

TEC 15.08.24 – Notes on the papers

Papers are here...

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=136&Mid=7239>

[] Square brackets are my thoughts

Red Seems particularly important

5.1 Work Programme - Expected dates of future Committee reports.

12 Sept 2024

- Princes St Waverley Strategy
- City Centre Future Streets, Operations Plan
- ATINP update [was originally to be in June mtg, then August mtg]
- George St, report on costs & options, requested by 23.5.24 TEC
- Speed Limits – Rural Roads
- Meadows-Canal update [originally for August mtg]
- Corstorphine Connections, update
- Granton-BioQuarter tram – update on funding & consultation plans

October 2024

- Bike Hire scheme [*originally to be in June mtg, then August, now October!!*]
- Annual update on car kilometers (BB)

November 2024

- George Street and First new Town – Cycle Link Update

5.2 Rolling Actions Log

- Massive list as always (119 pages!) – not checked

6.1 Business Bulletin - info for councillors on various topics, usually with no decisions required

But deputations and councillor questions on these items are allowed. Includes...

- **p2 Canaan Lane** Footway to be widened outside the school (at current road closure) and 'improved' contra-flow cycling conditions [includes road resurfacing I hope!!], likely not till 26/27
- **p3-4 Sciennes School** TRO passed. Officers working on "*a safe road layout that retains the current right of passage for pedestrians and cyclists and reflects the school's desire to occupy the road*"
- **p4-5 Meadows to Canal update**
 - Considering TRO to make permanent the temporary bike contraflows in Glengyle Terrace, Leven Terrace and Valleyfield Street
 - Another consultation coming on Meadows-Canal ! due to changes & time elapsed since the previous (2019) consultation. TROs will then be needed, with earliest possible construction not until Mid 2026. [Presumably also has to await Kings Theatre completion]
 - [*Has been ongoing since at least 2014 - para 1403 [here](#)*]
- **P5-6 West End Crescents** The changes have reduced motor traffic in all streets except Coates Gdns; counts are continuing
- **P7-9 Canal Footbridge at Edinburgh International Climbing Arena (EICA)** – Council was to build this bridge as part of planning application approvals. Legal & financial problems mean that it may never be built, though discussions continue.

7.2 St James Quarter, Introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order

- The hotel is taking legal action against the council (currently on hold) to permit vehicle access to St James Square, *which was intended to be pedestrian & cyclist only*
- Vehicle access is currently allowed under the existing TRO, which dates from the old Scottish Office car park there before St James was built!
- The Council is proposing a new TRO which would allow vehicles under certain restrictions.

7.4 Low Emission Zone LEZ summer 2024 update

- Some minor issues, but basically all seems to be going well
- It is not yet clear if there will be surplus income from fines exceeding costs, but if so it will be used for related pollution and/or climate purposes

7.5 Local Traffic Improvement - Delivery Programme

- This is the new annual programme of low-cost local-area schemes to benefit walking and cycling
- We were consulted and discussed it by email briefly (May 31 – June 2, subject 'Fwd: Local Traffic Improvement Programme') but I don't think we submitted any suggestions?
- The report gives the proposed programme for 24/25. [I think the only scheme benefitting cycling would be the one removing the Polwarth Gdns roundabout, put forward by Living Streets & Merchiston CC]
- Also an interesting long appendix listing all the schemes considered, and criteria scoring for each.

7.6 Trial of 7-7-7 Bus Lanes

- The long-awaited trial of a 7-7-7 bus lane (Balerno to Musselburgh). [Though it is worth noting that when the Council cut back all bus lanes to peak-time and weekday only, they did it all-in-one]
- BUT – they are also proposing to allow PHCs (private hire cars) into the bus lanes as part of the experiment. [AFAIK this was not mentioned in the past when the Committee requested the 7-7-7 trial, so it is quite a surprise]
- [Edinburgh Bus Users Group will be objecting, as it will contribute to bus delays, and I feel it is also very detrimental to the type of nervous/novice cyclist who might just consider using a bus lane, so there is a strong case for a Spokes deputation, in person or written]
- Also noteworthy that the whole report does not once mention cycling as an issue to be considered in bus lane decisions. [This seems pretty shocking. Including no mention of cycling in the criteria for monitoring and evaluation].

7.7 Implementing the Footway Parking Prohibition

- Basically, it is going well
- A number of local streets are listed where there are problems to be tackled by yellow lines or other means

9.1 Motion by Councillor Ross (LibDem) - Road Resurfacing and Resident Co-ordination

Seeking measures to ensure cars are removed when road resurfacing is done

9.2 Motion by Councillor Lang (LibDem) - Delivering the committee's decision on Cammo Road

Asking for immediate ETRO to close Cammo Rd as a through road

9.3 Motion by Councillor Whyte (Con) - Mass Rapid Transit in Edinburgh

Seeking a bus-rapid-transit solution, rather than tram, for the north-south route, due to costs and timescales; although he says it could be replaced by tram if cash ever became available.