

25. POSTER BOLLARDS - INSTALLATION APPROVAL PROCESS

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the discussion on a future process for site approval for the installation of poster bollards as considered at a meeting of the Central City Streets Subcommittee on 5 June 2003.

On 11 April 2002 the Council signed a contract with Phantom Bill Stickers Limited which provides for installation of 100 new poster bollards, at no cost to the Council, within the city, on the basis of 50 bollards being provided by 31 December 2003 and the remaining 50 by 31 December 2005.

At the September 2002 meeting of the Council it was agreed on the recommendation of the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee that *“the Central City Streets Subcommittee be allocated authority to investigate sites and other issues and make recommendations to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee.”* Final approval of sites still, however, rest with the Council.

In the case of requests for sites in suburban areas these are currently referred to the relevant Community Board for recommendation to the Council as ‘Part A’ items. Request for sites are assessed using criteria related to:

- Vehicle traffic safety,
- Pedestrian movements,
- Access issues with relation to properties,
- Utility services,
- Affects on business, for example door entrances and window display areas,
- Consultation with building and business owners,
- Sensitive environments eg river banks and heritage buildings etc.

Currently approval has been given to the installation of 32 replacement bollards with the new larger design agreed for in the contract and Phantom Bill Stickers Limited is currently seeking approval for a further additional 27 sites throughout the city.

A meeting of the Central City Streets Subcommittee was held on 5 June 2003 and an invitation was also extended to Community Board representatives to attend this to allow for joint discussion on issues relevant to the future process of site approval.

The meeting provided information relating to:

- A presentation by Phantom Bill Stickers Limited giving background to their companies operation.
- Discussion on the terms, content of existing contract and the current approval process.
- Management of the 10% poster space reserved for specific use by community groups.
- An update on the placement of posters on areas which require resource consents.

There was consensus from elected representatives that any future process needed to allow for Community Board input into proposed sites in suburban areas and general acknowledgment that an expanded subcommittee, with delegated authority regarding site approval, including Community Board representatives would provide a means for consistency and continuity in decision making in site selection over the whole of the city area.

As it is expected that applications of sites will be made in groups, rather than on an individual basis, this process was seen as being more appropriate with the Subcommittee consisting of the existing five members (Councillor Denis O’Rourke, Barry Corbett, Megan Evans, Ingrid Stonhill and Ron Wright) plus six Community Board representatives appointed by the Community Boards.

It is envisaged that two to three meetings of the expanded Subcommittee would be required to approve the remaining approximately 60 bollards over the next two and a half years in terms of the contract.

**Chairman's
Recommendation:**

1. That the Central City Streets Subcommittee be delegated authority to approve all poster bollard sites required for the purpose of the Council's contract with Phantom Bill Stickers Limited.
2. That for this purpose the Central City Streets Subcommittee be augmented by a representative approved by each Community Board.
3. Prior to consideration by the Subcommittee:
 - (a) Site proposals be submitted to the relevant Community Board for comment.
 - (b) Immediate property owners be informed of the proposal and invited to comment.
4. That all site approvals under this process be subject to any required resource consents.
5. That Council officers work with Phantom Bill Stickers Limited to regularise illegal poster fence sites as soon as possible.