

TEC 09.11.24 – Notes on the papers

Papers are here ..

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MId=7242&Ver=4>

A third agenda remarkably free of active travel infrastructure (or bike hire). I imagine things are already slowing down due to Councils still (I think) not having been given the results of their bids for 'tier 2' Scot Govt active travel cash – and the rumour that it will be cut entirely – in which case many planned projects can not go ahead, at least in this financial year.

There is also the fact that TRO decisions now go to the new TRO subcommittee, which means less for the TEC agenda. [Incidentally, a very unfortunate change, with a different set of councillors on the TRO sub, and thus having no background on the decisions they are taking, other than the officer report. As shown by their recent Corstorphine Connections [ETRO decision to scrap the bus gate](#)].

[] Square brackets are my thoughts

Red Seems particularly important

5.1 Work Programme - Expected dates of future Committee reports.

December 2024

- Speed Limits – Rural Roads (originally for September)
- Speed Limits – 20mph implementation plan
- Elm Row plans
- CMP Capital Investment update
- Queen Street safe cycling route [did we know about this?]
- Climate-Ready Edinburgh update
- Bike hire update [originally to be June mtg, then August, October, November, now December!!]
- BRT – Bus Rapid Transit

January 2025

- Travelling Safely – Braid Road and Comiston Road
- Safety of Council Heavy Operated Vehicles (BB)
- Strategic Review of Parking
- George Street Update
- Leith Connections (BB)
- CCWEL Monitoring

5.2 Rolling Actions Log

- Massive list as always (109 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...

- **p3 Whitehouse Road Update** Measures to improve safety following schoolboy death
- **p4 Road Resurfacing** - Why the 'surface dressing' method is often used; & problems of parked vehicles preventing some areas being done
- **p7 West Edinburgh Link** Reasons for delays (includes Scot Govt delay in dealing with Redetermination Order [NB: they had said timescales would improve following the CCWEL2-year delay]. Construction could start Spring 2025 *if* Scot Govt cash is available.
- **p8 Car-Km annual update** [This was included in Oct TEC BB, but hidden away, and with no figures – see my notes on Oct TEC. So councillors asked for figures. So the data is here, though not prominent: it is **not good news**]. **Car-km fell drastically in 2020 (covid) but have since risen every year, and by 2023 is approaching pre-covid levels.** [The Council's target is to reduce car-km 30% by 2030, a *Key Performance Indicator* in the Business Plan. It feels like it is failing drastically; and the decisions to stop work on a WPL and to postpone the City Centre ban on through traffic, leaves little hope that the Council will achieve any reduction at all in car-km, let alone 30%].

- **p9 Use of Private Vehicles** The report briefly covers options to meeting the Council's target to reduce car-km 30% by 2030, given that a [WPL has been dropped](#) (tweet at 2.57). Various 'carrots' are being implemented or planned, but the 'stick' of Road User Charging awaits the Scot Govt years-late *Route Map* to achieving the national 20% reduction, after which the council will 'review' possible 'next steps.' [*possible deputation on p9 & p8 ?? and referring to 9.3 below*]
- **p11 Tram, Granton to ERI & Beyond** The public consultation is now likely to be Spring 2025 (*rumours that major changes to the original proposals are being considered, hence the long delay*). However there will be a December report on Bus Rapid Transit options on this & other routes.

7.3 Secure On-Street Cycle Parking and Public Bike Parking update

- Proposes to retain external management rather than bringing it in-house. Existing contract ends soon so will be re-tendered
- Existing hangar usage is extremely high (97% of spaces) and very long waiting list
- 218 hangars now in place; 380 by end 2025 (TRO needed)
- One cargobike hangar in use (Portobello); 2 more planned
- Further rollouts beyond the 380 depend on funding, but Scot Govt cash currently very unclear
- 84 more standard Sheffield racks expected in 24/25, plus 62 at schools.
- Bike parking [map](#).

8.1 Road Safety - School Travel Plan Review

- New process recommended, to speed up school travel audits and resulting measures (physical and educational)
- Section 6 lists funding sources and uncertainties
- Appendix 1 lists all schools (137) and the current status of travel plan at each

8.2 Citywide Road Coordination - Revised Charging Structure

- Charges & procedures for skips & other 'occupation' of roadspace

8.3 Dell Road to Colinton Dell Access Path

- [Not sure if relevant to us – seems a very minor path, walk only?]
- Bad landslip and proposed solutions

9.1 Motion by Councillor Aston - Improving Signalised Crossings

- To improve pedestrian crossing timescales
- Call to continue installing ped crossings
- [*No mention of checking each for toucan opportunities*].

9.2 Motion by Councillor McKenzie - Save The Burnside

- This is the path from Longstone Rd to Stenhouse Mill Lane (and so to Gorgie Rd) – right of way for 150 years.
- There is a path diversion, due to a sinkhole . The motion seeks path improvement, widening, resurfacing & ongoing maintenance – *not sure if this refers to the original path or the diversion?*
- [*? Useful cycling connection? If so, should we ask to rewording to ensure the improvements will be suitable for a shared-use path?*]

9.3 Motion by Councillor Booth - Speeding Parking Controls Roll-out

- Motion points out that with pausing WPL and great uncertainty around congestion charging, parking is the only demand-management tool left to the Council [NB – Cllr Arthur had said that removal of city-centre through traffic was another DM tool – see [tweet](#) at 2.21pm here – but this measure seems to have been postponed indefinitely too].
- Therefore urges speeding up and improvements to the parking controls process & roll-out.
- [*Note relevance to above 6.1 Business Bulletin items p8 & p9*].