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CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL Draft LTCCP 2009-19

- Received by Email

I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Monday 11 May 2009 and Monday 18 May 2009.

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CC:

Sent:

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Date: 16 April 2009

Introduction:
Thank you for the opportunity to have our views heard on the proposal to extend the city tram route. We have a cafe operation that has been located in the Highpara building for the past 13 years and has street frontages on both High and Poplar Streets. Our business attracts over 5000 people to the area each week, employs 16 full time staff, and plays an integral role in the success of the precinct. Our cafe is open 7 days a week and trades for long hours from 7am-10pm.

Route Option A (The double track along High Street terminating at Tuam Street):
It is our understanding that this option would have the tram heading through our outdoor seating area. Our outdoor seating area is extremely popular all year round and is a major draw card to both the cafe and the area. Reducing the size of this area will severely effect our ability to operate our business. The success of C1 Espresso is vital to provide foot traffic to the surrounding retail businesses and we ask that the council does not adopt this option. *This option would be strongly opposed by us for these reasons.*

Route Option B (East along Lichfield, South into Poplar Lane and back into High Street):
This option is favoured by us as it gives our business two frontages to the tram track without the tram reducing the outdoor footprint of our business. *We strongly support this option for these reasons and hope the council adopts this route.*

Loading Zones/5 minute Parking:
There are a number of loading zones/5 minute parking zones in and around High Street. These are important to us they provide an opportunity for our customers, and deliveries, to come and go quickly from our business. *We ask that consideration be given to their importance to the area and that loading zones/P5 parking remain in the area during and after these changes.*

Construction:
We ask that consideration be given to the nature of our business during the construction of this tram route. Our products include food, beverages and a pleasant environment in which to enjoy them. We will be losing custom for the duration of this project and ask that it take place during winter months when the disruption to our customers will be minimised. We are open long hours and are negatively effected by disruption to access, or services such as power and water. *We ask that the project leader is considerate to our need to continue to operate our business. And that we are assisted through any*

issues that prevent us from running a busy cafe at all times.

Poplar Street Frontage:

We have a lease drafted with the Council for an outdoor seating area on our Poplar Street frontage. The licence to occupy this section of road has File Reference: 541/101 and Project Number: 500420. We would hope to still be able to utilise this area for our business. We ask that during the construction of this tram route that we have this area paved, and if necessary any larger section if required. We would like to discuss this further with the design team. *We are willing to pay to have this area paved and ask that this be coordinated for the same time that tracks are laid.*

Tram Fixtures:

We hope that the tram fixtures (poles, lights and signage) be created with a new accent that helps to define High Street and The Lanes as a unique environment. It would help the businesses to market the area as a separate identity to New Regent Street. *There is an opportunity with the tram line to use fixtures (such as hanging street lights down the centre of Poplar Street) that help define High Street and The Lanes as an individual precinct.*

Many thanks again for the opportunity to have input on this project.

Regards,
Sam Crofskey

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