

8. ARANUI AREA REDEVELOPMENT - CITY STREETS ISSUES

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of the status of the various taskings set for the City Streets Unit, at the last Annual Plan round, concerning the Aranui area.

INTRODUCTION

The following resolutions and recommendations were those adopted in the 2002/03 Annual Plan process relating to City Streets:

Housing New Zealand

- (a) That funding for Hampshire Street as a living street be increased to \$100,000 from \$70,000 and be brought forward from 2004/05 to 2003/04, subject to efforts being made to fund the shortfall by way of substitution.
- (b) That staff report both to the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board and the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee on park lighting in Wainoni Park and street lighting in Hampshire Street.
- (c) That \$20,000 be budgeted for a school speed zone in Breezes Road in 2002/03 subject to a further report to either the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee or the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board.

Aranui Community Renewal Committee

The Aranui Community Renewal Committee requested:

- (a) That the City Streets Unit be urged to allocate sufficient staff resources to urgently complete the assessment of effects or likely effects (below) and that the funds already allocated be brought forward, by way of substitution, or allocated from maintenance sums where appropriate.
 - That the impact of increased traffic in Aranui from closure of Eureka and Carisbrooke Streets be anticipated and mitigated.
 - That speed restrictions in other areas be planned and implemented.
 - That funds allocated in 2004/05 for the Aranui High "Bubble" be brought forward.
 - That the condition of footpaths be assessed and remedial action taken.
 - That Aranui be included in the areas listed for street lighting improvement.
 - Street flooding (which is not due to blocked sump gratings) be alleviated.
- (b) That the use of Breezes Road by heavy traffic be kept under review by the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee.
- (c) That the submission seeking an improvement to the Aranui bus service be referred to the CCC/ECAN Public Transport Working Party.

CITY STREETS ACTION

The following details how the City Streets Unit has or will respond to the above actions and recommendations:

Hampshire Street: *That funding for Hampshire Street as a living street be increased to \$100,000 from \$70,000 and be brought forward from 2004/05 to 2003/04, subject to efforts being made to fund the shortfall by way of substitution.*

The funding for Hampshire Street in 2003/04 is \$100,000. The City Streets Unit has commenced work on the planning of the street works. The consultation process on Hampshire Street will be designed to fit in with the consultation practices appropriate to the area, and will be set up in discussion with the Aranui Community Trust.

It is uncertain whether the capital work on Hampshire Street will happen in the 2003/04 year. One of the key sections of the road requiring attention (through the 1997 LATMS and from a recent petition) is directly in front of Wainoni Park. Wainoni Park is being considered for some fairly significant changes that will impact on the park frontage, the intersections either side of it, and access across Hampshire Street. Depending upon the initial consultation process, it may prove to be most effective and worthwhile to have the park and street work occur at the same time, whenever that proves to be. The Board will be kept informed during the consultation and design processes as they progress.

Lighting: *That staff report both to the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board and the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee on park lighting in Wainoni Park and street lighting in Hampshire Street and that Aranui be included in the areas listed for street lighting improvement.*

The City Streets Unit has reviewed the status of lighting in the Aranui area, including Hampshire Street. The lighting is of a standard consistent with the majority of the City's residential streets. The exception is the area in front of the shops where there is a higher standard. This information has been communicated to the Aranui Community Trust, and through them to the community at large (according to the City Solutions area project manager).

Currently nothing is planned for upgrading the lights in Hampshire Street in the immediate future. However, it may be possible to make improvements to the lighting in conjunction with the proposed roading project for Hampshire Street. This will depend on the priorities identified during the consultation process for the project. Alternatively, the current financial plan accommodates a replacement programme for fluorescent lights in residential streets (by 2018), beginning in three years. Planning for this will firstly identify the important issues to allow prioritisation within this programme.

The Parks and Waterways Unit has assessed the lighting in Wainoni Park and indicated that lighting by the Community Centre needs to be upgraded. The lighting will be incorporated as a part of the overall plan for the park.

School Zone: *That \$20,000 be budgeted for a school speed zone in Breezes Road in 2002/03 subject to a further report to either the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee or the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board.*

The sum of \$20,000 was added to the school zone budget in 2002/03 in anticipation of possibly developing a speed zone in the Aranui area. However, the City Streets Unit was unable to complete the necessary assessment of the Breezes Road site, and consequently could not determine whether a school speed zone would be effective, in time for this year's programme.

Meanwhile, the costs for school speed zone development doubled between the trial sites and this year's projects. The result is that the school speed zone budget for 2002/03 was entirely spent on the other three projects for this year.

However, recently completed assessments have found that two school zones are appropriate for Breezes Road - Chisnallwood Intermediate/Avondale Primary, and Aranui High/Aranui Primary - and are top of the priority list. These two zones have been endorsed by the Co-ordinating Committee for Road Safety, and will be recommended to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee for the programme for implementation during 2003/04.

Traffic Management: *That the impact of increased traffic in Aranui from closure of Eureka and Carisbrooke Streets be anticipated and mitigated....and.... That the use of Breezes Road by heavy traffic be kept under review by the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee...and.... That speed restrictions in other areas be planned and implemented.*

The City Streets Unit did an initial evaluation of traffic movements in the Aranui area that would be likely to result from the closure of Eureka and Carisbrooke Streets. It was concluded that the changes to traffic movements, and thus the overall impacts, would be minor, hence few mitigating actions were taken. However, it is acknowledged that the evaluation may not have anticipated all effects, and that residents of the area may identify traffic changes that are considered a problem.

At the moment there are no plans to change the speed limits on the roads in the Aranui area, either individually or as a whole. Currently, the City Streets Unit is trialling an area-wide speed zone in the Charleston area. If the concept proves workable and acceptable to the local community, it may be exported to other areas and communities. The Council has only approved one trial area, and as the planning, development, implementation and monitoring is expensive and time consuming, the intention is to keep the trial to one area until completed.

The City Streets Unit would like to take the approach where the traffic movements in the area are allowed to "settle down" for six months after the Woolston/Burwood completion. After that, speeds and

traffic numbers in the Aranui streets will be measured, and a consultation exercise undertaken to identify any problems that should be addressed.

Part of the assessment will specifically include a vehicle count on Breezes Road to determine whether the number of heavy vehicles using it are posing a problem.

Aranui School “Bubble”: *That funds allocated in 2004/05 for the Aranui High “Bubble” be brought forward.*

Funding for the Aranui “bubble” has been brought into 2003/04. The detailed planning for the project has started and currently looks to be on track to have the identified treatments developed during the financial year.

Footpath Maintenance: *That the condition of footpaths be assessed and remedial action taken.*

The 35 streets in the Aranui area have been specifically inspected by the City Streets Maintenance Team. They are generally in very good condition, which is pleasing as most are under ten years old.

Particular attention was paid to overhanging trees, broken asphalt, damaged kerbing, and uneven footpaths while carrying out the inspection, however little evidence of these was found. Some maintenance work is required in McHaffies Place and this is being actioned.

It is acknowledged that the City Streets Unit’s technical assessment of “good condition” may not be the same as that of residents or the community. The maintenance team will inspect and action any locations that the community identifies as of particular concern.

Drainage: *Street flooding (which is not due to blocked sump gratings) be alleviated.*

From the City Streets Unit’s records, it appears that all of the flooding in the Aranui area that is reported to the Council is caused by blocked grates or sumps. These are routinely actioned when made known to the call centres. The Parks and Waterways Unit is similarly unaware of any stormwater flooding that may be caused by anything other than sumps and grate blockages.

It is acknowledged that there may be flooding in the Aranui area that has other causes which the community is more aware of than Council units. To address this, the City Streets Unit is proposing to specifically investigate flooding matters in the Aranui area when it does the consultation process for Hampshire Street. Matters identified will subsequently be investigated.

Public Transport: *That the submission seeking an improvement to the Aranui bus service be referred to the CCC/ECAN Public Transport Working Party.*

The CCC/ECAN Public Transport Working Party met in late August 2002. Councillor Chrissie Williams outlined the Aranui area issues to the working party. As the City Streets Unit has no better grasp on public transport issues in Aranui than Councillor Williams has, it considers that the submission has received the best delivery possible.

CONCLUSION

All of the matters tasked to the City Streets Unit have now either been addressed, or are under action. This report is being submitted as a “for information” report. However, the City Streets Unit is happy to receive feedback in particular on specific areas of poor footpath maintenance, street flooding or Hampshire Street matters.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairman's

- Recommendations:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the implementation of the school speed zones in Breezes Road begin immediately for safety reasons.
 3. That the Board advocate on the Aranui public transport issues in the Board's submission on Environment Canterbury's Annual Plan.
 4. That the Aranui Community Renewal Committee be asked to be specific about its requests for footpath maintenance and upgrading.
 5. That the Hampshire Street works be undertaken in conjunction with the redevelopment of Wainoni Park.