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To Dunedin City Council

Please find attached DPA’s submission on Albany Street Improvements

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.

**United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

DPA was influential in creating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD),1 a foundational document for disabled people which New Zealand has signed and ratified, confirming that disabled people must have the same human rights as everyone else. All state bodies in New Zealand, including local and regional government, have a responsibility to uphold the principles and articles of this convention. There are a number of UNCRPD articles particularly relevant to this submission, including:

* **Article 9: Accessibility**

**New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026**

Since ratifying the UNCRPD, the New Zealand Government has established a Disability Strategy2 to guide the work of government agencies on disability issues. The vision is that New Zealand be a non-disabling society, where disabled people have equal opportunity to achieve their goals and aspirations, and that all of New Zealand works together to make this happen. It identifies eight outcome areas contributing to achieving this vision. There are a number of Strategy outcomes particularly relevant to this submission, including:

* **Outcome 5 – Accessibility**

# The Submission

DPA welcomes this opportunity to engage on the Albany Street improvements changes being proposed by the Dunedin City Council.

DPA generally welcomes the proposed changes. However, we would like to make several recommendations to help refine them.

**Need for more pedestrian crossings**

DPA would like to point out the issues which stem from the roundabout on the corner of Clyde and Albany Streets.

While the roundabout is a very useful conduit for traffic, the area can be hazardous given that it is an area also highly utilised by cyclists and pedestrians alike. An example of this is when our Dunedin Kaituitui travelled to and from Forsyth Barr Stadium at night, he witnessed the high level of vehicle traffic at the roundabout, something which prevented both him and other pedestrians from making timely crossings.

That is why we would recommend the placement of accessible pedestrian crossings either just before or after the intersection of Clyde and Albany to ameliorate this problem.

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| **Recommendation 1:** that a new pedestrian crossing or crossings be placed either before or after the intersection of Clyde and Albany Streets. |

**Mobile trading spaces**

DPA supports the creation of trading spaces along this stretch of Albany Street so that mobile traders can park to sell food or other products.

DPA recommends that the proposed mobile trading spaces provide sufficient, safe space for traffic to navigate around and for pedestrians (including disabled people using wheelchairs or mobility aids, assistance/service dogs, or canes) enough clear space from which to safely engage with mobile traders.

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| **Recommendation 2:** that the proposed mobile trading spaces have sufficient, safe space for pedestrians, including disabled people. |