

# Urban Access Dunedin Incorporated

Urban Access Dunedin is an incorporated Society established in 2020 to engage with local authorities to ensure access within Dunedin City works for all users. Our mission statement is:

“Through a commitment to engage with local authorities, we will work with and provide representation on behalf of the public to ensure transportation decisions do not unnecessarily hinder access within our city”.

The prime objectives of the society are to:

- Ensure the elimination of unnecessary barriers to mobility within the city
- Support all road users to ensure ease of access within the unique inner-city design
- Recognize the value which tourists add to the city
- Ensure public transport aligns with the needs of all users
- Ensure the city’s unique retail structure is retained
- Ensure enough public parking is provided to support the city’s retailers and businesses

The group’s prime purpose is one of engagement as we have considerable experience on issues relating to motoring, with three former and two current NZAA district councillors, retailers, professional practitioners, highway project management, tourist business owners, economics experts. This does not mean we are pro-car, but we are not anti-car either.

One of our main concerns is the lack of a long-term vision of what the city should look like in the future. If the city adopted a plan to build for the future, ‘Vision 2050’ for example, then all aspects of Dunedin’s transport and mobility planning over the next 30 years should be aligned to this vision. Projects such as the George Street upgrade, the new Dunedin Public Hospital redevelopment and the review of State Highway 1 should all be part of this wider objective and not simply isolated projects on their own. It would therefore be essential that all future redevelopment projects align with this vision. Such a vision would need to identify future population projections, transport needs, retail trends and tourist opportunities so the city council can build for the future rather than react solely to current needs or demands. Climate change will be a factor to consider but not the sole driver.

Urban Access Dunedin plans to carry out public surveys on parking and public transport to provide an independent view and to identify issues of concern. There is no ideology involved in this, just a desire to obtain the view of the public. Some of our members have worked with the council on earlier advisory groups with our chairman having worked well with DCC staff before.

Alan Race  
Chairman  
**Urban Access Dunedin Incorporated**