

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Tuesday 25 November 2014 in Te Mahanga Committee Room One, 101 Wakefield Street 5.30pm to 7.30pm

- 1. Present**
- 2. Welcome from the Chair**
- 3. Conflict of interest**
- 4. Master Plan for Mt Victoria/Matairangi (? mins)**
- 5. Accessibility Advisor report (5min)**
- 6. Readability of voting documents (15mins)**
- 7. Event with DPA – International Day of People with Disabilities (30mins)**
- 8. Matters arising/Adoption of minutes (5 mins)**
- 9. Project reports (5 mins)**
- 10. Other business (5 mins)**
- 11. Next Meeting - Tuesday 16 December 2014 in Committee Room One**

PTO

Action Points

| Action points from 25 November | Person responsible | Status |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Draft Mt Victoria master plan to be circulated to members for comment by the New Year | Simon Members | Sent to members |
| Joint People First, Disabled Persons Assembly and AAG event | | |
| Develop AAG presentation. | Paula and Christine O | Underway |
| Develop invitation list based on previous AAG discussions | Simon | Done |
| Send out invitations as soon as possible | Paula | Done |
| Find out about the disestablishment of the accessibility advisor | Simon | |

| Action points from 28 October | Person responsible | Status |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|
| A sub-group of AAG will assist the WCC with mobility parking issues at 16 Dec meeting | Simon Michael | |
| Organise an event for the International Day of People with Disabilities. Initial planning on Loomio. | Simon | Underway |

| Action points from 29 July | Person responsible | Status |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Julia will visit Evans Bay dog park. | Julia | Still to reportback. |

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY GROUP

Tuesday 25 November 2014 in Committee Room One, Wakefield Street 5.30pm to 7.30pm

1. Present

Members: Paula Booth, Julia Mosen, Tim Pate, Lee Rutene, Christine O'Sullivan, Christine Richardson, Tristram Ingham

Apologies: Shannon Krogmann, Michael Bealing, Elizabeth St John-Ives

Councillors: Cr Lee

Officers: Simon Wright (Consultation & Engagement), Amber Bill (Open Space and Parks)

Guests: Megan Wraight (Wraight & Associates)

2. Welcome from the Chair

Paula welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

3. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4. Master Plan for Mt Victoria/Matairangi

Amber Bill, the WCC Manager for Open Spaces and Parks, provided the context for the development of a Master Plan for Mt Victoria/Matairangi. The Town Belt Management Plan 2013 requires that a master plan be developed to address issues, conflicts and opportunities for the busiest part of the Town Belt. The Council is engaging with stakeholders until early 2015 to develop the draft master plan, which will then be formally consulted on.

Amber introduced Megan Wraight, whose company has been commissioned to develop the draft master plan, who outlined the issues and opportunities that have been identified so far. These included:

- No clear hierarchy of tracks and difficult for people to find their way around. Some tracks need to be upgraded (e.g. width, eroded edges) and connections improved (e.g. between tracks and the lookout)
- There are some (perceived) use conflicts between walkers, dog walkers and cyclist going fast downhill
- Entry points into the area are not well known or signposted
- Initial plans include:
 - A walkway between Haitaitai and the city. This will be to NZ Standards where grade allows
 - A schools route along the edge of the Town Belt that will connect with existing tracks. Safety is a key consideration for this track.
 - Improvements to the city-to-summit walkway including better signposting

A question was asked about whether there are plans for safe, wheelchair-accessible tracks given that very little of the Town Belt is currently accessible. Ideally, such a track would provide a 'journey' on a sealed, grade 1 path.

Existing tracks cannot readily be made accessible because of the steep grades on Mt Victoria. A track beside Alexander Road may be possible if some road space was used or on the southern commuter route. A track between Palliser Road and Majoribanks Street may be possible with reasonable grades. Currently accessible parts of the Town Belt include the Pirie Street carpark, the summit lookout up to the information sign, the Gunners Hill and Horseshoe carparks and parts of Central Park.

The summit lookout is currently excluded from the scope of the master plan as, although it is the major attraction, it has recently been upgraded.

There would be some excellent views from the Byrd Memorial if nearby trees were trimmed. The lack of a track between the summit carpark and the other lookout at the summit has already been identified.

Initial plans for the area will be available by the end of November 2014. It was agreed that these would be circulated to AAG for further comment through until the New Year. The AAG signalled that it would like to remain engaged with the Mt Victoria master plan work.

It was agreed that initial plans would be to be circulated to AAG. AAG needs to make comments by the New Year.

5. Accessibility Advisor report

Members read an update report written by the Accessibility Advisor, Elizabeth St John-Ives. The following comments and issues were raised:

- Elizabeth to circulate proposals for new mobility parks as far in advance of the AAG meeting on 16 December as possible
- A member reported that an officer at the Johnsonville Community Centre had expressed interest in housing a mobility scooter. Members believed that the best location would be in the Johnsonville Mall or in the Warehouse area
- Members would like more information about the meetings with Autism Wellington
- Members would like to know more about the purpose and content of the Workbridge seminars
- New mobility parks in Balance Street would be useful to improve accessibility to the waterfront and the courts
- Members wanted to know what the Interisland posters were about

There was discussion about approaching diplomatic missions about whether any diplomatic car parks could be used for mobility parks (e.g. dual use). Members were informed that diplomatic parking is negotiated between the diplomatic missions and the government, and that many had been moved off-street in recent years. This probably means that the remaining on-street diplomatic parking is unlikely to be available for other uses.

6. Readability of voting documents

Charlie Inggs, the Electoral Officer, requested advice on improving the readability of two draft electoral documents: a voting paper and some candidate profiles.

The main considerations are the fonts and the colour contrast between the text and background.

The following comments were made regarding the voting papers:

- Need to make the contrast between the boxes and the background much stronger
- The instructions for 'electing 7 board members' are too wordy and the font size is too small.
Note that Arial is a good font for people with visually impairments. The 'handwritten' number '1'

in a box, is difficult to read or understand. Is it the capital letter 'i'? Consider converting the instructions into a list of steps.

- Consider using the Easy Read system for instructions, which should be in Plain English - <http://www.odi.govt.nz/resources/guides-and-toolkits/disability-perspective/resources/plain-language.html>.

The following comments were made about the candidate profiles:

- The left-hand side profiles are much better because:
 - The heading is black on white, that is, the maximum possible contrast
 - The italics is less slanted
 - The font is cleaner
- Some improvements to the left-hand side profiles could be made by:
 - Making the candidate name stand out more strongly by 'bolding' and/or more space around name
 - Change 'principal place of residence' to 'I live in'
 - Use shorter paragraphs
 - Consider using unjustified text as it is less dense and bigger line spacing
 - Easy Read icons may assist readability, e.g. use the icon for 'I live in'

7. Event with DPA – International Day of People with Disabilities

Members reviewed a draft invitation for the joint People First, Disabled Persons Assembly and AAG event to celebrate the International Day of People with Disabilities.

AAG will present at the event. The focus will be on celebrating achievements. Paula and Christine O will coordinate the development of the presentation.

Simon will develop an initial invitation list based on previous AAG discussions for Paula. Members should email their contacts to Paula as well. Paula will email invitations as soon as possible.

8 Matters arising/Adoption of minutes

Julia moved that the minutes from the previous meeting were true and correct. Tristram seconded the motion and it was passed.

Concerns were aired about the disestablishment of the Council's Accessibility Advisor role including:

- Who will be responsible for systemic issues?
- How will the Council monitor and drive action for the Accessibility Action Plan and the creation of mobility car parks?

Simon will find out more about this for the group.

9. Project reports

Lee Rutene informed the group of a presentation on technology in the workplace on 2 December in Naenae.

10. Other business

Stakeholder engagement and what AAG can do will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

AAG may need to follow up the current work on mobility parking with a submission on the Long Term Plan. AAG to consider pushing for the WCC mobility park specification to be reviewed.

Members were reminded that AAG has finished working on the Cenotaph Project. Other groups are still calling for the government to improve accessibility aspects of the project.