

## STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

## **MINUTES**

## TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2009 (Reconvened Wednesday 25 February and Thursday 26 February 2009)

9.15 – 9.53AM 10.50AM – 12.44PM

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

## **PRESENT:**

Councillor Best Councillor Cook Councillor Coughlan Councillor Foster (9.21am – 9.53am, 11.47am – 12.44pm) Councillor Gill (9.22am – 11.41am, 11.45am – 12.44pm) Councillor Goulden (9.15am – 9.53am) Councillor McKinnon (Chair) Councillor Morrison (9.15am – 9.53am, 11.23am – 12.44pm) Councillor Pannett Councillor Pepperell Councillor Ritchie (9.26am – 9.53am, 10.54am – 11.41am) Councillor Wade-Brown (9.26am – 12.44pm) Councillor Wain

## **APOLOGIES:**

Mayor Prendergast (Deputy Chair) Councillor Ahipene-Mercer

## 020/09P **APOLOGIES** (1215/12/IM)

## **NOTED:**

THAT the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Accept apologies for absence from Mayor Prendergast and Councillor Ahipene-Mercer.

## 021/09P CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS (1215/52/IM)

### **NOTED:**

See 028/09P for conflicts of interest in relation to Report 2 - Wellington Museums Trust Funding Proposal.

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 9.21am.) (Councillor Gill joined the meeting at 9.22am.)

## 022/09P **DEPUTATION**

(1215/52/IM)

## NOTED:

1. Viv Beck and Pat Stewart from the Museums Trust addressed the Committee. They spoke in support of the bid for additional funding from the Museums Trust. They expressed their belief how important investing in the future is to the Trust. They noted the City Gallery is an asset to the city, but further funding is needed to improve other sites such as Capital E, the City to Sea Museum and improving collection storage facilities. They noted additional funding will help the trust meet inflation costs and absorb costs.

(Councillor Ritchie joined the meeting at 9.26am.) (Councillor Wade-Brown joined the meeting at 9.26am.)

# 023/09P **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** (1215/52/IM)

### **NOTED:**

1. Peter Coop addressed the Committee regarding the re-sealing of Upland Road in chip seal. He noted the noise from cars along Upland

Strategy and Policy Committee – Meeting of Tuesday 24 February 2009 (Reconvened Wednesday 25 February and Thursday 26 February 2009)

Road is already high, and a change to chip seal will increase this to an unacceptable level. Mr Coop noted Upland Road is an arterial road and as such needs a high quality seal. The residents of Upland Road ask that Council re-seal Upland Road with asphalt and not chip seal.

## 024/09P **PETITION**

(1215/52/IM)

## NOTED:

1. Ronald Nelson presented a petition to Save Manners Mall with 1645 signatures.

# Moved Councillor McKinnon, seconded Councillor Wade-Brown the motion to accept the petition.

## The motion was <u>put</u> and declared <u>CARRIED</u>.

## **RESOLVED:**

THAT the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Receive the petition and refer it to officers to inform their work.

## 025/09P ORAL HEARINGS: RESTORING WELLINGTONS GOLDEN MILE (1215/52/IM) (REPORT 1)

1. Ronald Nelson (Submission 345) speaking on behalf of the Save Manners Mall Facebook Group addressed the Committee in support of retaining Manners Mall. He noted he was speaking on behalf of the 2,500 members of the Save Manners Mall Facebook Group. Mr Nelson noted he has spoken to the businesses in Manners Mall and they also support retaining the Mall as a public space. He noted it is important public space is retained in the inner city but did request Council invest to enhance Manners Mall.

(The meeting adjourned at 9.53am. When the meeting reconvened at 10.50am Councillors Best Cook, Coughlan, Gill, Pannett, Pepperell, McKinnon and Wain were present.)

2. Ann Bain (Submission 186) speaking on behalf of the Association of Blind Citizens NZ Inc. Wellington branch addressed the Committee. She noted the Association noted their support for Manners Mall as it provides an area safe from the hazards of traffic. She noted if buses were to be allowed through Manners Mall, the Association would like to see wide footpaths with a clear demarcation of the footpath and road. The Association would also like council to consider tactile markers and pedestrian controlled crossings incorporated into any changes.

(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 10.54am.)

- 3. Philippa Burch (Submission 263) speaking on behalf of Arty Bee's Books Ltd addressed the Committee. She spoke in opposition to the proposed changes to Manners Mall and noted they will adversely affect her business. She noted it is important that customers of Arty Bee' Books have access to convenient parking to drop off books. She also expressed concern at the proposed bus stop outside the shop. She noted this is will affect the shop through vibrations, exhaust fumes and the impact on the frontage of the shop. She also expressed concern the bus stop will create safety issues for customers and staff. Ms Burch tabled a further document in support of her submission (supplementary submission 263a).
- 4. David Harte (Submission 486) spoke in support of his submission. He expressed a number of concerns regarding the practical aspects of buses travelling on Manners Street. He noted there are a number of points along the proposed route that two lanes of buses are not able to pass without changes to footpaths. He expressed concern that the proposed plan does not mention footpaths. Mr Harte tabled further documents in relation to his submission (supplementary submission 486a).

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 11.23am.)

- 5. John Warren (Submission 286) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. He expressed a concern at the loss of public space and noted Manners Mall was given to Wellington City in the 1970's and is an important part of the city. He noted there needs to be a balance between traffic issues and retaining public space. Mr Warren asked that Council consider ways to make Manners Mall a place where people can relax and feel at home.
- 6. Helen Topman and Jemma Diedrichs (Submission 717) speaking on behalf of Regional Public Health addressed the Committee. They noted urban form impacts on the well being and mental health of the public. Regional Public Health support public transport, walking and cycling improvements in Wellington and support opening Manners Mall to buses. They also noted their support for reducing the speed limit to 30km. They noted their support for cycle lanes and asked that cycle lanes be placed between angle parks and the footpath. Ms Topman and Ms Diedrichs tabled further documents in relation to their submission (supplementary information 717a, b and c).

(The meeting adjourned at 11.41am. When the meeting reconvened at 11.44am Councillors Best, Cook, Coughlan, McKinnon, Morrison, Pannett, Pepperell, Wade-Brown and Wain were present.)

(Councillor Gill returned to the meeting at 11.45am.) (Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 11.47am.)

- 7. Kent Duston (Submission 547) addressed the Committee in support of his submission. He expressed concern Council appears to place more importance on traffic than it does on pedestrians. He noted the phasing of traffic lights is currently biased in favour of cars and feels equal merit should be placed on pedestrians. He asked Council implement red light cameras and encourage the Police to create and implement an enforcement plan. Mr Duston suggested extending Cuba Mall to lower Cuba Street.
- 8. Peter Clayworth (Submission 541) addressed the Committee and noted his opposition to allowing buses in Manners Mall. He noted he is a user of both buses and Manners Mall and would not like to see any change to Manners Mall for a small efficiency to his bus journey. Mr Clayworth noted his belief Manners Mall adds to the character of Wellington. He noted opening Manners Mall to buses will not relieve traffic issues in the inner city. Mr Clayworth tabled a further document in support of his submission (supplementary submission 541a).
- 9. Michael Taylor (Submission 673) spoke in support of his submission. He expressed concern that the pedestrian space in Manners Mall will be lost. Mr Taylor suggested Council restrict private vehicles in the inner city to improve transport congestion.
- 10. Norma Beattie (Submission 425) addressed the Committee in support of her submission. She noted the inner city has become increasingly busy in recent years. She noted re-routing buses through Manners Mall will simplify the route. She noted she does not feel safe in Manners Mall at any time of the day. Ms Beattie noted lower Cuba Street has more to offer than Manners Mall.
- 11. Con Anastasiou speaking on behalf of Luigi Muollo (Submission 348) addressed the Committee. He noted pedestrian counts in Manners Mall are some of the highest in the CBD. Opening Manners Mall will impact pedestrian counts, which will have an adverse affect on businesses. Mr Anastasiou noted there is a larger social problem that needs to be addressed. He also expressed concern that the documents do not deal with environmental impacts, including pollution and the diminution of amenity. Mr Anastasiou provided further information in support of Mr Muollo's submission (supplementary submission 348a).

The meeting adjourned at 12.44pm and reconvened at 9.20am on Wednesday 25 February 2009.

### **PRESENT:**

**Councillor Best** Councillor Cook **Councillor Foster** Councillor Gill (9.20 – 11.09am, 11.17am – 11.43am) Councillor Goulden (9.20 – 9.51am, 11.05am – 12.45pm) Councillor McKinnon (Chair) Councillor Morrison (9.20 – 11.10am, 11.24am – 12.45pm) **Councillor Pannett** Councillor Pepperell (9.20am - 12.17pm) Councillor Ritchie (9.20 – 10.02am, 10.45 – 11.10am, 11.32am – 12.45pm) Councillor Wade-Brown Councillor Wain

## **APOLOGIES:**

Mayor Prendergast (Deputy Chair) Councillor Ahipene-Mercer Councillor Coughlan Councillor Gill (early departure) Councillor Morrison (early departure) Councillor Ritchie (early departure)

#### 026/09P **ORAL HEARINGS: RESTORING WELLINGTONS GOLDEN MILE** (CONTINUED) (1215/52/IM)

(REPORT 1)

## **NOTED:**

- 1. Graeme Speden (submission 76) addressed the meeting in support of his submission. He supports the Mall being reopened to buses and that it allow cyclists to use it as well. He is supportive of a wider footpath in Dixon Street. He strongly opposes the proposal for angle parking in Dixon Street and the north side of Wakefield Street.
- 2. John Robinson representing the Island Bay World Service (submission 99) addressed the meeting in support of the Island Bay World Service submission which opposes the proposed changes and sees if as expensive.
- 3. Tim Reddish representing the New Zealand Taxi Federation (submission 328) addressed the meeting reinforcing the New Zealand Taxi Federation submission. He thanked the Council for the trial which enables taxis to use the bus only lanes.

(Councillor Goulden left the meeting at 9.51am.)

- 4. Mike Mellor representing Living Streets Aotearoa (Wellington) (submission 693) addressed the meeting reinforcing the submission from Living Streets.
- 5. Greg Bodnar (submission 575) addressed the meeting in support of his submission. He advised that he welcomes and supports the changes being proposed for the connection between the Golden Mile and Courtenay Place.

(Councillor Ritchie left the meeting at 10.02am.)

(The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.15am and reconvened at 10.45am.)

(Councillors Best, Cook, Gill, McKinnon, Pannett, Pepperell, Ritchie, Wain and Wade-Brown were present when the meeting reconvened.)

6. Bruce Emson representing Go Wellington (submission 546) addressed the meeting in support of the Go Wellington submission. Mr Emson thanked the Council on the proposal for which is going to offer a big improvement for bus traffic in Wellington. He stressed that the design needs to ensure that the edge of the footpath and beginning of road need to be clearly defined.

(Councillor Goulden returned to the meeting at 11.05am.) (Councillor Gill left the meeting at 11.09am.)

(The meeting adjourned at 11.10am and reconvened at 11.17am.)

(Councillors Best, Cook, Gill, Goulden, McKinnon, Pannett, Pepperell, Wade-Brown and Wain were present when the meeting reconvened.)

7. Jeremy Harding and Charles Finney representing Wellington Regional Chamber of Commerce (submission 577) addressed the meeting in support of the Chamber of Commerce submission. The Chamber would not support proposals to pedestrianise Dixon Street and other nearby roads as a compensation for the loss of pedestrian space.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 11.24am.) (Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 11.32am.)

8. Rosie Macleod representing the Wellington Disability Reference Group (submission 690) addressed the meeting in support of their submission. She stressed that there must be a clear demarcation line between footpath edge and road carriage.

9. David Bishop an individual (submission 262) addressed the meeting in support of his submission. He feels that this is a backwards step as Manners Mall is a public space. Mr Bishop tabled a further document in support of his submission (supplementary submission 262a).

(Councillor Gill left the meeting at 11.43am.)

- Councillor Peter Glensor and Brian Baxter representing Greater Wellington Regional Council (submission 329) addressed the meeting in support of the Regional Council submission to the proposal. Greater Wellington strongly supports the proposal by Wellington City Council improve the public transport services along the Golden Mile.
- 11. Dale Rangihaeata and Andrea Jones of the Mojo Bond Street Café (submission 442) addressed the meeting in support of their submission. They would like to see an upgrade to Bond Street and urged Council to embrace his submission. He advised that he has the support of the other retailers in Bond Street. Mr Rangihaeata tabled a further document in support of his submission (supplementary submission 442a).

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 12.17pm.)

- 12. John Moffat (submission 443) addressed the meeting in support of his submission and advised that this work should commence as soon as possible and that the public transport operators should use the vehicles already operating and not purchase new ie light rail. Mr Moffat tabled a further document in support of his submission (supplementary submission 443a).
- David Harris (submission 441) representing the Regency Apartments Body Corporate addressed the meeting in support of their submission. He reinforced that the proposal is regrettable that Council is proposing to remove the pedestrian space to make way for buses.

The meeting adjourned at 12.45pm and reconvened at 9.21am on Thursday 26 February 2009.

## **PRESENT:**

Mayor Prendergast (9.21am – 12.37pm) Councillor Best Councillor Coughlan (11.49am – 12.55pm) Councillor Foster (9.31am – 9.50am, 10.50am – 12.55pm) Councillor Gill Councillor Goulden (9.21am – 9.22am, 10.50am – 12.55pm) Councillor McKinnon (Chair) Councillor Morrison (9.21 – 10.22am, 10.58am – 12.47pm) **Councillor Pannett** Councillor Pepperell (9.21am – 12.40pm) Councillor Ritchie (9.21 – 10.22am, 11.12am – 12.55pm) Councillor Wade-Brown Councillor Wain (9.21 – 11.08am, 11.28am – 12.55pm)

## **APOLOGIES:**

Mayor Prendergast (Deputy Chair) (lateness) Councillor Ahipene-Mercer **Councillor Cook** Councillor Coughlan (lateness) Councillor Foster (lateness)

#### 027/09P **ORAL HEARINGS: RESTORING WELLINGTONS GOLDEN MILE** (CONTINUED) (1215/52/IM)

(REPORT 1)

(Councillor Goulden left the meeting at 9.22am.)

### **NOTED:**

1. Tony Randle representing the Johnsonville Progressive Residents Association and the Newlands Paparangi Progressive Association (submission 718) addressed the Committee. He noted many residents of the northern suburbs find difficult travelling in the inner. He noted travelling through the city can be improved through the creation of a bus priority corridor. Mr Randle expressed concern that the intersection of Manners St and Willis Street will not accommodate two way bus traffic. He suggested Council consider turning Bond Street into a bus only street as an alternative to Manners Street.

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 9.31am.)

2. Graham Howell (submission 125) spoke in support of his submission. Mr Howell noted there are other ways to move traffic around the city. He suggested Council extend Manners Mall into lower Cuba Street and Taranaki Street. He noted his support for fewer private cars in the inner city.

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 9.50am.)

3. Jamie Linton (submission 516) spoke in support of his submission. He noted there are a number of logistical issues with buses using Manners Street which have not been considered in the proposal. Mr Linton expressed concern that opening Manners Mall to buses will not

Strategy and Policy Committee – Meeting of Tuesday 24 February 2009 (Reconvened Wednesday 25 February and Thursday 26 February 2009)

save time if traffic light phasing is not looked at also. He noted his support for signalising the pedestrian crossings on Courtenay Place. Mr Linton tabled a further document in support of his submission (supplementary submission 516a).

- 4. Angela Robertson speaking on behalf of John Chow presenting B & M Entertainment (submission 549) addressed the Committee. She noted Mr Chow does not support allowing buses through Manners Mall as indicated in his submission. Mr Chow considers Manners Mall a vibrant part of the city and a key part of pedestrian access between Lambton Quay, Cuba Mall and Courtenay Place. He feels allowing buses in Manners Mall will not solve the traffic problems on the bus route and the public should be encouraged to walk more. Ms Robertson tabled further information in support of the submission from Mr Chow (supplementary submission 549a).
- 5. Curtis Nixon (submission 210) spoke in support of his submission. He noted Wellington geography has not been taken into account, and Wellington needs to look at Cities such as San Francisco to manage public transport. Mr Nixon suggested Council use Dixon Street rather than Manners Street for buses. He also asked Council encourage Police to enforce speed limits.

(The meeting adjourned at 10.22am for morning tea and reconvened at 10.50am.)

(Mayor Prendergast, Councillors Best, Foster, Gill, Goulden, McKinnon, Pannett, Pepperell, Wade-Brown and Wain were in attendance when the meeting reconvened.)

6. Robert Mayo (submission 404) addressed the meeting in support of his submission.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 10.58am.)

7. Luis Portillo (submission 221) addressed the meeting in support of his submission. He is not sure how much time would be saved by opening Manners Mall to buses. As a regular user of buses between Manners/Dixon Streets to the end of Lambton Quay he finds that traffic flows smoothly. As a resident of the area he wonders why Council would want to take the Manners Mall area away from the inhabitants.

(Councillor Wain left the meeting at 11.08am.)

8. Robert Burch (submission 537) addressed the meeting in support of his submission. He is opposed to the proposal in particular the plan to re-route north bound buses from Dixon Street to Manners Street east

and the re routing of buses through Manners Street. He has no objection to the installation of traffic lights on pedestrian crossings Courtenay Place. Mr Burch tabled further documentation in support of his submission (supplementary submission 537a).

(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 11.12am.)

(The meeting adjourned at 11.23am and reconvened at 11.28am.)

(Mayor Prendergast, Councillors Best, Foster, Gill, Goulden, McKinnon, Morrison, Pannett, Pepperell, Ritchie, Wade-Brown and Wain were present when the meeting reconvened.)

## 028/09P CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS (1215/52/IM)

## NOTED:

- 1. Councillor Wain advised that she had a conflict of interest in relation to Report 2 Wellington Museums Trust Funding Proposal and would not take part in debate or voting on the matter.
- 2. Councillor McKinnon advised that he had a conflict of interest in relation to recommendation 5 of Report 2 Wellington Museums Trust Funding Proposal and would not take part in debate or voting on recommendation 5.

(Councillor Wain withdrew from the table for Report 2.)

## 029/09P WELLINGTON MUSEUMS TRUST FUNDING PROPOSAL Report of Allan Prangnell – Manager, Council Controlled Organisations. (1215/52/IM) (REPORT 2)

## Moved Mayor Prendergast, seconded Councillor Pannett the substantive motion.

Amendment to recommendation 5

## Moved Councillor Wade-Brown, seconded Councillor Gill the following amendment to recommendation 5.

"5. Agree to accept the advice of the Museums Trust in respect of its recommendations for the future management of the Plimmer's Ark timbers, being to retain part of Plimmers Ark Gallery timbers and consult during the LTCCP on option c – retain part of the

## Plimmers Ark timbers and option **b** – dispose of all Plimmers Ark timbers."

(Councillor Coughlan joined the meeting at 11.49am.)

(Councillor McKinnon withdrew from the table for the vote on the amendment to recommendation 5 and Mayor Prendergast as Deputy Chair took over the Chairing of the meeting.)

## The amendment to recommendation 5 was put and declared LOST.

(Councillor McKinnon resumed chairing the meeting.)

(Councillor McKinnon withdrew from the table for the vote on the substantive motion recommendation 5 and Mayor Prendergast as Deputy Chair took over the Chairing of the meeting.)

# The substantive motion recommendation 5 was <u>put</u> and declared <u>CARRIED</u>.

(Councillor McKinnon resumed chairing the meeting.)

# The substantive motions recommendations 1 to 4 were <u>put</u> and declared <u>CARRIED</u>.

The substantive motion recommendation 6(a), (d) and (e) were <u>put</u> and declared <u>CARRIED</u>.

The substantive motion 6(b) was <u>put</u> and declared <u>CARRIED</u>.

The substantive motion 6(c) was <u>put</u> and declared <u>CARRIED</u>.

## **RESOLVED:**

THAT the Strategy and Policy Committee:

- *1. Receive the information*
- 2. Note that the Wellington Museums Trust has submitted a funding proposal for an additional \$1.1 million in 2009/10, plus one-off funding of \$283,000, and an ongoing annual inflation adjustment estimated at approximately \$120,000 per annum from 2009/10
- 3. Note that following discussion with officers, the Trust has submitted a revised proposal for additional funding to be staged over 3 years (and including inflation adjustments) being \$635,000 in 2009/10, \$520,000 in 10/11 and \$305,000 in 2011/12, and one-off funding of \$283,000 in 2010/11 for Plimmer's Ark and the collection store relocations

Strategy and Policy Committee – Meeting of Tuesday 24 February 2009 (Reconvened Wednesday 25 February and Thursday 26 February 2009)

- 4. Note that in 2006 the Council approved an additional \$100,000 per annum for the increased operational costs of the redeveloped City Gallery, which is budgeted from 08/09 when the Gallery was originally due to be re-opened. The Wellington Museums Trust has, in its revised proposal, included this funding in its forecasts from 2009/10
- 5. Agree to accept the advice of the Museums Trust in respect of its recommendations for the future management of the Plimmer's Ark timbers, as the entity charged with managing Wellington's heritage collection
- 6. Agree to include the following in the upcoming draft 2009/19 LTCCP deliberations:
  - a. An annual increase in the operating grant for the Wellington Museums Trust to stage the implementation of its strategy over three years, as outlined in the table below:

Additional base line funding				
	Operating expenses \$000			Additional funding by 11/12
Project	09/10	10/11	11/12	
	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s
C102 – Wellington Museums Trust operating grant	350	400	450	1,200

- b. One-off funding of \$283,000 (Opex) for the costs of the move and fit-out of a heritage collection store during 2010/11 and the relocation of the Plimmers Ark timbers, subject to all remaining costs being met from other sources as proposed by the Trust. If the external funding obtained is insufficient to meet costs, or an alternative proposal (e.g. purchase of a facility) to a new lease is proposed following investigations, the Council will reconsider its options.
- c. Note that, as part of the pre-engagement process ahead of the draft 2009/10 LTCCP, the public is being asked to consider the option of charging out-of-town visitors for access to the Wellington Museums Trust's facilities, and that feedback from the public will be reported to the Committee during the draft LTCCP deliberations in March 2009
- *d. Request that officers explore options to fund the recommended increase from 2010/11 (other than from general rates), and*

report back to the Strategy and Policy Committee in October 2009

Request that the Council Controlled Organisations Performance е. Subcommittee set key performance indicators and agree current baselines so that the benefit of the increase in funding can be measured and reported.

## **NOTED:**

Councillor Ritchie requested that her dissenting votes be recorded for recommendations 5 and 6.

Councillor Goulden requested that his dissenting vote be recorded for recommendations 6(a)(b)(d) and (e).

(Mayor Prendergast left the meeting at 12.37pm.)

#### 030/09P **ORAL HEARINGS: RESTORING WELLINGTONS GOLDEN MILE** (CONTINUED) (1215/52/IM) (REPORT 1)

## **NOTED:**

Chris Horne (submission 553) addressed the meeting in support of his submission. He supports the opening of Manners Mall to buses only. He believes that a more direct route for buses will reduce the travel time for buses and the popularity of public transport.

(Councillor Pepperell left the meeting at 12.40pm.)

(Councillor Morrison left the meeting at 12.47pm.)

The meeting concluded at 12.55pm on Thursday 26 February 2009.

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

Chair / /

Strategy and Policy Committee – Meeting of Tuesday 24 February 2009 (Reconvened Wednesday 25 February and Thursday 26 February 2009)