



# Proposed Local Development Plan for Glasgow

## Transform Scotland consultation response

Tuesday 24 June 2014

### 1. About Transform Scotland

- 1.1. Transform Scotland is the national alliance for sustainable transport. We campaign for a transport system which encourages people to travel by walking, cycling, public transport, freight transport by rail and water, and discourages excessive use of private cars and road freight.

### 2. Comments

- 2.1. Transform Scotland generally welcomes the tone of the new proposed City Development Plan, and is particularly pleased to see that a key aim of the plan is to maintain a compact urban form to support sustainable development. We are also pleased to note the commitments at page 22 to “Repair or replace walking and cycling connections that have been lost through vehicular dominated design; promote town centres as the focus for public transport networks; minimise the impact of strategic road infrastructure on local movement; and reduce non-essential car journeys by restricting parking and designing roads and streets that are pedestrian and cycle friendly.”
- 2.2. However, we have significant concerns regarding some details of the plan:
  - The detailed transport proposals are all for roads with the exception of Fastlink and Robroyston station. We question why cycling and walking links, and wider public transport improvements are not included in these detailed plans;
  - Road networks are planned while pedestrian and cycle links are aspirational;
  - Car free developments are to be on ‘suitable sites’ rather than the encouraged norm at least within the inner city area.
- 2.3. Moreover, maps reveal little detail as to how the commitments on page 22 are to be achieved.
- 2.4. It is a further concern that two of the safeguarded former rail routes are planned to be converted into ‘relief’ roads: if such roads are to offer relief from through and heavy traffic in residential areas, plans must be in place to ‘lock in’ the diversion of traffic rather than simply provide an increase in capacity.
- 2.5. Transform Scotland would like to see the plan contain a clear strategy for improving active travel and public transport links across the city, both in terms of strategic routes and small scale, local improvements, many of which could be achieved at low cost and with little disruption. Given Glasgow City Council’s historic — and even recent — enthusiasm for new roads, we worry that the lack of such a strategy is telling of the city council’s priorities.

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Transform Scotland is the national sustainable transport alliance, campaigning for a more sustainable and socially-just transport system. Our membership includes bus, rail and shipping operators; local authorities; national environment and conservation groups; consultancies; and local transport campaigns. Transform Scotland Limited is a registered Scottish charity (SC041516).

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