

### 13. WHITELEIGH AVENUE/PROPOSED CYCLE LANES

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to consult regarding the installation of cycle lanes in Whiteleigh Avenue.

#### BACKGROUND

Whiteleigh Avenue is a minor arterial carrying an average of 16,700 vehicles per day and used by school, commuter, and training cyclists. The volume of traffic is expected to increase substantially with the development of The Tower shopping complex, which opened in October 2003. Cyclists have identified the following issues as concerns:

- It is difficult to travel straight through from Barrington Street across Lincoln Road to Whiteleigh Avenue, as cyclists often get pressed into the kerb by vehicles having difficulty merging from two lanes into one at the entry into Whiteleigh Avenue.
- Cyclists can be cut off when vehicles turn left into Jack Hinton Drive.
- There is little room for bicycles between parked cars and straight through traffic at peak times.

#### PROPOSAL

This project needs to address the above concerns to encourage cycling as a means of transport and improve cycle safety. The proposed cycle lanes will extend from Lincoln Road to link with proposed cycle lanes north of the main south railway line. An existing carriageway width of fourteen metres does not allow the installation of cycle lanes with parking on both sides of the road. It is therefore necessary to ban on-street parking for the full length of the south-west side of Whiteleigh Avenue. To cater for the existing bus stops it is proposed to construct bus bays in the positions shown on the appended plan.

The objective of this project is to increase the safety of school, training, and commuter cyclists. The work is estimated to cost \$120,000 and is on Capital Works Programme for construction to start in July 2004.

To obtain the residents' and property owners' feedback on the concept plan, the publicity pamphlet showing the proposed layout is to be distributed to affected residents, business, and property owners in Whiteleigh Avenue, Lincoln Road, Chatham Street, Jack Hinton Drive, Leamington Street and Show Place. Where a no stopping restriction is proposed the adjacent properties will be doorknocked.

Anticipated feedback will be reported back to the Board at its February 2004 meeting for recommendation to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee.

#### Staff

**Recommendation:** That the Board approve the appended publicity plan for consultation.

#### Chairperson's

**Recommendation:** This proposal is to increase cyclists' safety and a continuation of recently completed work on Whiteleigh Avenue. The staff recommendation should be supported.