

## 16. COLOMBO STREET CHANGES (DUNDAS STREET TO WELLES STREET)

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval in principle to proposed changes in Colombo Street between Welles Street and Dundas Street, necessitated as a result of the redevelopment of the Smiths City site on the eastern side of Colombo Street.

A consequence of the future greater use of Quill Lane is the conflict between the right turn movements into both South City and the new car park associated with the Smith City redevelopment. To avoid this conflict a wide range of proposals have been considered. These have ranged from a complete ban of right turn movements, providing right turn lanes adjacent to one another, reversing South City entrances, imposing no stopping parking restriction on the east side of the road, limiting the use of Quill Lane and the current proposal which includes the relocation of the bus stop and taxi stand on the west side of the road.

This scheme which is illustrated in the attached diagram provides for the right turn movement into the two major off-street parking areas but retains the existing South City entrance control which restricts the right turn out of this entrance. A similar control is also to apply to Quill lane. The scheme separates the two right turn movements into the two off-street parking areas by creating a new entrance into South City and relocating the bus stop and taxi stand to the south of the existing entrance into South City. While the intention is to locate the bus stop to the north of the taxi stand there is a conflict between these two users. This scheme nevertheless has the support of the small retailers on the eastern side of the road and the two major retail complexes.

The taxi people wish to be located at the northern end of this area so as to have line of sight to the front of the stand from South City entrance, while, the bus providers prefer to group their facilities together and to provide a shorter walking distance for their users. There is a range of options that need to be explored between these two parties, which should not impact on the general concept embodied in this scheme. It has been difficult to accommodate everyone's requirements into this relatively limited section of Colombo Street.

There are a number of other small improvements to this area included in the plan, which should help the traffic situation in this section of Colombo Street. These include a wider carriageway for motorists and cyclists and better facilities for pedestrians to cross this section of road. These facilities include wider islands in the centre of the road and additional no stopping restrictions.

This report seeks approval in principle to the scheme so that works can commence in the immediate future. This is to allow work to commence before the new store opens and to minimise interference with the start of the Christmas period. Approval for the parking restrictions in this locality is requested to be delegated to the next meeting of the Central City Streets Subcommittee.

### **Staff**

- Recommendation:**
1. That the scheme plan to provide separate right turn facilities into both South City and Smith City be approved in principle.
  2. That the Central City Subcommittee be delegated to resolve the final location of the bus stop and taxi stand.

### **Chairman's**

- Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted.