

14. BUXTON TERRACE/PROPOSED BRIDGE

| | |
|--|--|
| Officer responsible City Streets Manager | Author Brian Boddy Ph. 9418013 |
|--|--|

The purpose of this report is to request the Board's approval to consult regarding the construction of a new pedestrian bridge to replace the existing bridge over the Heathcote River at Buxton Terrace.

BACKGROUND

The existing footbridge over the Heathcote River is an old wooden footbridge that has reached the end of its economic life. In considering its replacement two different types of bridge and five possible locations have been considered before putting this recommended option to the Community Board. The present users of the bridge are pedestrians, cyclists (predominately school children), and those physically challenged. The flood levels of the river have also been considered in the design and positioning of the bridge.

PROPOSAL

The objectives of this proposal are to:

- Provide a safe and convenient crossing facility linking Buxton Terrace and Eastern Terrace.
- Provide access for bicycles and wheelchairs, but not for vehicles.
- Build a bridge that will be an aesthetic improvement over the existing one.
- Satisfy the needs of the asset unit and the community.

Access for bicycles and wheelchairs is considered important. A ramp with a grade of 1 in 12 will therefore be provided. As a significant number of users come from Beckenham Primary School, it is proposed that the ramp will face towards the south. The work is estimated to cost \$122,000 and is on the capital works programme for construction to start in March 2004.

Directly affected residents, property owners, and Beckenham School will receive a publicity pamphlet. The anticipated feedback is most likely to be positive, and will be reported back to the Board for its information. Should any significant negative feedback be received, the project will be put on hold so that this feedback can be reported back to the Board's February meeting.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board approve the appended publicity plan and perspective for consultation and construction.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: The proposal is for a replacement bridge that the Board has earlier requested. I support the staff recommendation.