

The London Plan

Your worship, city council, and city staff, thank you for all the hard work you have done through this process. To John Fleming and his team, thank you for taking the time to engage so many Londoners including students and the USC for feedback throughout the ReThink London Process. Your dedication to ensure the future generation had a voice in the London Plan did not go unnoticed. Thank you to city council for the hard work they must now do to make this plan a reality.

This plan is a vision for the London of 2035, not the London of today. Yes students are living in the city of today, but when this plan is finished and the students of today will be approximately 45 years old we will be the ones living the realities in the London Plan.

We deserve a say on our future in this city, and how the London Plan impacts that future.

We thank you for providing us this opportunity to provide feedback on this plan, and our future.

Overall we love this plan. The London of 2035 as seen in this place is the city I and people my age want to live, work and play in.

I am here to talk to you about 3 parts of the London plan and they are a Transit Focused city, culturally rich and diverse city, and Neighbourhoods.

The stats are in, and our generation are not buying cars at the pace our parents' generation did, Forty-six per cent of drivers aged 18 to 24 said they would choose Internet access over owning a car, according to the research firm Gartner. Furthermore, with the average student leaving school with \$24000 in debt it is just not affordable to own a car early in life. These two factors make alternative modes of transportation very important to a city of the future. Students are looking for better public transit options, including rapid transit. We are looking to walk or ride to our local library, pub, or grocery store. We dislike the idea of getting in our car for a 2 minute drive when we could just walk the 5 minutes it takes to get there. The way this plan has embraced rapid transit, and alternative modes of transit give us hope the car focused city we have today could change, and we support that change whole heartedly.

A culturally rich and diverse is important to students, as we are learners constantly looking to broaden our horizons. We have come to the university to explore the world around us and the people that make it up. A city that creates an interesting vibe that focuses on high quality cultural activities, well planned open spaces that can be used for events, and festivals is exactly the place we are looking to hangout. Students want this type of city because it creates the ecosystem where vibrant, and engaging people can collaborate to create small businesses that drive our economy. This plan focuses on the cultural aspects of our city, and that is very important to students.

Contrary to what some people might think students want to live in vibrant, and exciting places that help us connect with other community members. We want our city to have attractive streetscapes, buildings and public spaces that will draw us into the interesting parts of our town, and off Richmond Row. Students also value having employment opportunities close to where we live and they want their living arrangement to be selected from a diversity of living options that are affordable. The inclusion of neighbourhoods and exciting places at the core of the London Plan is exactly what students are looking for from the vision of our city.

Finally, the status quo is not good enough, this city needs to embrace the future and move in the direction of other cities like K-W that are planning for the best future possible. Students like the vision for London 2035, and fully endorse the London Plan, as it embraces our need for proper transit options, creates a culturally diverse city and puts a value on high quality neighbourhoods.

