

NOTICE OF MOTION**VALLEY GARDENS PHASE 3****CONSERVATIVE GROUP**

This Council:

1. Notes that the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee will consider the Valley Gardens Phase 3 project at its Special meeting on 7th February 2019; and
2. Requests that the Committee;
 - (i) Urgently revisits the Valley Gardens Phase 3 proposal with a view to providing a revised scheme that retains the aquarium roundabout, maintains entry and exit from Madeira Drive onto the roundabout and separates general traffic on the East side of The Old Steine and public transport on the West side.
 - (ii) Explores the use of surplus Capital funds made available by 2(i) above to create improved cycling and pedestrian connectivity between the wider Valley Gardens area and the seafront without the need to channel all modes of movement through the aquarium roundabout junction.
 - (iii) Pauses work on preferred option 1 and bring the proposals in 2(i) and 2(ii) to a special meeting of Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee at the earliest opportunity but in any event, no later than the end of March 2019.

Proposed by: Cllr Wares

Seconded by: Cllr Miller

Supporting Information:

As opposed to Valley Gardens phase 3 being a project to regenerate The Old Steine it has now become a social engineering project designed deliberately to deter residents from using motor vehicles and force them onto public transport. The present scheme proposes significant delays to vehicle journeys along the A259 (Business Case estimates £17m cost to the economy) and takes little regard of the negative economic impact on tourism and businesses as articulated by many in the tourist industry and other stakeholders as well as the flight of revenue from the City by residents choosing to drive to neighbouring towns.

A "T" junction forces taxis and visitor coaches to make long round trips via Dukes Mound to the detriment of operating costs and increases passenger costs and time. Additionally, bus movements become more cumbersome and make bus passenger journeys more difficult.

No future proofing or accommodation of major developments for example such as the Water Front, mass people movement/ transportation, Madeira Terrace have been taken into account. No consideration given to the A259 having been included on the Major Road Network.

The proposed project has a short fall in funding with circa £600k now required from the private sector for which no certainty exists. There are no plans or funding for dealing with "knock-on" impacts such as egress from Dukes Mound.

Significant opposition has been expressed by a wide range of interested parties of which no account has been taken to deal with the concerns since the present scheme was conceived prior to the first public consultation.

