04am – 10.38am, 11.19am – 11.54am) |
| Councillor Pannett               | (9.19am – 10.45am, 10.58am – 11.54am)                    |
| Councillor Pepperell             | (9.17am – 9.57am, 9.58am – 10.45am, 11.00am – 11.54am)   |
| Councillor Wade-Brown            | (9.17am – 10.45am, 10.58am – 11.54am)                    |
| Councillor Wain                  | (10.58am – 11.54am)                                      |

228/09P **PERSONAL EXPLANATION**  
(1215/52/IM)

**NOTED:**

Councillor Wade-Brown was granted leave to make a personal explanation. She asked that it be noted that she had incorrectly voted on Report 3: Decision on District Plan Variation 11: Wellington Waterfront Rule Amendments at the 11 November 2009 Council meeting. Councillor Wade-Brown intended to vote against the recommendations in the Report but had accidentally voted in favour of them.

229/09P **ORAL HEARINGS – PROPOSED CHANGES TO MANNERS MALL / LOWER CUBA STREET (CONTINUED)**  
(1215/52/IM) (REPORT 1)

35. Deborah Hume (submission 432) addressed the Committee on behalf on New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA). The submission was in support of the proposal.

(Councillor Best joined the meeting at 9.19am.)

(Councillor Pannett joined the meeting at 9.19am.)

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 9.19am.)

Public transport is key both to the City and the NZTA Strategic Priorities. The proposal is very important to the public transport needs and meets the standards outlined in the NZTA Strategic Priorities.  
**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 432A.

(Councillor Cook joined the meeting 9.21am.)

36. David Nicholson (submission 464) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Nicholson was not happy on the cost of the proposal. He felt that if this was such a good idea it would not have been turned into a mall in the first place.
37. Doug Miller (submission 363) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Miller agreed with the proposal in principal but had a number of comments regarding its implementation. He did not think sufficient work had been done on the flow of pedestrians and traffic. He was also expressed concern regarding the width of the bus lanes in the plan and the use of the road by emergency and Council vehicles. Mr Miller noted that angle parking is very dangerous for cyclists. He also thought there had been an element of artistic licence in the plans and did not want pedestrians and cars to mix on lower Cuba Street.

(Councillor Coughlan left the meeting at 9.33am.)

38. David Butler (submission 448) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Butler felt that Manners Mall was originally a great development for the City and that this proposal is a case of needing a solution for a problem. He thought the idea of pushing public transport down retail streets was a bad one. Concerns were expressed regarding the health implications of carbon emissions from buses and the fear that buses are getting longer. It was suggested that east bound traffic should go down Wakefield Street and up Taranaki Street.
39. Charles Finney and Jeremy Harding (submission 452) addressed the Committee on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. Support for the proposal has grown amongst their members. There are mixed views among the businesses in the area but the majority are in favour of the proposal. It was felt that this was an integral part of the wider plan to improve transport efficiency in the City as congestion radiates to the suburban areas. They were supportive of the proposed changes to lower Cuba Street and the increase in car parks. They felt that the overall effects of the proposal will make the central business district more desirable, which will benefit businesses and property prices. The Council was urged to minimise the effects of development as much as possible.

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 9.57am.)  
(Mayor Prendergast left the meeting at 9.58am.)  
(Councillor Pepperell returned to the meeting at 9.58am.)  
(Councillor Morrison left the meeting at 10.02am.)

40. Jamie Linton (submission 352) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Linton was opposed to the proposal.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 10.04am.)

Mr Linton thought that incorrect measurements had been used on the plan. He felt the submission process was a done deal. He also thought there were other measures that could be taken that would be more effective.

**TABLED:** Supplementary information labelled 352A.

(Councillor Gill joined the meeting at 10.10am.)  
(Councillor Cook left the meeting at 10.16am.)

41. Marie Holgate (submission 471) addressed the Committee on behalf of Grey Power. It was suggested that \$11 million was excessive given the amount of time that would be saved in the bus journey. She also thought having shared space in lower Cuba Street would be extremely dangerous. The loss of Manners Mall will not be compensated by lower Cuba Street.

(Councillor Cook returned to the meeting at 10.19am.)

42. David Blackmore (submission 354) addressed the Committee on behalf of Blackmore Trust. Mr Blackmore thought both Manners Mall and lower Cuba Street were currently dead zones. The proposal would be beneficial to the current retailers in the area and attractive to those looking to establish businesses. Mr Blackmore said \$11 million is a good investment and will pay for itself. He did not see this proposal as being about losing Manners Mall as he was of the opinion that there was nothing to lose, and something far superior to gain.

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 10.35am.)

43. Robin Greenberg (submission 445) addressed the Committee in support of her submission. Ms Greenberg is the mother of a young child living in lower Cuba Street. She was opposed to both proposals and did not see how there would be any improvement to public transport. Concern was expressed regarding the safety of the proposal and whether this would be the best use of funds. Ms Greenberg also found the document confusing and misleading.

(Councillor Morrison left the meeting at 10.38am.)

She also thought that without passing lanes for buses, the object of the proposal would not be achieved.

(The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.45am.)

(The meeting reconvened at 10.58am. Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Best, Cook, Foster, McKinnon, Pannett, Wade-Brown and Wain were present.)

(Councillor Goulden returned to the meeting at 10.59am.)

44. Joanna Moss (submission 288) addressed the Committee in support of her submission. Ms Moss said she could not see the benefit of the proposal. She thought the Council needed to try and mitigate wind problems and could not see this as a workable option.

(Councillor Pepperell returned to the meeting at 11.00am.)

Ms Moss agreed there was a problem with the bus system and something needed to be done about it, but did not see this proposal as the correct solution.

45. Pippa Burch (submission 472) addressed the Committee on behalf of Arty Bees Books Ltd. Ms Burch spoke in opposition to the revocation of Manners Mall. She noted that Arty Bees had recently been expanded. One of the main drivers for this development was the fact that there is good parking directly in front of the store. The proposed changes would have a huge impact on Arty Bees as a business. Concern was also expressed regarding the construction phase and the impact this would have on all businesses in Manners Mall. Ms Burch was opposed to the shared space concept as this would not be beneficial to cars or pedestrians and would create problems for street performers.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 11.19am.)

46. Mike Mellor (submission 376) addressed the Committee on behalf of Living Streets Aotearoa. Mr Mellor spoke in support of the shared space concept. He felt lower Cuba Street needed to be worked on but asked the Council to look at the wording in the documents. He thought lower Cuba Street in the plans looked more like a busy street than an area of shared space. Mr Mellor also thought the proposal looked to be benefitting people and parking, not actually the buses. He believed that the proposal was one step forward and not quite one step backwards.

47. Michael Taylor (submission 354) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. Mr Taylor would like to see the central business district free from private transport. He offered to help on a series of smaller steps to improve the transport problems, none of which would be costly or irreversible. Mr Taylor felt the plans for lower Cuba Street were not adequate to address the loss of space in Manners Mall.
48. Robert Logan (submission 470) addressed the Committee on behalf of the Island Bay Residents Association. Mr Logan said the majority of the views from the Association were against the proposal. He thought that the cost would outweigh the benefit. It was also noted that there are other measures that could be taken to improve the time buses take to move through the central business district.
49. Luigi Muollo (additional submission 325, attached) addressed the Committee on behalf of his tenants and business associates. He noted that he was originally against the revocation of Manners Mall. However, he was now supportive of the proposal, having seen plans. He felt this would have very beneficial results for businesses, Wellingtonians and visitors. Mr Muollo also found Civic Square to be underutilised and thought these plans would help this. He congratulated Council staff on the plans they had produced and thanked the Council for listening to the public.

The meeting concluded at 11.54am.

Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chair  
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