

## 10. CHRISTCHURCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT: RESOURCE CONSENT PIPE ROUTE

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Board about progress on further consultation relating to Jellicoe Street as a pipe route for the ocean outfall wastewater discharge. The report was considered by the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee on 8 July 2003 and it was decided that public submissions will be heard by the Committee itself (on 21 July 2003 at 9.30 am). The Board may wish to consider making a submission through this process on implications of the pipeline for the local community.

This report also flags a further report that will be provided in August 2003 giving more detail regarding several issues identified from the consultation process, some of which are summarised below.

### BACKGROUND

The Council resolved at the meeting of 24 April 2003 to adopt the following recommendation of the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee meeting of 8 April 2003 regarding the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant pipe route report.

- “1. *That Jellicoe Street be the preferred option for the pipeline route pending a final report in July 2003.*
2. *That Beatty Street, Caspian Street, Godwit Street, Heron Street and Bridge Street be identified as the streets least favoured to be used for the wastewater ocean outfall pipeline. Also that this decision be conveyed to the residents of those streets in order to reduce anxiety and to provide a greater level of certainty for residents in the streets under consideration that no further investigation of utilising these streets for the pipe route will occur unless future circumstances require this.*
3. *That the street along which the pipeline is constructed, be reconstructed according to the 'living streets' principles in respect of landscaping, community facilities and amenity values.*
4. *That the Council grant a rates rebate to property owners on the street along which the pipeline is constructed and that in doing so the Strategy and Finance Committee be requested to address the issue of rented properties (so that the benefit of the rebate be passed on to tenants) and the amount of the rebate.*
5. *That should Jellicoe Street be finally selected as the route for the pipeline, the South Brighton Domain be used as the pipe-stringing area and that following completion of the project, this park be restored and enhanced with a fresh design, improved planting and in other ways to be determined by the Parks, Gardens and Waterways Committee in consultation with the local community.*
6. *That the Council provide a clear indemnity to the property owners on the street chosen against damage resulting from the pipeline construction process.*
7. *That the future consultation to be carried out include individual property owner visits.*
8. *That a further report be prepared in July on the final route for a firm decision by the Council.”*

### CONSULTATION

The consultation process to date has involved informing the public through newspapers, letterbox drops, mail outs, open days, a newsletter, street meetings including organisations using the domain, the Council's web pages and discussions with business owners and emergency services. Residents were also invited to meet individually with Council staff and an independent facilitator. Submissions were invited on the pipe route until 20 June 2003, however some people have made arrangements to provide their submission after that date.

A commitment was made to the public to circulate all submissions to all Councillors after the submission closing date, and with good time to consider submissions prior to any final report to Council. (Note that it was initially thought any report would be submitted in July 2003. However, in order to fully and adequately evaluate all the information that has come to hand and to provide time for a hearings process this report will now be made in August 2003 or possibly even later depending on any hearing timetable regarding submissions.) A chronological summary of all consultation to date is attached.

Residents in Jellicoe Street and the wider community have been actively participating in the consultation process and, to this end, have arranged independently at least one function in the domain to gather submissions, and also on another occasion canvassed submissions from rugby players and supporters who use the Domain. This has been most helpful, as the Council has received well in excess of 100 submissions from the efforts of the Jellicoe Street residents. At least 11 submitters have advised that they wish to speak to their submission. The August 2003 report to Council will need to take account of these submissions, and will therefore need to be written after the hearing time. Note that this may delay any further report beyond August to fit within meeting schedules.

The submissions have identified which matters are of significant issue to the community. These are summarised below with little comment at this time, the intention being to flag to the Council that careful consideration of these issues will be required when they are more fully discussed in the August 2003 report (or later) and to encourage Councillors to read the submissions which will be circulated during the first week in July.

## **SIGNIFICANT ISSUES IDENTIFIED SO FAR**

### **Trees**

The initial report suggested 20-30 mature pine trees will need to be removed within the domain. This has been one of the major concerns. Further checking confirms that on the original alignment suggested, the number of trees affected would be closer to 30 than 20. However, it should be noted that because this was identified early as one of the major concerns an alternate alignment has been identified which is no greater length, and is likely to affect less than three trees. This is a very significant improvement in terms of minimising tree removal.

### **Use of the Domain**

The domain is not used by just the Jellicoe Street residents. The wider community is greatly concerned that the playing fields, cricket pitch, amenity block and other facilities are likely to be inaccessible for up to two years.

### **Business**

Three businesses have now been identified as being significantly impacted by this pipe route. This includes the South New Brighton Camping Ground, a home business, and an adventure training enterprise, which uses the high rope course.

### **Jellicoe Street**

Concern has been expressed that the narrower width of the carriageway in Jellicoe Street (9-11 metres between kerbs in Jellicoe Street compared to 13 metres in Bridge Street) will have a greater impact on access to properties during construction, and that the existing street trees in Jellicoe Street may need to be removed.

### **Pipe Launching**

The initial report identified Bridge Street and Jellicoe Street as having the lowest construction risk, because of the ability to string the greatest length of pipe string together. Consultation has identified that a beach stringing area could allow a pipe string to be jacked back along the street thereby offering an alternative to the domain for pipe stringing. This being the case, Beatty Street would therefore have the same construction risk as Jellicoe Street if the beach were used in this way. It should be noted that at least 130 metres of sand dune along the foreshore would need to be removed for these options along with the increased risk and nuisance this would cause.

### **Tangible Acknowledgement**

Ways to acknowledge the inconvenience, distress, and potential losses and damage to Jellicoe Street residents resulting from the construction of this pipeline have not yet been determined. Some feedback has suggested the residents do not want a "living street" treatment or any "enhancements" to the Domain as they prefer the status quo.

## **Emergency Services**

Discussions with emergency services to date indicate that during construction some emergency services will require access to Southshore, or to station facilities such as fire appliances, or provide for facilities in Southshore during times when access is limited. At the time of writing further discussions are to take place on this matter.

## **General Construction Issues**

Matters such as noise, dust and dewatering were of concern to residents. These are issues that will need to be well managed within any contract.

This is not an exhaustive list of issues that have been identified from consultation to date. For example, some submissions were to not use Beatty Street or Bridge Street as the pipeline route. Also some submissions related to issues that would arise whichever route was chosen; for example, noise, dust, dewatering, and hours of operation.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

It is proposed that within the August 2003 (or later) report the significant issues be discussed in more detail and options for mitigation developed. From this the Council will need to make a decision on the way forward regarding the pipe route.

The following supplementary information is being prepared or reported and will be included or referenced to the August 2003 report.

### **Legal**

- A legal opinion and report is being prepared for the Strategy and Finance Committee to assist with a direction regarding tangible acknowledgement of disruption to the residents along a pipe route.

### **Parks**

- The Parks and Waterways Unit is preparing a report on the impact the pipe construction would have on their activities.

## **SUMMARY**

The information gathering phase of the consultation on a Jellicoe Street pipe route in terms of the Council's resolution is nearly complete. To date this has identified a number of issues which are of particular concern to the community. These are summarised above and submitters wishing to be heard will attend a meeting of the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee on 21 July 2003. A more detailed report providing further information will be available in August 2003 or later from which the Council will be asked to decide a way forward regarding the ocean outfall pipe route.

### **Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.

### **Deputy Chairperson's**

**Recommendation:** For discussion.