

Public Statement

Van DuBose
25 January 2017

Thank you, Chair.

I am Van DuBose and I live in Bath. The Cabinet will know that I serve as a member of the Bath Transport Commission and lead a civic initiative known as the *Bath Alliance for Transport and Public Realm*. I would like to make clear that my statement is in a private capacity and is not on behalf of either of those bodies.

Acute transport dysfunction has long prevented Bath from realising its potential as one of the 'great small cities'. The transport issues that I call **The Bath Problems** can be distilled to three:

1. Extreme congestion and unhealthy air pollution
2. Degraded public realm that restricts pedestrian movement and enjoyment of public spaces
3. Car-dependent mobility with limited scope for the alternatives of walking, cycling and public transport

Our existing transport policy framework is a good one. All of its components have been approved by the Council, it has been in place for years and it lays out a coherent set of policies that would address **The Bath Problems**. The transport project before you tonight is consistent with the policy framework and is one of several important initiatives that can work collectively over time to resolve **The Bath Problems**. I urge you to approve the Eastern Park & Ride as proposed.

So, let us all learn our lessons and move on. It is important to get this decision behind us to avoid further costly delays. It also allows the Cabinet and council officers to focus on developing and securing public approval of a broader, long term Bath Transport Plan, a plan to deliver specific initiatives in all the essential categories, which include:

- A comprehensive Parking plan (that includes the role of Park & Ride)
- A new Traffic Management plan
- The Public Realm And Movement Strategy
- A Walking and Cycling plan
- A plan for Public Transport, and
- A Commercial Vehicles plan

Let us all be aware that a small minority of us stakeholders will feel disadvantaged by almost every project within the Bath Transport Plan. But we all have a shared civic duty to support the overall plan if we are convinced that, as a package, it addresses **The Bath Problems**, because the Prize is great for the city and all its stakeholders. Let's go for the Big Prize.

Thank you very much.