7. STUDHOLME STREET (SOMERFIELD STREET TO ASHGROVE TERRACE)

Officer responsible	Author
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The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Board to proceed to public consultation on the proposal to renew the kerb and channel in Studholme Street between Somerfield Street and Ashgrove Terrace.

BACKGROUND

The kerb and channel in the section of Studholme Street from Barrington Street to Somerfield Street has been completed. Funding is available during the 2003/04 financial year to renew the kerb and channel in the next section of Studholme Street.

The section of Studholme Street from Somerfield Street to Ashgrove Terrace is a local road with an estimated traffic volume of 500 vehicles per day. It has a 14 metre carriageway with the trees in the carriageway near the channel and footpaths either side of the road.

Studholme Street forms a link in the cycle network between Spreydon Cemetery to the bridge across the Heathcote River at the end of the street and on to Thorrington.

DISCUSSION

As a local residential street the concept plan reflects these aspects by providing a 8.5 metre carriageway outside the existing street trees. This will allow two-way traffic and parking on both sides of the street. Site visits have not given an indication of there being a need for any additional parking. The ideal width would have been 9m, but this is not possible because of the trees and services in the street. As the proposed width is less than that specified in the City Plan, a resource consent will be required.

With Somerfield School being situated very close to this work, it is proposed to place a pedestrian refuge in Somerfield Street. This will provide a safe crossing point for pedestrians and cyclists.

At Ashgrove Terrace the intersection into Studholme Street will be narrowed, providing a calming effect and a safer crossing point to the bridge. After discussions with the Parks and Waterways Unit, it has been agreed to remove the railing at the end of the bridge and install landscaping to stop cyclists riding straight on to the road.

The proposal also shows additional tree plantings (Acer Campstre – field maple) to fill the gaps and provide an avenue effect for the whole length of the street as requested by residents. Both the intersections with Ashgrove Terrace and Somerfield Streets will be landscaped.

The budget for the kerb and channel renewal is \$374,823 and the cost estimate for the proposal is \$565,184. The shortfall in the budget can be met from the kerb and channel budget for this type of work.

CONCLUSION

Internal discussions have been held with Council units and a preliminary questionnaire was distributed to residents in the area (79 delivered, 16 replies). The ideas and concerns from these groups were included into the design for this section of Studholme Street and it is now proposed to take the concept plan to public consultation.

It is proposed to distribute the proposal to residents in Studholme Street from Somerfield Street to Ashgrove Terrace, Holcombe Place, Selsey Lane and eight houses either side of Studholme Street in Ashgrove Terrace and Somerfield Street.

Staff

Recommendation: That the proposal be approved for public consultation.

Chairman's

Recommendation: 1. That the Board confirm or comment on the consultation process to date.

2. That the staff recommendation be supported.