

13. CHRISTCHURCH, ROLLESTON AND ENVIRONS TRANSPORT STUDY CONTACT GROUP

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| Officer responsible Director of Policy | Author Stuart Woods, DDI 3711615 |
| Corporate Plan Output: Transport Policy Advice | |

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of a new joint transportation study which has recently begun and will look at an area from north-west of Christchurch through to south-west of Rolleston, south to Lake Ellesmere (see attached figure), as no elected members were able to attend a study briefing held for elected members on 5 March.

This work is required because the latest population, development and economic growth rates, and the predictions for future growth on the roading network are now expected to exceed its capacity.

The partners in this study are Christchurch City Council, Transit New Zealand, Selwyn District Council, Environment Canterbury and Christchurch International Airport Ltd.

The key output of this study is a strategy (including detailing the most appropriate staging) for transportation network improvements that will achieve the best roading network to satisfy the new projected demands over the next 25 years.

This study will be principally focussed on all road types from collector up to motorway and will include the consideration of priorities in relation to public transport and cyclist facilities within the study area. It will also give consideration to the internal Christchurch International Airport roading network layout and its interface with State Highway 1 and the wider city.

- Some of the key options of interest to the City Council that have been identified in the study brief for the work are:
- the potential extension of the Southern Motorway beyond the Halswell Junction Road/Springs Road intersection;
- the potential four laning of State Highway 1 south of Christchurch;
- the potential realignment of McLeans Island Road to Harewood Road and possible associated closure of McLeans Island Road/Johns Road intersection;
- possible improvements of State Highway 75 between Halswell and Tai Tapu;
- the potential bypass of Hornby from Russley Road (south of the Airport) to Main South Road (near Templeton).

It is expected that this study will take until at least mid-2003 to complete. At that point the study report will be presented to the partner's authorities for consideration. Partner authorities will be kept informed and consulted over options during the course of the study.

The consultancy appointed to undertake this study is Connell Wagner, through its Christchurch office.

As a first stage of the study, the consultants will look to consult, identify and review issues in the study area. This will involve consultation with stakeholders and the wider public on the transport issues in the study area. As an initial part of this stage, the consultant met with the elected members for a briefing on 5 March.

Members from the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and the four community boards that are affected by the study area were invited to the briefing. This meeting gave consideration to the possibility of setting up an elected member "contact group" for ongoing interaction with this study. Such a contact group would not substitute for normal reporting processes to elected members.

The purpose of this group will be to provide a forum for discussion with elected members on progress and matters related to this study without unnecessarily delaying the study by having to wait for scheduled board and committee meetings. An undertaking was made to still report on the study approximately bi-monthly, irrespective of the general progress and activity of the contact group.

At the 5 March briefing it was suggested that the contact group be composed of the Land Transport Sub-Committee plus one nominee from the Spreydon/Heathcote and Fendalton/Waimairi Community Boards and two nominees from the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board.

The beginning of the first public consultation period for this study will be in the week of 15 April 2002. A stakeholder meeting will be held at Hornby High School on the evening of 17 April.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the contact group keep the Board informed regarding this study.