

#### 4. BUCHANANS ROAD PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN ISLAND

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The purpose of this report is to request that the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board recommend for construction to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee the proposed pedestrian island in Buchanans Road adjacent to its intersection with Hei Hei Road.

##### Background

The Community Board approved for consultation a concept plan showing a proposed cycle and pedestrian island in Buchanans Road just east of its intersection with Hei Hei Road. Buchanans Road is a minor arterial road carrying an average of 3,000 vehicles per day, Hei Hei Road is a local road carrying an average of 1,900 vehicles per day. Several requests have been received and through the City Councils 'Safe Cycling to School' project identifying a need to provide a crossing facility to help school children as pedestrians and cyclists (mainly from Hornby High School and Hornby Primary School) across Buchanans' Road.

Following the Boards approval of the concept plan for consultation in July seventy-five publicity pamphlets were distributed in the area around the intersection of Buchanans Road and Hei Hei Road. Three written responses have been received. The feedback from the three respondents, and an on site meeting with Riccarton/Wigram Community Board member Mike Mora, relevant to the proposed pedestrian island were:

- It is a great idea.
- I do not think it will slow down the traffic.
- Humps would be better to slow traffic down.
- There is no need for a pedestrian island.
- A pedestrian crossing would be better.
- The driveway to No. 152 needs to be altered to allow the residents to do a right turn out of it into Buchanans Road.
- The consultation period was not long enough.
- No stopping lines outside No. 173 should be extended.

I advise in response to this feedback that: -

- Historically there is good evidence that islands and their associated road markings do slow down traffic.
- Speed humps are not allowed on minor arterial (main) roads because of the traffic vibrations/thumping produced by heavy vehicles going over them and the acceleration/deceleration engine noise.
- The local primary and high school pupils identified their need to the Safe Routes to Schools Co-ordinator and the Cycling Advocate for a pedestrian and cyclist crossing facility at this intersection. Other sites were also identified and two other islands are to be installed in the area.
- A normal pedestrian zebra crossing was considered for this site but rejected as unsafe because historical evidence shows that there have been pedestrians killed on pedestrian crossings installed in similar situations. The reason is that there would not be regular pedestrian traffic using it during the day. Therefore drivers using this stretch of the road regularly get used to not seeing a pedestrian on it and can actually miss seeing someone on it when it is used.
- The driveway/vehicle entrance to No. 152 Buchanans Road will be altered to allow exiting vehicles to right turn (to the west) onto Buchanans Road.
- As distribution was delayed the collation of the feedback was delayed till Monday 28 October 2002 to allow sufficient time for feedback. The original shutoff time for respondents was the 18 October.
- The no stopping lines shown on the publicity plan outside No. 173 shall be extended as requested.

To achieve slower vehicle speeds through the intersection and to improve overall safety for school cyclists and pedestrians crossing Buchanans Road at this location it is recommended that a pedestrian island be installed as shown on the plan below.

**Staff**

- Recommendation:**
1. That the proposed pedestrian island in Buchanans Road be recommended to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee for construction.
  2. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited at any time on the south side of Buchanans Road commencing at its intersection with Hei Hei Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of twenty-three metres.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the Officer's recommendations be adopted.