

18. KERB AND CHANNEL REPLACEMENT PRIORITISATION PROCESS

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The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the Council decision regarding the Kerb and Channel Prioritisation Framework, and to outline the process and how Community Boards will fit into that process.

BACKGROUND

You will be aware that in April the Council approved a 'Kerb and Channel Replacement Prioritisation Framework'. This framework states the overall objectives and principles of the Kerb and Channel replacement programme as well as outlining the process and rating system. The report and framework was discussed at the Board's Seminar meeting.

The new process will be applied fully for the 04/06 LTCCP.

COMMUNITY BOARD INVOLVEMENT

Steps 1 to 3 of the process involves City Streets rating and ranking streets into an initial programme. Step 4 involves the Community Boards and this is where they consider years 2 to 5 of the programme and can make adjustments to the ranking of projects in that period.

What Will Boards Be Able To Do?

Boards will be able to reprioritise streets within the new years 2 to 5 within their areas. If during the Boards consideration they request other streets not on the programme be looked at we will rate those streets and show where they may sit. Bear in mind that there will not be time to rate a whole lot of streets so we will only want to consider those streets with a genuine reason for being done. Valid reasons might be where there has been a submission through a previous Annual Plan process or a petition from residents of a particular street.

Process and Timing of Community Board Involvement

Our aim is to provide the initial programme resulting from Steps 1 to 3 to Community Boards early in the LTCCP process. For the 04/06 Plan we will have our initial programme to Community Boards by August of this year so they can consider any reprioritisation they wish to make by October. City Streets are required to have their draft budget and programme prepared by the end of October.

Transparency of Process

One of the key aspects of the new framework is that it be open and transparent so requests from residents (and Boards) for certain streets to be considered can be treated fairly and objectively. To enable this to be done a database will be set up with the rating and ranking for each street together with reasons for decisions clearly shown and available. New requests will be able to be rated and ranked and entered into the database. From this it will be very clear where they fit in the programme.

Community Boards 'Project Proposals' Process

Consideration needs to be given to how the kerb and channel prioritisation process fits in with the Boards 'project proposal' process. It is suggested that where Boards are considering a project that may be a kerb and channel candidate they refer the project to City Streets for rating and ranking under the approved process. The result of this can then be reported back to the Board to assist their decision making on how they deal with the project.

Informing Boards about the New Process

To help Boards understand the new framework and process we will present a short seminar at the meeting, and at the same time we will present the programme referred to above.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson's

- Recommendations:**
1. That the staff recommendation be adopted.
 2. That the Board has a special meeting to carry out an onsite visit and consider the priority rankings.