

Accessibility Advisory Group

Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 26 April 2022

Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Venue: Zoom

Purpose

- Advise Council on how to help grow a great and accessible City, where barriers to people with impairments are minimised.
- Bring lived experience and knowledge to Council around accessibility issues in the context of Council's roles and priorities.
- It is recognised that members come from and remain connected to their communities. It is from this foundation members share their expertise and lived experience in this advisory role and engage with their communities and others as part of the wider council consultation processes.

Attendance

Chairpersons:	Nick Ruane
Members:	Alan Royal, Humphrey Hanley, Olivia Murphy, Solmaz Nazari, Susan Williams
Councillors:	Cr Rebecca Matthews
WCC Staff:	Melissa Wells (Senior Accessibility Advisor), Jenny Rains (Manager Community Services), Damian Storey (Democracy Advisor)
Members of public:	Thomas Bryan

Meeting Procedures

The meeting opened at 5:30pm

1. Apologies were received from:

- Erikka Helliwell

No issues were raised with the minutes of the previous meeting.

2. No conflicts of interest were declared.

Items

1. **Te Matapihi Central Library Project**, *Presented by Lucy Lang, Sue Harrop, and Matt Lane (WCC) and Nick Mouat (Athfields Architects)*

Presenters shared plans for the Te Matapihi Central Library Project, including design principles, consultation, floorplans, and renderings.

The group thanked the presenters and asked questions for discussion. Discussion topics included: other formats of experiencing the plans, such as an animated walkthrough or real-life prototyping of spaces; tactile flooring and tactile routes through the library; lift access between levels; the process of incorporating universal design; changing places facilities in the library; stairways and handrails.

The presenters offered to revisit the group in August to update on their progress.

2. **Economic Wellbeing Strategy**, *Presented by Kerry Merriman (Team Lead - Strategy)*

Staff presented on the Economic Wellbeing Strategy, including global trends, engagement so far, and the Strategy's key outcomes, its aims for a liveable, revitalising and regenerating city, and next steps.

The group thanked the presenters and asked questions for discussion. Discussion topics included the impact of the growth of retirement villages; easier-reading/accessible/video materials for the strategy; how the growth of the events sector can balance with the accessibility needs of the community; how the Wellington City Skills and Education Forum can interact with the RSLG in Wellington; the effect of the built environment in connecting homes and places of employment; and self-employment.

3. **Updates were shared by:**

- Melissa Wells: in addition to written updates, Melissa reminded members that the survey for the Accessibility Action Plan is now open.
- Cr Matthews: the Annual plan is out for consultation and focuses on housing and the landfill, and the upcoming District plan.
- Members' updates included: Solmaz Nazari's project on the experiences of disabled people during Covid-19; Total Mobility Card fares now at 25%; Susan Williams featuring in an upcoming episode of Attitude.

- Thomas Bryan has been working with WCC on cycle lane design and bus stop access for disabled people.
5. Leadership election
- Susan Williams was elected unopposed for the vacant co-Chair position, by leave of the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 6:42pm.

Information

Next meeting date: 24/05/2022

Actions from this and previous meetings:

- Group keen to hear an update on Pōneke Promise programme in future.
- Te Matapihi Central Library Project team to report back with updates in August.