

City Centre redesign to go on display next week

The council has been running a consultation on the [George Street and New Town](#) public realm redesign.

Now you can have a look at the concept design with at a series of drop in events next week.

Visit the City Art Centre on 8,9 and 10 November to see what the council proposes. You will also be asked for your feedback to help decide on the final plans.

This is a major part of the City Centre Transformation project and will lead to a street environment which the council hope will be safer for all users and which will prioritise active travel and accessibility.



In 2014 the council flirted with pavilions on George

Street, but this was not deemed a success.

The council is supported by Sustrans and builds on design principles adopted last year after a pilot project run in George Street to provide more space for those on foot or bike. The project will cover George Street, Castle Street, Frederick Street and Hanover Street.

Council officers and the project's design team will be available to answer questions. The sessions will be held on the 5th Floor, City Art Centre, Market Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1DE

- Thursday 8 November 2pm to 7pm
- Friday 9 November 11am to 5pm
- Saturday 10 November 10am to 4pm

The design objectives include creating a world class place that respects and enhances the World Heritage Site, that enhances public and pedestrian space creating a safe vibrant space for all, prioritises active travel and access for those with disability, with public parking on George Street seen as the lowest priority, developing an adaptable street design in particular enabling use for appropriate events and enhancing the First New Town as a place where businesses thrive.

Transport and Environment Convener, Councillor Lesley Macinnes, said: "The City of Edinburgh Council is committed to creating a vibrant and people-focussed capital city centre through its City Centre Transformation Project, to improve community, economic and cultural life. Hearing the views of everyone is key to achieving a high-quality design and operation for the First New Town, and to achieving our aims for the future of the city centre. This draft concept design is an exciting step forward for the project.

"Members of the project team will be on hand at the drop-in sessions and we are keen to involve as many people as possible to ensure that we represent the needs and views of citizens, community groups and stakeholders in the design process."

Transport and Environment Vice Convener, Councillor Karen

Doran, said: "This exciting project brings together ideas and aspirations for the area, following in-depth engagement with a wide range of stakeholders including community and specialist interest groups as part of the design development process. It is also exciting to see plans for one of the projects aligned to the City Centre Transformation being developed."

The drop-in sessions will be held on the fifth floor of the City Art Centre, Market Street, and will run from 2pm to 7pm on Thursday, November 8, between 11am and 5pm on Friday, November 9, and from 10am to 4pm on Saturday, November 10.

The events follow on from drop-in sessions held earlier this year and at the end of last year when members of the public were offered the chance to help refine the project's design objectives.

The project's design team includes WYG Environment Planning Transport Ltd and urban design experts LDA Design, who were commissioned by the Council to develop this design project.

The council has already said that it hopes to link this project with others such as the City Centre East West Cycle Link, the development of the new cycle route from Roseburn Path to Leith Walk through the city centre and also Picardy Place which is not yet finished.