

7. PARKING STRATEGY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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Corporate Plan Output: Transport Planning	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Community Board of the proposed public consultation process to be undertaken as a first stage in the preparation of a City-wide parking strategy.

INTRODUCTION

The City Plan submission process identified the need for a parking strategy for the City which, among other things, addressed a number of issues identified in submissions. In particular, the need for maximum parking requirements was raised by submitters and the use of on-street facilities for parking and loading was also an issue identified. During the hearings the reporting officer stated that these issues should not be addressed in isolation, but should form part of an overall parking strategy for the City.

The purpose of the strategy is to provide a framework of policies which will provide the Council with a tool to achieve a consistent approach to the control of parking. Ideally, the document will have the acceptance of all affected parties and will provide a structured approach to decision-making where proposed controls may conflict with private developer proposals or wishes.

The Council has already adopted the Cycle Strategy, Public Transport Strategy, Road Safety Strategy and Pedestrian Strategy. These documents, along with the Parking Strategy, will form components of an overall Transport Strategy for the City.

DISCUSSION

The concept of a City-wide parking strategy was initially reported to the Board at its February 1999 meeting. At that time the City Services Committee requested that the public consultation document be reviewed. Grant Mangin, from Reputation Public Relations Limited, was subsequently employed to develop the document and the consultation process. It is proposed that the following process be implemented.

1. City-wide consultation (2 months)
City Scene insert (information booklets available on request)
Advertising in local papers
Posters at service centres and libraries (booklets available)
Staff presentations to interest groups
2. Collation and analysis of feedback (1 month)
3. Traffic advisory groups (2 months)
4. Draft strategy (2 months)
5. Council approval

Stage 1 of the consultation strategy is already in progress with the recent release of the April City Scene, advertising being included in the Press and Star, and distribution of the discussion document. It is anticipated that the Board will have a high level of interest in the wide range of issues raised and will be keen to provide input into the process.

It is also expected there will be a high level of public interest in the strategy, particularly from the retail and land development sectors.

The consultation documents invite submissions from affected groups and will also invite residents groups and other affected parties to participate further in the process through the formation of an advisory group.

A sub-committee of four Councillors from the City Services Committee has been formed to support and direct the consultation process.

CONCLUSION

A parking strategy is to be prepared for the City to provide a structured approach to decision-making regarding the control of parking and loading. A discussion document has been prepared for distribution to interested parties for comment.

Recommendation: That the information be received.