

# **MINUTES of ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP**

**Tuesday 26 May 2015 in Committee Room One, Wakefield Street 5.30pm to 7.30pm**

## **1. Present**

**Members:** Tim Pate, Julia Aguilar, Paula Booth, Michael Bealing, Christine O'Sullivan, Lee Rutene, Tristram Ingham, Christine Richardson

**Officers:** Simon Wright (Policy & Reporting); Greg Orchard (Chief Operating Officer); Charles Kingsford and Orencio Gueco (Traffic Engineers)

**Apologies:** -

## **2. Welcome from the Chair**

Michael welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

## **3. Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

## **4. Session with Network Traffic Engineers**

Charles and Orencio presented on their role as network traffic engineers at the Council. They are members of a 4-person team that is responsible for parking, traffic safety and traffic calming.

The team is guided by a suite of laws, policies, standards and guidelines. These cover ramps, slopes, parallel parks, etc. The team is currently preparing a response to the Be Accessible 'Accessible Journey' report.

The standard process for changes such as creating a new mobility park is:

- Request, which can be from a member of the public or from an organisation or a Council business unit
- 3-6 months to determine and confirm the need and develop a plan
- Public notification in a traffic resolution
- At least 2 weeks of public consultation
- Final decision by the Transport and Urban Design Committee, which considers traffic resolutions 4 times a year.
- Construction

It was noted that the AAG has had input into the 4 new central city mobility parks and that a new mobility park will be available in Tawa, near the library, in June.

The traffic team mainly responds to requests. There is not a strategy or programme to proactively identify the need for mobility parking. It was noted that the Statistics NZ national Disability Survey 2013 has found that number of people with mobility impairments is increasing significantly and the Council is likely to need a proactive strategy.

The utilisation of parking spaces is not currently monitored although this may start to

change as new RFID-based technologies are used.

For major new developments, approximately 1:20 parks must be mobility parks. There is no similar requirement for normal residential developments.

The issue of what to do when mobility parks are being used illegally was discussed. The AAG should follow this up with the Parking Services business unit.

The AAG indicated that it would like to assist with the revision of the Mobility Parking Policy and could also help advertise and/or submit on traffic resolutions. Members should sign up for the Council's web alert service so that they are notified about traffic resolutions.

## **5. Mobility parking**

It was noted that the Council does not appear to have a strategic approach to mobility parking. Members believe that there is a shortage of mobility parking, that many of the existing parks are non-compliant, that the guidelines for building mobility parks are out of date, and that there are issues with enforcement. Members would like to know who at the Council is looking at the likely future demand for mobility parking based on factors such as population and disability projections, and at new parking technologies. It was suggested that Geoff Swainson, the Manager of Transport and Waste Operations, be invited to a meeting.

It was noted that not all members are interested in mobility parking and agreed that the bulk of the mobility parking work should be done in the mobility parking working group.

## **6. Accessibility update**

It was noted that a written update had not been provided.

## **7. Accessibility Forum 2015**

There was a discussion about who to invite to present an NGO perspective at the Accessibility Forum. Michael has already invited Arts Access Aotearoa. If not AAA, Michael will try the Barrier Free Trust, CCS Disability Action, DPA and/or Deaf Aotearoa.

The Mayor will flag upcoming opportunities to contribute to the Social Strategy and the review of the Accessible Wellington Action Plan in her speech.

Members are to review the invitation list and get back to Simon with additions and/or changes by close of business on Thursday 28 May.

## **9. Matters arising/Adoption of minutes**

Michael moved that the draft minutes be accepted as true and correct. Paula seconded the motion and it was passed.

## **10. Project reports**

No reports were made.

## 11. Other business

### Review TAG minutes (North Kumutoto public space design by Isthmus Group?)

The AAG has already questioned the proposed mobility parking given that it should be for park users as well as visitors to the new building.

Michael is to contact the Chair of the TAG to discuss how the TAG is incorporating NZS4121 into its work and to discuss how the TAG minutes could be made more useful for the AAG.

### Feedback on presentation of the Annual Report, 30 April

Michael and Paula reported that the AGG's report had been well received by the Governance Finance and Planning Committee and that Councillors seemed to support the AAG's concerns regarding the disestablishment of the Accessibility Advisor role and about the levels of support being provided to the advisory groups.

The AAG will review the Policy Forward Programme at the next meeting.

### Feedback on Long Term Plan oral submission, 8 May

Christine O and Christine S reported that the AAG's Long Term Plan submission had been well received by the Governance Finance and Planning Committee. A number of Councillors expressed interest in taking part in city audits.

### Active Activists

The Active Activists presented their proposals for improving the intersection of Abel Smith and Cuba Streets to the Transport and Urban Development Committee on 21 May. Officers were directed to work with the Active Activists to develop advice for the Committee.

### New taxi chits

Members were provided with information about the Council's new taxi card system.

## Actions

Action points from 26 May	Person	Status
Members to sign up for the Council's web alert service so that they are notified about traffic resolutions.	All	
Contact the Chair of the TAG to discuss how the TAG is incorporating NZS4121 into its work and to discuss how the TAG minutes could be made more useful for the AAG	Michael	
The AAG to review the Policy Forward Programme at the next meeting	Simon	
Invite Lee's contact at the Westpac Stadium to the July AAG meeting to discuss mobility parking	Lee	

Action points from 28 April	Person	Status
Send the AAG's comments on the Social Housing Service	Michael	

Policy Review to the Council officers working on this review		
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<b>Action points from 31 March</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Status</b>
Circulate report on the implementation of the Accessible Wellington Action Plan	Jenny R Simon	
Find out about mobility parking issues at the Kilbirnie Pool	Lee	

<b>Action points from 24 February</b>	<b>Person</b>	<b>Status</b>
Review and report on work programme progress on Loomio	Michael	

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