



Media Release

Friday 6 November 2015

Lincoln Town Centre Plan consultation now open

Consultation on the Lincoln Town Centre Plan is now open.

The document provides a framework to guide future development and Council investment. It plan is designed to help support the town centre to remain a lively and prosperous business area as Lincoln grows and develops.

“The draft plan outlines many opportunities to coordinate the town center’s development; it also aims to ensure that future development is of a high quality, while retaining Lincoln’s special village atmosphere,” says Selwyn District Council Urban Designer/ Planner Gabi Wolfer. “It includes projects to make the town centre more attractive for residents and visitors and to encourage walking and cycling in and to Lincoln,” she says.

The Lincoln Town Centre Plan has been designed around five key themes:

- Promoting ‘active commercial frontage’, with buildings placed to the edge of the footpath and glass doors and windows facing the street, with car parks placed to the side or behind shops. This design helps to create a lively and interesting street scene for shoppers and visitors
- Developing public spaces and squares with attractive landscaping which can be used for markets, events and relaxation
- Ensuring the town centre design provides safe cycling and walking connections, while allowing traffic to move through the township
- Providing and managing car parking in the town centre
- Designing streets that are suited to their purpose.

Key projects proposed in the draft plan include developing a pedestrian ‘plaza’ on Gerald Street with paving, seating and landscaping as part of developing public spaces people to attract people to the town centre.

Separated cycle lanes are proposed as a ‘transformational’ key element along Gerald Street. A series of upgrades are also planned to Gerald Street, Lincoln’s main street. Traffic lights are proposed for the corner of Springs and Gerald Streets, West Belt and Gerald Street and the intersection of James, Edward and Gerald Streets. These will help cater for an expected increase in traffic volumes and improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians along and across Gerald Street. Other improvements include the undergrounding of overhead cables along Gerald Street and new street lighting. A focus of the upgrade will include providing amenity features like more expansive footpath areas in places, along with seats and landscaping to enhance the new streetscapes.

Other ideas included in the draft plan are to develop a wayfinder which directs pedestrians to key attractions in Lincoln and improved connections to the Rail Trail and other new cycle ways in the area.

New public spaces behind and beside Lincoln Library have already been developed by the Council and are starting to be used for public events such as markets.

Community forums are being held this month where residents can share their views on what they think the priorities are for Lincoln town centre. These forums are on:

- Monday 16 November (7–8.30pm, Lincoln Events Centre)
- Saturday 21 November (2–3.30pm, Lincoln Events Centre)

The Draft Lincoln Town Centre Plan and submission forms are available online at www.selwyn.govt.nz/lincolntcplan, from Lincoln Library and the Council's Rolleston Headquarters. Consultation closes at 5pm on **Monday 30 November** 2015.

Ends

Image attached: *an artist's impression (with and without explanatory labels) of how Gerald Street near the Hillyer's site in Lincoln could be developed in the future.*

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