

Extension of the Tram Route Submission - Received by Email

Name:	Tim Stonhill [mailto:tim.stonhill@grandc.co.nz]
CC:	'Frank Delli Cicchi'; 'Steve Martin'; Hinman, Dave
Sent:	Wednesday, 2 April 2008 8:42 am
Your Submission:	<p>Submission on Tram Extension Proposals</p> <p>I write as the appointed representative of Grand Central NZ Ltd, the owners of the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Christchurch at 161 Cashel Street, and also owners of the building currently occupied by Wilson Parking and NOOD at 145 Cashel Street. I make this submission on behalf of the aforementioned organization. My name, address and contact details are appended to this email message.</p> <p>In essence, we are fully supportive of the proposed extension route to the Tram, and congratulate the Council for it's consideration of this proposal. We believe it will have a very positive impact on this area of the City. The Tram will create an opportunity for tourists and other visitors to come to this area and will no doubt have some positive affect on the revitalization of High Street, Cashel Street and City Mall.</p> <p>Our only concern is that of parking, access and congestion in Cashel Street in the area between High Street and Manchester Street.</p> <p>It is proposed that, in this area, the tram will "cross High Street and continue along Cashel Street, in the east bound traffic lane, then moving into it's own centre of the road lane for turning in to Manchester Street". This part of Cashel Street is not only a busy thoroughfare but also provides access for guests to 2 major hotels. Coaches and other tourist transports (shuttles, taxis etc) regularly have to double park outside these hotels, due to parking congestion, to load and unload passengers and luggage. The Tram will cause further congestion and no doubt be subject to regular delay as the route will be obstructed by other stationery vehicles. It makes little difference which side, or middle, of the street the Tram lines are located - the street is not wide enough to accommodate all users - even as it is the street is often blocked at peak times (8.00am - 9.30am and 4.30pm to 5.30pm). With the possible removal of the angle parking in High Street to accommodate the Tram lines in that region the situation will be made worse.</p> <p>A possible solution would be to make all traffic in the affected portion of High and Cashel Streets one way. Traffic would enter High Street from Manchester Street, proceed in the northwesterly direction of High Street and then turn into the east bound section of Cashel Street in the normal manner. The Tram could then (I guess) run in the middle of the street so that it is in the correct position for it's turn into Manchester Street as proposed ("it's own centre of the road lane for turning into Manchester Street"). The west bound section of Cashel Street from Manchester Street would be "No Entry".</p> <p>As an aside, we further take this opportunity to congratulate the Council on it's investment in the Central City Business Association whose initiatives are having a hugely positive impact on the general atmosphere of this region - many many positive and supportive comments have been received from visitors on the service offered by the CCBA Ambassadors, and the area is a much better place for their presence.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to offer this submission.</p> <p>Kind regards Tim Stonhill</p>

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