

A DIFFERENT WORLD. ADMIN. IT. EASY.

West End Association

10 Stafford Street Edinburgh EH1 7AU

28/01/10

Richard Jeffrey

TIE Ltd
City Point
65 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5HD

Track Laying Work Schedule in the West End & Haymarket – Part Two

Dear Richard

Ian Elder (House Of Fraser) and I met with Mandy and Gordon on Tuesday 26th to discuss the planned track laying work in the West End. I wish to draw your attention to some points of significant arising from the meeting:

- The suggestion that utility work will commence in West Maitland St/Coates Crescent on 20th February cannot take place on that date as it would appear that notice has not been issued for this work site
- The suggestion that this utility work will commence in West Maitland St/Coates Crescent in late February until early April is of major concern to us. The traffic management scheme and relocation of bus stops will have a significant impact on how the general public will access the West End and the wider City Centre.

As there is no current date for the commencement of track laying, we are deeply concerned that we will see the kind of stop/start approach to the works and associated traffic management that is severely debilitating for business.

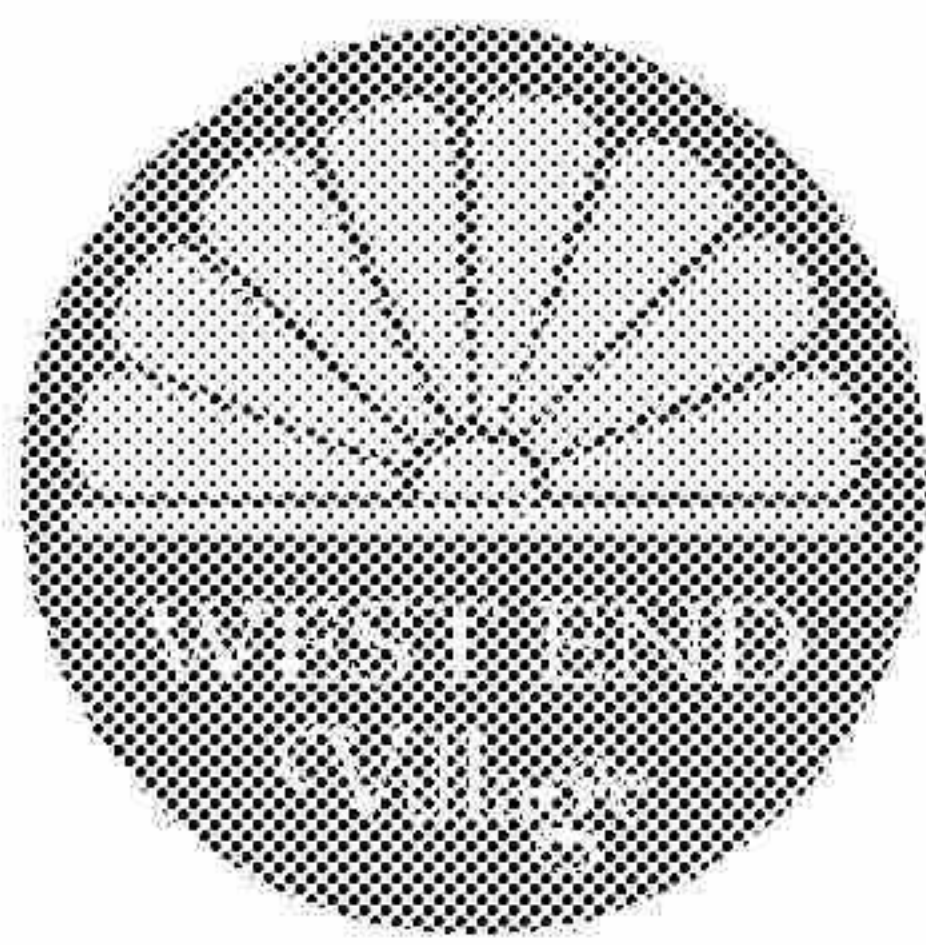
We fully understand that this work has to take place prior to the track work. However, we feel very strongly that this utility work should be delayed until an agreement has been reached for the track laying work to commence.

The utility work could and should take place during a contiguous time period with the preparation and commencement of the track laying work.

We cannot accept a situation were the traffic management system remains in place around a work site that is not operational. This issue was one of the major concerns that we raised in the letter the West End Association sent to you December.

/continued

CEC00588850_0001



A DIFFERENT WORLD IS A MINUTE AWAY.

West End Association

10 Stafford Street Edinburgh EH1 7AU

Additionally, Gordon Christie presented us with the proposals for traffic management during the track laying work. We have some issues;

- Private vehicles travelling from West to East will have to turn left at Magdala Crescent by Donaldson's School, and cannot effect a right turn to get to the south side of the city centre until they get to Hanover Street, and then cross Princes Street to The Mound.
- A right turn must be instituted at North Charlotte Street or similar - as an absolute minimum - to ensure that local traffic for residents, businesses and visitors can sensibly access the West End and indeed the whole south side of the city centre,

Effectively there is no route to the south side of the city between Russell Road and The Mound! If a retailer can point out such an oversight within five minutes of seeing the map, then frankly it raises serious questions about the calibre of traffic planning that is being employed on this project. I do not doubt further investigation will unearth further issues, and this experience runs contrary to the assurances that we received in the letter dated 18th January.

We are already suffering the consequences of the extensive delay to the work schedule and the ongoing uncertainty around this phase of the project. The cost to business has already been immense, and the continual delays and uncertainty make planning for 2010 and beyond extremely difficult.

We believe that TIE need to rethink their timescale and approach, and consider delaying the West End and Haymarket work until 2011 to allow proper planning, in all aspects, for all of the involved parties.

I think it would be very helpful to meet with you and your project team at the earliest convenience to address these concerns.

Best Regards

Michael

Michael Apter

Chair