**From the hearts and souls of the Community to Action and influencing good practices**

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| Gerri and Judy have worked together from opposite sides of the divide to improve public transport and pedestrian access in and around Hamilton City.In 2006, the Human Rights Commission released a document on "Accessible Journeys". Gerri had already begun her networking with the disability community and Council in the early 2000s. Judy's role as Disability Advisor was established in 2014 because of community partnership with Council to develop an action plan that would improve equity of access for disabled people in Hamilton. Accessibility, inclusion and participation are drivers for the Action Plan and go wider than transport. Transport links together the mobilisation of the disability community and participation in civic life.This presentation focuses on Gerri's community work and early engagement with Council, the changes needed as the complexity of transport becomes more apparent, and some initiatives that happened along the way. Judy will focus on how an Action Plan and Policy will underpin changes, influence pedestrian outcomes and touch on how Council has worked with the community and Regional Council to develop technology solutions and social initiatives improving access for disabled people to Hamilton city - the introduction of bus concessions allowing free bus travel in this region. They both agree being around the table, representing a group who has a variety of mobility needs as pedestrians, drivers and cyclists is critical to having a multifaceted inclusive environment where people are working together not competing for their own interests. |