

7. GOULDING AVENUE PEDESTRIAN FACILITY

Officer responsible
City Streets Manager

Author
Lee Kelly, DDI 941-8355

The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to proceed with the Goulding Avenue pedestrian facility to final design, tender and construction.

INTRODUCTION

Goulding Avenue is located between the Main South Road and Shands Road Hornby. It is a local road and carries approximately 2,500 vpd.

There is a budget of \$20,000 in the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for the 2002/2003 financial year to provide a safer pedestrian crossing facility on Goulding Avenue. It has been recommended that a pedestrian refuge would cater for the high number of pedestrian movements across Goulding Avenue from the retail business area to the Library and the Community Centre while encouraging slower traffic speeds.

PROPOSED PLAN

Four options were considered to provide a safer pedestrian crossing facility on Goulding Avenue.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To provide a safer pedestrian crossing facility
- To reduce vehicle speeds
- To maintain and enhance Goulding Avenue as a cycle route
- To maintain on-road parking where possible

RECOMMENDED OPTION: AN OFF-CENTRE PEDESTRIAN ISLAND WITH ONE KERB BUILD-OUT ONLY ON THE NORTH EAST SIDE OF GOULDING AVENUE - PLAN ATTACHED

The proposed works would be located between the Council Housing (Hornby Courts) and the Community Centre/Library on the south/west side and the retail shops on the north/east side of Goulding Avenue.

This option reduces the traffic lanes to 4.5m, encouraging slower speeds, while still providing enough width for vehicles and cyclists.

The pedestrian island would be 2m wide which is the recommended width to provide adequate space for a pedestrian to stand with a pram/pushchair in front or a cyclists standing beside or sitting on a cycle.

This option provides parking along the north east side of Goulding Avenue but requires the removal of some parking on the south west side.

To ensure the appropriate sight lines it is not possible to install the island in a location that is equidistant between the Goulding Avenue/Main South Road intersection and the Goulding Avenue/Shands Road intersection.

The Scheme Safety Audit recommended that the painted median approach to the island be made wider, and this recommendation would be adopted.

CONSULTATION PLAN

A publicity pamphlet illustrating the layout and position of the proposed island and inviting comment and feedback would be distributed to residents, schools and business owners/operators, including the Library/Community Centre along Goulding Avenue.

18 written submissions were received during the consultation process. These are précised below.

- If on –street is reduced could we have the parks left, made into P60 parking. Staff from the adjacent shopping mall park all day on Goulding Avenue.

- Could you slow the traffic between the playground and Shands Road? Many cars in Aymes Road speed up to catch the lights and are travelling at an unsafe speed when they get into Goulding Avenue. Goulding Ave residents.
- I would like to see 'no parking' along all of Goulding Avenue. Mall staff workers park all day in Goulding Avenue, making it dangerous for kids on bikes; trees planted in front of Temp's Bar for privacy. .
- Pedestrian crossing totally unnecessary. I've have never had problems. I've never noticed undue speeding in this area and wonder what all the fuss is.
- We think this is a very good idea to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
- I have lived in Hornby for 35 years and I don't have a problem when I go to the library or with cyclists. Would like to see speed humps installed.
- Is a pedestrian refuge really necessary when there are controlled crossings 200 metres away? Workers cars parked in Goulding Avenue are the problem.
- I think what you propose is a great idea, but it doesn't go far enough. The speed of traffic is the main problem, it really needs 'judder' bars.
- I think this is a great idea.
- I would like the light poles shifted to make more room on the footpath and the shrubs should also be cut back.
- This proposal, which should restrict speeding traffic, would be welcome.
- We do not support the proposed plan; it is only 50 metres from controlled intersection; we doubt the 'high' number of pedestrian movements; loss of parking would be serious for us.
- No problems as far as we are concerned, a very positive step to reduce traffic congestion in the area.
- We are all strongly opposed to this project.
- We don't believe that it is the volume of traffic on busy days that pose the greatest threat, but the speed of both cars and buses on low volume days. Parked cards do not pose any great inconvenience apart from 3 Or 4 parked closed to our exit.
- Will north travelling traffic be able to turn right at median kerb in the entry way between shops and service station?
- We are property owners in Shands Road and we often walk and drive along Goulding Avenue. We are pleased that you are doing something to slow traffic down as it is very dangerous at times.
- Vehicles speeds are the problem but there is already a 'light' controlled crossings at each end of the avenue; the number of pedestrians and cyclists are less now; you will be taking valuable parking space; people alighting from cars on the opposite side of the road won't walk back to a pedestrian refuge.

SUMMARY

It can be seen that there is a range of comments, both for and against. From analysis of the written and phone consultation, the following conclusions are drawn:

- There appears to be a general feeling that speeding is an issue and that the work could proceed.
- There is a suggestion that the Council is not going far enough with traffic calming in this street.
- Those opposed to the project are generally concerned about loss of parking.

PROJECT CONTROL GROUP RECOMMENDATION

The project control group acknowledges the concerns raised, however, the plan for Goulding Avenue is technically sound and complies with the policies and practices of the City Council. As well, all engineering roading changes and/or reconstruction work undertaken by the City Council are independently audited.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Budget: \$20,000
Pre –design estimate: \$17,200

CONSTRUCTION

Construction is planned to start in March 2003 and to be completed by April 2003.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board approve the proposed Goulding Avenue pedestrian facilities project to final design, tender and construction.

That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited at any time:

- a. On the west side of Goulding Avenue, from a point commencing at its intersection with the Main South Road and extending in a south/easterly direction for a distance of 98 metres
- b. On the east side of Goulding Avenue, from a point commencing at its intersection with the Main South Road and extending in a southerly direction for a distance of 10 metres.
- c. On the east side of Goulding Avenue commencing 40 metres south from the intersection of the Main South Road and extending in a south/easterly direction for a distance of 38 metres.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion.