7. FORBES AND ANGUS STREETS

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of the outcome of the consultation on a proposal to enhance the Jackson Creek waterway and open up the entrance to Bradford Park at the intersection of Forbes and Angus Streets; and to seek approval to proceed with final design, tender and construction for both the kerb and channel work and the landscaping of the intersection.

BACKGROUND

Forbes and Angus Streets run from Colombo Street to Devon Street and are due for kerb and channel renewal in 2003/04 and 2005/06. The work will involve new kerb and channel, footpaths, and grass berms where possible.

Initial discussions were held with internal stakeholders and questionnaires were distributed to all residents and property owners requesting information about their concerns and aspirations for the street. The residents requested that consideration be given to traffic calming and the main concern raised was through-traffic and the "race track" like behaviour that occurs when young people socialise at KFC in Colombo Street. The requests suggested the Unit investigate making the streets into cul-desacs and there be no through-traffic.

At the intersection of the two streets is an entrance into Bradford Park. Council officers looked at several options for the intersection and two options – one closing the road to through-traffic and the other a narrow carriageway to slow traffic. These were presented to residents of both streets at a meeting held on 20 May 2003. The outcome from the meeting of three Community Board members, nine residents (including two of the businesses in the area) and two Council officers, was that the intersection be designed in such a way as to eliminate through-traffic, open up the entrance to the park and enhance the waterway (Jackson Creek) in the area. The decisions from the meeting were unanimous.

A publicity leaflet , showing both Forbes and Angus Streets as cul-de-sacs was distributed to residents in Forbes Street, Angus Street, Beaumont Street, Devon Street, Shelley Street and that section of Colombo Street from Devon Street to Angus Street. The response to this proposal was overwhelmingly in favour of the two streets being cul-de-sacs.

CONSULTATION

Following the initial publicity leaflet and the overwhelming response to cul-de-sacing the two street and creating a green space entrance to Bradford park, a second publicity leaflet showing a proposal for landscaping was distributed. This pamphlet went to a wider area – all that area bounded by Colombo Street, Milton Street, Strickland Street and Devon Street, posted to the sports groups who use Bradford Park and a park notice board was erected in the Bradford Park near the Forbes Street entrance.

Approximately 210 leaflets were distributed and 11 responses were received, - all agreed generally to the proposed concept.

Comments:

- Looks and sounds great to me
- Congratulations . Seems a wonderful idea, best of luck.
- A long time coming but wait has been worth it. Naturalizing Jackson Creek is the best thing to happen in years.- ideas for art work in balustrade (City Streets Unit staff will seek input from this person)
- Looks fantastic, superb idea
- Plan is great and look forward to seeing the project in place
- Sounds like a great idea, will add to the community
- It was about time to do something for this park. We love the idea.

DISCUSSION

The proposal for Forbes and Angus Streets that was distributed to residents in August 2003 met the aspirations of the residents to reduce through-traffic and it met the objectives of the kerb and channel renewal project. This proposal indicated that the intersection and entrance to Bradford Park would be enhanced.

The community indicated that they agreed to the proposed concept for the roading pattern. Council officers have now expanded the consultation and received favourable community comment on the proposed landscape concept for the intersection and the entrance to Bradford Park.

The kerb and channel for Forbes Street is programmed for 2003/04 and the work for Angus Street in 2005/06. The landscape work is programmed for 2003/04 so it can be carried out as the same time as the roading work. Council officers are recommending to the Board that they request that the kerb and channel work in Angus Street be bought forward to 2004/05 so the work can be done as one project.

CONCLUSION

As the majority of residents are in favour of the work taking place and have indicated that they would like all the work to proceed – that is, roading and park enhancement - Council officers request that approval be given for the proposed work to proceed to design, tender, and construction.

Staff

Recommendation:

- 1. That the Forbes and Angus Streets kerb and channel project and the landscape proposals for Jacksons Creek and the entrance to Bradford Park proceed to final design, tender, and construction.
- 2. That the kerb and channel work planned for Angus Street in 2005/06 be bought forward into 2004/05.

Chairman's Comment:

A recommendation to bring Angus Street work forward will require a substitution. For discussion.