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Future Travel Plan - 2nd Stage Consultation Results.

The 2nd stage of the We Love Leith Future Travel plan consultation sought to build on an earlier 1st stage that sought to identify the attitudes of Leithers towards different modes of travel. These results are summarised in a different report. The 2nd stage consultation sought specific answers to the question, "How would you encourage more people to walk, cycle or use public transport in Leith?"

These results are based on the views of an estimated 360 respondents. More information on the methodology used to derive these results is given below.

Top 10 ideas.

Idea	Votes	Priority
Pedestrianise the Shore	539	1
Invest more resources in tackling litter, dog fouling and graffiti	336	2
Build a green bridge over Leith Walk	274	3
Dedicated cycle lanes should be added to all arterial routes	240	4
The coastal promenade won't be finished for decades. Invest in a 'Cross Leith' cycle route	163	5
Tackle anti-social behaviour on the walkways	131	6
Plant more flowers and plants on Leith Walk	78	7
Extend bus tracker to all bus stops in Leith	55	8
Do more to support local businesses	53	9
Replace the roundabout at the foot of Easter Road with a traffic light controlled cross roads	40	10

Idea	Votes	Priority
Pedestrianise the Shore	539	1

Comments:

1. "there will be less vehicles on the Shore once Constitution Street is reopened!!"

Oh , it has been re opened since before Christmas , I have not noticed any difference, the 36 and 16 are still using the shore , and henderson gardens. So are the commuters who use Shore,Henderson and Cables Wynd as a rat run through to Great Junction Street by Tesco's.Why not just pedestrianise the whole area between Bernard Streete,Constitution and Great Junction Streets and Water of Leith This would be simple just block one end of Henderson ,Tolbooth and Maritime, and one end of Cables Wynd,Mill Lane and The Shore, add a few traffic calming measures , residence have access but the roads would go nowhere , that would eliminate 90% of the traffic. Of course it may be unacceptable to then walk 100 yards to a bus stop, or having to drive another 500 yards to get home?

2. A lovely idea in principle but what about the people who live on the Shore? Ignoring the large amount of free on street car parking which is used by residents that this will remove, there are a number of private car parking areas, including mine, which can only be accessed via the Shore. So youre going to ban us from accessing our own land then?

There will be less vehicles on the Shore once Constitution Street is reopened!!

3. Must be the most scary bit of road to cycle on!! if you go behind the crash barrier, you get in the way of pedestrians and if you stay on the road, you take your life in your hands, being the jam in a bus sandwich is not my idea of fun. Traffic needs switching away from here as its too much and too fast.

4. This is a good idea!

5. Part Pedestrianisation by road closure at Cafe Truva.

Idea	Votes	Priority
Invest more resources in tackling litter, dog fouling and graffiti	336	2

Comments:

1. Dog fouling is the bane of my life
2. One thing only really puts me off Leith , well Edinburgh in general. The complete inability of locals to pick up their dogs sh#t. I have lived in cities all over the UK , and some in Europe, I have never seen dog mess as bad as it is here , I find it impossible to understand why a proud people like the Scots , generally so house proud and tidy even allow it. I would be so ashamed if I couldn't bring myself to pick it up , I would get rid of my dog. Why is the council doing nothing about this ? It must be a health hazard?
No poo bins , no access to free poo bags , at least none I've seen. What is going on? I was down at Loanhead yesterday , for a walk in the woods , it was worse ! Unbelievable. Please , please if you walk a dog in Leith , pick up his mess .
3. Dog fouling is a real problem in the Fort Area.

Idea	Votes	Priority
Build a green bridge over Leith Walk	274	3

Comments:

1. Understand the point but believe that this would be a very bad idea. It would make Leith Walk look like a tunnel. In the past there was a railway bridge over the Walk that made it look terrible (see old photos).

As an alternative may I propose a dedicated cycle crossing (like pedestrian crossing) over Leith Walk. This would be a lot better and not so ugly.

2. Yes, if it's possible to connect Leith Links to Pilrig Park.

3. Interesting idea: personally I'm not so keen for a thoroughly NIMBY-ish reason that my flat (north side of Thorntree St) looks out on the railway arches and the addition of pedestrians would mean that my privacy was invaded - at the moment no one can see into my sitting room. I'm very unkeen at the thought of having to put up net curtains or similar to stop prying eyes.

4. I would very much like this idea and I feel my neighbours would like it too. We have suffered from vandalism in our building recently from gangs of teenagers who use the old bridge space to throw eggs, stones and all sorts of things to walkers, cars and buses. This has been reported to the police but there is little we can do about it at the moment. A recreational use of the old bridge and its path would help to regenerate the area with more people using it and will hopefully encourage these teenagers to use the facilities for enjoyment walking and cycling rather than finding that enjoyment on hooligan-like actions.

5. I love the idea of a green bridge. I live right by the site and I'd support it 100%.

6. Green bridge 2 or EH6/7 bridge. It would run over railway to connect Allanfield and Albert Street. Section 75 money to come from Royal Mail site developer. Sorted!

Idea	Votes	Priority
Dedicated cycle lanes should be added to all arterial routes	240	4

Comments:

1. As tram is likely to make the idea of cycling on Leith Walk even more offputting, opportunity to press for improvements to Easter Road. It is part of Core Path Network....

2. I'm afraid I completely disagree - it's a pleasure cycling with trams in other European cities, especially when compared to buses. Trams don't suddenly pull out, or turn corners unexpectedly. Trams are actually very pedestrian and cyclist friendly, in my opinion...

Idea	Votes	Priority
The coastal promenade won't be finished for decades. Invest in a 'Cross Leith' cycle route	163	5
<p>Comments:</p> <p>1. Promenade. The word evokes long walks along windy coast lines. My worry is that Edinburgh's promenade is destined to be in short bits until global warming laps over its surfaces and then we'll have other things to worry about. But it warms the cockles of my heart to see that there are good people trying to come up with a solution for the crucial stretch in the middle.</p>		
Idea	Votes	Priority
Tackle anti-social behaviour on the walkways	131	6
<p>Comments:</p> <p>1. Yes, but how?</p> <p>2. This is a city wide problem.</p> <p>3. Yes, especially small children waving tree branches.</p>		
Idea	Votes	Priority
Plant more flowers and plants on Leith Walk	78	7
<p>1. Great idea! But why stop at Leith Walk - let's have flowers everywhere.</p> <p>2. Put more seating near bus stops - benches good idea.</p> <p>3. Flowers on Shore to enhance cafe culture.</p>		

Idea	Votes	Priority
Extend bus tracker to all bus stops in Leith	55	8
<p>1. Would be great if they could be designed into the bus shelters so they don't add to street clutter.</p>		
<p>1. Very good idea - especially for school children. 3. The bustracker service should extend way out of town where the number of buses is limited as it gives more idea of whether to bother to wait or start walking. 4. Onstreet Bustracker info is very useful. CEC (and Greener Leith) should do more to promote the fact that it's also available Online AND therefore on many people's mobile phones.</p>		
Idea	Votes	Priority
Do more to support local businesses	53	9
Comments: None		
Idea	Votes	Priority
Replace the roundabout at the foot of Easter Road with a traffic light controlled cross roads	40	10
<p>1. What an absolutely ridiculous idea. There are already pedestrian crossings by the roundabout. Replacing the roundabout is what they have done in Portobello and it has caused absolute chaos for pedestrians and drivers alike. 2. Leave the roundabout - Look at the choas caused in Seafield when they replaced the roundabout there. 3. Traffic lights are visually intrusive and do little to change the vehicular - pedestrian priority balance. 4. No, we like roundabouts. 5. In the corner of of roundabout, by old Leith School, plant conifers, bulbs and and place lumps of rock, gravel etc - More aesthetic!</p>		

Other Ideas

In addition to these top 10 ideas there was also a “long tail” of other ideas. These are listed below.

Idea	Vote	Priority
Give away more free recycled bikes to Leithers who to start cycling	29	11
Do more to help parents and children cycle to school	25	12
20 is plenty! All residential streets should have a 20mph speed limit	22	13
Constitution St bike alternative when tram comes	22	14
Introduce an X22 limited stop bus service	18	15
At the top of Leith Walk remove all shrubs and Foot and replace with fountain/jets/lights	17	16
Build a mountainbike ‘northshore’ skills course on the path that runs from Easter Rd - Leith Links.	16	17
Create specialised and secure bike garages on Leith Walk	12	18
More City Car Club cars should be located in Leith	9	19
More facilities in the workplace	8	20
Pedestrianise St Andrew Place	7	21
Fix broken pavements	1	22
Keep parks in better condition	1	23
Dog-poo bins, especially on the Water of Leith paths	1	24
Reduce the space dedicated to cars on Leith Walk	1	25
Address the potholes - they are breeding!	1	26
More statues, benches, redo shrub areas	1	27
Keep the gate into Leith Academy, from Lochend Rd open at all times	1	28

Methodology

The results below are derived from a 9 month long consultation period, that was largely managed using the on-line tool “user voice”. This allows users to suggest an idea, vote on existing ideas, and also to comment on them. It is therefore a useful for consultations as it allows users to ‘co-produce’ a prioritised list, whilst still tracking more subjective feedback.

From September 2009 - December 2009 every household in the Leith neighbourhood partnership was sent a direct mail pack, that included an invitation to participate in the on-line consultation.

In addition, people with no internet access were also able to feed into the process on two occasions. A local youth group ran a special session on the consultation and local residents who attended a Leith Neighbourhood partnership meeting in March 2010 were also consulted.

Participants are given 10 votes each, and no more than 3 votes can be used to support any one idea. In total, it is estimated around 362 people took part in the survey comprised of 242 on-line, with an estimated 120 people able to participate via the youth group and neighbourhood partnership consultation sessions.

More information:

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