

GIA blueprint goes on show

THREE years ago Hackney Council paid for an issue of De Beaver to give residents their first chance to vote on the outline for a radical General Improvement Area plan for De Beauvoir. Next week the final blueprint goes on display and the council have again paid for a special Beaver. This time it's your last chance to comment on the proposals.

LOOK - THEN DECIDE

DO YOU WANT the plan, or don't you? A lot of people have worked hard to improve De Beauvoir's environment so don't dismiss the whole package just because the road closures may have soured your vision.

Perhaps the lorries have been thundering down your road instead of 'theirs', but come to the exhibition next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in the crypt of St. Peter's Church (see back page) and look at the complete plan before deciding.

Maybe you are sitting back smugly and basking in the new-found silence of your closed road. It's

still important that you come to the exhibition and voice your opinion.

These are the main features to digest:

Road closures

An emotional issue, so check all the details at the exhibition. The experimental period is over, the council officers have completed their after-study traffic counts and want residents' views and comments before the final closures.

This will mean uprooting the red and white 'Colditz' barriers and replacing them with sitting areas for old people, play spaces for kids, and trees.

The proposals include narrowing both Downham and De Beauvoir roads to reduce their attraction as through routes for commuters and to slow down local traffic.

Accidents

One of the positive effects of the road closures is the reduction of accidents inside and outside the closed areas - notably Downham Road. Before gasping with disbelief, look at the details on display at the exhibition.

Southern area

The central General Improvement Area - where the present closures exist - is to be joined with the original southern GIA. Proposals are being made for extending the environmental improvements throughout the enlarged GIA - that is, from Downham Road to Englefield Road, plus the northern part of Hertford Road. Your views are wanted.

This is YOUR chance

Hackney Council has paid for this special De Beaver to encourage you to have your say about the plan for the central area GIA. The plan is genuinely open change - so take your chances to give your views ideas. The plan is bound to affect you and much good complaining afterwards if you do. We hope parents will take their children get them to write their comments to go along by yourselves, kids!

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number five

ROAD PLAN

People in De Beauvoir get their first chance this month to comment, and vote, on a plan which affects us all. The plan suggests road closures, play areas, a parking scheme and other ideas for the central area General Improvement Area (GIA), but it is very likely to have a big impact throughout De Beauvoir, including the New Town estate. The map below shows the extent of the central area with road closures and play areas.

The plan is on show from Saturday till Wednesday 26, in the crypt of St Peter's Church Rd (for opening hours see back page).

Ufton Rd minipark

The vacant prefab site at the junction of Downham Rd and Ufton Road is proposed as an open space for old and young, including the handicapped residents of Dorleston Court.

It will be arranged so that the quiet areas are always adjacent to houses in Ufton and Downham, with more boisterous activities in a centre away from houses.

The southern end of Ufton Road will be closed to allow the park to extend from east to west. Downham Road will be narrowed at this point to make access easier from the New Town. This area will complement the square facilities

Community centre

Residents want to use the WRVS factory in Ufton Road adjacent to the minipark to provide accommodation for year-round play space/youth activity/hall for meetings, exhibitions, bingo and old people's functions, and a play group for under fives. This will be used in conjunction with the minipark.

Trees

Besides the programme of tree-planting already approved for the central area, it is hoped to extend this within the southern area and along the south side of Downham Road.

Parking

The road-narrowing will help to make the roads safer, but residents will still be able to park their cars outside their homes. Lorry parking in residential areas may be banned.

The future

An unofficial exhibit at the crypt will show how the GIA Residents' Committee envisage the plan developing to include increased restrictions on through traffic.

It puts additional proposals for Downham, De Beauvoir and Hertford roads and Whitmore Bridge.

The committee are certain that progress on these issues will depend on broad public acceptance of the present plan.

The questions

When you go along to the crypt you will be asked to fill in two forms to explain your views. One deals with traffic and road closures and the other with environmental improvements of the southern GIA.

The council are interested in your answers to the following questions:

Road closures

Do you approve of the temporary road closures being replaced with permanent amenity space in conjunction with restrictions to traffic in Downham and De Beauvoir Road?

Would you like to change the road closures? where?

Southern GIA

Would you like to see the improvements constructed?

Are there any changes you would like to propose? If so, what?



DE Beaver

136 SOUTHGATE ROAD N1

is a FREE community newspaper for the people of De Beauvoir - old and new towns. We are sponsored by the De Beauvoir Association, but we're here for everyone, not just association members - so please send us your news, pictures, ideas, criticisms by March 3 for the next issue. Thanks to everyone who has helped get out this issue and deliver it round the area.

Your guide to your town!

<p>TUE 28 JAN</p>	<p>5 till 9</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">PUBLIC EXHIBITION</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">THIS WEEK</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">OPEN TO ALL</h3> <h4 style="margin: 0;">St. PETER'S CRYPT</h4> <p style="margin: 0;">Northchurch Terrace, N1.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">YOUR LAST CHANCE TO GIVE YOUR IDEAS & VIEWS ON A PLAN FOR YOUR AREA WHICH AFFECTS YOU!</p>
<p>WED 29 JAN</p>	<p>3 till 9</p>	
<p>THU 30 JAN</p>	<p>5 till 9</p>	

THIS IS YOUR INVITATION!