

## Leeds Emergency Active Travel Group, Zoom meeting 24 June 2020

### Attendees:

- Cllr Lisa Mulherin - Executive Member for Climate Change, Transport and Sustainable Development, Leeds City Council
- Cllr Peter Carlill - Lead Member for Active Travel and Sustainable Transport, Leeds City Council
- Paul Foster - Transport Strategy Manager, Leeds City Council
- Paul Chatterton - University of Leeds / Our Future Leeds
- Ruth Gelletlie - Leeds Clean Air Alliance
- Margo Hanson - University of Leeds
- Rob Greenland - Social Business Brokers
- Martin Stanley - Leeds Cycling Campaign
- David Milner - Create Streets
- Shannon Jackson - Leeds Youth Strike for Climate
- Anzir Boodoo - Our Future Leeds, Leeds Disabled People's Organisation
- Tina Shield – DecarboN8

### Website, Remit and Notes

- University of Leeds will host website that will be created to hold notes from these meetings for public viewing.
- Cllr Mulherin agreed to review remit and notes for accuracy before they are published on the website
- Correction for notes: Last point on Q&A contains a reference to A65 that should be A660, Anzir Boodoo's organisation should be recorded as Leeds Disabled People's Organisation
- Change to wording of Remit: to be a "critical friend" (instead of voice), feeding in and feeding back
- **Action Paul:** Send around the remit as a google doc for collective editing by members of the group

### Update from Rob Greenland's cycling campaign

- Getting support from behaviour change agency, Magpie
- Market may be saturated with positive cycling messages so they are shifting the focus of their campaign to 15 minute neighbourhoods
- Should have some images to share soon
- Can the 15 minute neighbourhoods around Leeds be mapped out?
- The 15 minute neighbourhood idea ties in well with a recent presentation from Autonomy at a Leeds Tidal event about universal basic income and universal basic services
- What local pushback might we get from those living near arterial routes?
- How do we ensure that residents of neighbourhoods with few shops and services don't feel excluded by this messaging?
- Is Leeds drawing up a new local plan? Could the idea of 15 minute neighbourhoods be included in the plan?

- Development Plans Panel meeting to look at drawing up new local plan should have been in March but was postponed due to lockdown - now happening in July. Should be publicly viewable on Public i. Yes, public will be consulted. This is standard practice for LCC.

## **Update on Phase 1 Measures**

### **Temporary pavement widening**

- There is a question as to whether these measures are still needed now that social distancing restrictions have been reduced to 1 meter—Leeds City Council have decided to continue with the roll out for public health reasons despite the easing of restrictions
- What is exit strategy from pavements widened with temporary barriers?
  - Something that has worked well in other places is to replace temporary barriers with planters and/or quick cheap parklets
- Gaps in barriers can improve walkability. There is permeability at crossings but too many breaks/short segments makes the barriers too easy to move—balance is necessary
- It would be good to look at them on a map—look at the overall picture and where planters and parklets would help
- We are Possible: Has funding for trial in Leeds for planter filters
- Getting some pushback from shop owners worried about parking in front of their shop being taken including highways staff being threatened while putting the barriers in place
- Cars parking on pavement when parking spaces are blocked off by barriers
- People are moving the barriers
- Consultation was limited due to having to move quickly on emergency measures in the pandemic

### **School Streets**

- School streets signs have gone up, police are monitoring and training at the moment—still looking for long term solution for enforcement—cameras, volunteers, school staff?
- Need more messaging around this campaign to help manage expectations
- Next round will be implemented in Autumn and is expected to be a more extensive test as schools should be running at full capacity
- Someone Ruth has been in contact with is contacting communities about helping promote school streets projects
- Evaluation: Data on Data Mill North about how people travel to school could help with evaluation
- Push back on changes like these often dissipates within a 4-6 week period. Local residents need to be supported through the process of change and benefits

### **A65 Segregated Cycle Lanes**

- Work has begun on segregated cycle lane on A65. They are working to get spacing of wands right to allow permeability for walking and cycling while discouraging unauthorised loading
- How will cycle lanes be cleaned if debris gets caught?
  - Special sweepers used on superhighway should work for this
- Do they make the cycle lane too narrow? Are they wide enough for people on alternative bikes (recumbent bikes, trikes, bike trailers)
  - Barriers effectively narrow the cycle lanes if they are put right on the line as cars don't drive right there.
  - Target is to have 2m cycle lanes but they have gone with 1.5m where this is not possible

- It has been reported that hand bikes and trikes don't fit within a 1.5m lane. Excluding these types of bikes would be a violation of disabilities act. Cllr Peter Carlill to seek further guidance on dimensions of accessible and adapted bikes and cargo bikes to check the requirements.
- Will it be possible to get different kind of bike users to trial the new lanes and feedback before they start on another route? Cllr Peter Carlill says they are very happy to do this, either through existing contacts or any suggestions from the group and will move temporary barriers if needed.
- **Action: Paul F** For next meeting bring draft plans for difficult routes (most likely Roseville Rd and A660 drafts)
- Wands and orcas are recyclable once curbs go into one area temporary measures can be put into another area
- Commonplace site still open to suggesting schemes and also evaluating what has been put in.
  - Form is difficult to use which may mean that fewer people are engaging with it because they cannot figure out how to use it, needs more communication to help people understand form or make feeding back easier.
  - Hoping comments will pick up once interventions are in. There is a plan to include scheme drawings soon.
  - Could signs be put up near intervention sites providing a simple way to feedback such as a phone number or email to contact?

### Q&A and Suggestions

- Did Leeds submit anything for the recently announced additional pot of funding – *Transforming Travel WYCA*?
  - LCC has a number of shovel ready schemes like Scott Hall road corridor that were submitted for recently announced pot of funding
- Is there a “sound bitey” headline or infographic that we can promote?
- How do these changes get reflected in route planners like google?
  - As quickly as people get annoyed and put comments in sat nav.
  - How can we be proactive about this so that people don't get stuck and complain?
- How can we create an evaluation framework and link these measures to what we're trying to accomplish as a city?
  - David is working on a framework for data collection.
  - **Action: David M** Send grid to the Council representatives in this group to see how it could be used as a part of a systematic approach to evaluate what's been proposed and how its working.
- Institutions, businesses and civic organisations need to do more to support active travel through route planning etc but also support on site (bike parking etc)
- How will BAME community be engaged in this process?
  - Cllr Carlill is starting to take this up with Public Health colleagues—discussing engagement with community groups in areas like Chapeltown, and Beeston with large BAME populations.
  - Organisations such as Racial Justice Network can be engaged and invited to feedback on schemes.

### Next Meeting

- Date for next meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> July 9:30-10:45
- **Action: Lisa, Peter, Paul C and Paul F** to develop agenda
- Paul setting up a space on MS Teams for discussion between meetings

- Group chat and document sharing on MS Teams cannot be fully accessed by the Council so this may not be helpful, although they are able to attend meetings on Teams