



Newtown Residents' Association

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Urban Growth Plan Submission

Introduction

The Newtown Residents' Association is the Incorporated Society representing the suburbs of Newtown, Berhampore, Mt Cook and parts of Melrose. We are an active local group of residents and businesspeople, concerned with maintaining and improving our suburb's liveability, connectedness and sustainability. For 100 years our organisation has worked actively to make our community a thriving, diverse, great place to live. We care passionately about the design, function and ecology of our urban and natural environment.

Submission

The Newtown Residents' Association strongly supports the overall concept of the Urban Growth Plan.

Our Association has a long history of supporting well planned initiatives that increase the density and live-ability of Newtown, Berhampore and Mount Cook, particularly along the Riddiford Street - Adelaide Road corridor linking to the CBD. Greater residential density in our community makes our amenities, shops, supermarkets, cafes, schools, clubs and public transport all more viable.

The urban growth plan pulls together a package of initiatives that we as an Association have a long history of supporting, such as the Adelaide Rd Growth Centre, Public Transport Spine Corridor, Ngauranga to airport priority link, Cycleways, Suburban Centre intensification, Te Aro intensification, natural environment protection - Town Belt, Southcoast, and Lampton Harbour, emergency preparedness, Heritage protection, compact city...

On behalf of the Newtown community, and on behalf of past citizens and future citizens of Wellington, the Newtown Residents' Association thanks you for continuing to consider the Same long term way this initiative will be delivered. Consistency and refinement are important to the success of this initiative.

For instance the future dedicated transport corridors (bus & cycle lanes) will have a huge impact on our community. Pedestrian safety and car parking in residential streets along the public transport and cycleway spine will be important to craft successfully. This impact has been underplayed in the document. The Urban Growth Plan talks about ways of influencing car parking for businesses in the city, but the impact of bus and cycle lanes on residential parking is not discussed. For Newtown, Constable Street and Wallace Street are both main transport corridors that are part of the public transport and / or cycleway spine within a residential streetscape. Effort needs to be put into thinking about this residential setting and its interface with priority for public transport and cycleways. Parking spaces relatively close to residences will be important to the success of these initiatives fitting our communities

Conclusion

The Urban Growth Plan will transform overtime how Wellington citizens live and thrive in this part of our city.

The Newtown Residents' Association approves of the WCC councillors and its officers giving this framework a refresh and consultative refinement, but we would like to comment that our members feel the consultation period has been too short to allow us to fully discuss this as a community and develop detailed fine grain feedback. This has been too short for the newer members of our community to understand the backstory as fully as our older members do.

Our Association hopes that ongoing consultations will be held as aspects of this are developed in greater detail. Fine grain fit to community will be important as aspects of this are crafted, taking local knowledge on board and valuing its expertise, will be very important for our ongoing support.

The Newtown Residents' Association would like to be heard in support of this succinct submission. Please do not hesitate to contact me at martin.hanley@vuw.ac.nz, or on 389 7316 if you would like our Association to provide more detail on this important Wellington issue.

Yours sincerely



Martin Hanley
Newtown Residents' Association
Past President
Newtown Festival Director
Chair Cycleway Subcommittee