March 2022

To Christchurch City Council please find below our submission for London Streets and Oxford Streets Pedestrian and Safety Improvements

## Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

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# Introducing Disabled Persons Assembly NZ

The Disabled Persons Assembly NZ (DPA) is a pan-disability disabled person’s organisation that works to realise an equitable society, where all disabled people (of all impairment types and including women, Māori, Pasifika, young people) are able to direct their own lives. DPA works to improve social indicators for disabled people and for disabled people to be recognised as valued members of society. DPA and its members work with the wider disability community, other DPOs, government agencies, service providers, international disability organisations, and the public by:

* telling our stories and identifying systemic barriers
* developing and advocating for solutions
* celebrating innovation and good practice

# The submission

DPA welcomes the opportunity to submit on the London Street and Oxford Street Pedestrian and Safety Improvements. To ensure all pedestrians, disabled people, blind low vision have a safe experience when crossing Lyttleton’s main streets.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)

The UNCRPD Articles most relevant to our submission are:

* Article 4.3 Involving disabled people and our organisations in decisions that affect us
* Article 5: Equality and non-discrimination
* Article 9: Accessibility
* Article 19: Living independently and being included in the community
* Article 20: Personal mobility

The New Zealand Government policies and strategies which are relevant to this submission are as follows:

New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026:

* Outcome 5: Accessibility

# DPA’s recommendations

**Recommendation 1:** DPA recommends that tactile strips are in place at crossings to ensure blind low vision are able to detect when they are leaving the sidewalk and entering onto the street.

**Recommendation 2:** DPA recommends kerb cut downs are compliant with rules. All footpaths must have a flat area at the top of kerb cut to ensure it is safe for any person using a mobility device, e.g., wheelchair, mobility scooter, children’s stroller, and the risk of tipping over onto the road or footpath is minimised.

**Recommendation 3:** DPA recommends that, in line with Article 4.3 of the UNCRPD [see above], that the CCC involve disabled people and our organisations, which include ourselves, in a co-design process around the development of this site.

# Conclusion

DPA Christchurch would like to be involved in further discussions around the London Street and Oxford Street Pedestrian and Safety Improvements, if required. We believe that everything should be done to ensure accessibility for everyone, including the disabled communities who live and visit Lyttelton. Our Christchurch Kaituitui and/or Regional Policy Advisor is available for this purpose and can be contacted [please see details on the front cover].