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To Dunedin City Council

Please find attached DPA’s submission on Princes Street Parking Changes

For any further inquiries, please contact:

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# Introducing Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

**We work on systemic change for the equity of disabled people**

Disabled Persons Assembly NZ (DPA) is a not-for-profit pan-impairment Disabled People’s Organisation run by and for disabled people.

**We recognise:**

* Māori as Tangata Whenua and [Te Tiriti o Waitangi](https://www.archives.govt.nz/discover-our-stories/the-treaty-of-waitangi) as the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand;
* disabled people as experts on their own lives;
* the [Social Model of Disability](https://www.odi.govt.nz/guidance-and-resources/guidance-for-policy-makes/) as the guiding principle for interpreting disability and impairment;
* the [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html) as the basis for disabled people’s relationship with the State;
* the [New Zealand Disability Strategy](https://www.odi.govt.nz/nz-disability-strategy/) as Government agencies’ guide on disability issues; and
* the [Enabling Good Lives Principles](https://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/about-egl/egl-approach/principles/), [Whāia Te Ao Mārama: Māori Disability Action Plan](https://www.health.govt.nz/publication/whaia-te-ao-marama-2018-2022-maori-disability-action-plan), and [Faiva Ora: National Pasifika Disability Disability Plan](https://www.moh.govt.nz/notebook/nbbooks.nsf/0/5E544A3A23BEAECDCC2580FE007F7518/%24file/faiva-ora-2016-2021-national-pasifika-disability-plan-feb17.pdf) as avenues to disabled people gaining greater choice and control over their lives and supports.

**We drive systemic change through:**

* **Leadership:** reflecting the collective voice of disabled people, locally, nationally and internationally.
* **Information and advice:** informing and advising on policies impacting on the lives of disabled people.
* **Advocacy:** supporting disabled people to have a voice, including a collective voice, in society.
* **Monitoring:** monitoring and giving feedback on existing laws, policies and practices about and relevant to disabled people.

# The Submission

DPA welcomes the opportunity to briefly comment on the Princes Street parking changes. We support the principles behind the changes which are designed to enable more buses and pedestrians to use the lower part of the street as the New Dunedin Hospital build progresses. We understand that greater use of public transport in this area of Central Dunedin will help ease pressure on traffic flows during the hospital’s construction over the next six years.

DPA welcomes the creation of new mobility parking spaces on nearby Bond Street as this will be both flatter and wider for disabled people to both park and access the CBD from.

DPA also welcomes the addition of a new mobility park on the lower part of Princes Street at the Stafford Street and Carroll Street ends of Princes Street.

DPA recommends that to ensure level, step-free access from street to coach for all bus users (including disabled people) that the ‘mill and fill’ process is used where the road crown is gradually raised higher so that when buses pull into any kerb/stop, they can be on a lean.

DPA recommends that DPA be involved in any further discussions around this project along with the Access for All and DCC Disability Issues Advisory Group.

# DPA’s Recommendations

**Recommendation 1:** to ensure level, step-free access from street to coach for all bus users (including disabled people) that the ‘mill and fill’ process is used where the road crown is gradually raised higher so that when buses pull into any kerb/stop, they can be on a lean.

**Recommendation 2:** that DPA be involved in any further discussions around this project along with the Access for All and DCC Disability Issues Advisory Group.