

14 June 2011

Re: Draft Hutt Corridor Plan 2011

This submission is from the Wellington Architectural Centre, a group which represents both professional and non-professionals interested in architecture and design, and in the promotion of good design in Wellington. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this proposal.

The Architectural Centre generally supports the principles which underpin the draft Hutt Corridor Plan.

In particular we strongly support the ambition to increase trips made by walking, cycling and public transport. We support the desire to improve road safety throughout the corridor, in particular the safety of cyclists and pedestrians, who are often the most vulnerable in road accidents because roads historically have not been designed for them. The fact that the increase in cyclist crash rates is increasing with the national average (p. 6) is no reason to be complacent.

While we appreciate the need to make road and rail networks more efficient and reliable, we strongly support the efficiency of rail networks, and road networks for all users. This last statement is significant as we understand that the NZTA evaluation manual values motorists' time twice as highly as other users of transport network. To ensure equity in transport significantly greater resources now need to be exerted to ensure that all users of transport infrastructure are valued appropriately, which in a climate change context suggests a favouring of public transport, pedestrians and cyclists over motorists.

We encourage the aim for this plan to be multi-modal, and strongly support the ability for modal changes (e.g. train to bus, bike to train, bike to bus, car to train/park & rides) to enable the maximum efficiency of the network (p. 14).

We also encourage that the plan include a review of current ticketing system. Integrated ticketing, the use of transfers (e.g. up to 90 minutes) as used in many other countries, are an important part of ensuring we get the best out of our transport infrastructure.

Thank you again for this opportunity to comment on the Draft Hutt Corridor Plan. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

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