

16. NORTHCOTE ROAD - PROPOSED TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AND CYCLE LANES

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Brian Boddy, DDI 941-8013.
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The purpose of this report is to request that the Shirley/Papanui Community Board recommend the appended concept plans for the improvement of pedestrian, cycle, and vehicle safety movements in Northcote Road from Greers Road to Uxbridge Street to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee for construction. Approval for the Greers Road cycle lanes (west side) south of Sawyers Arms is being sought from the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board.

The Northcote Road/Vagues Road intersection and the Greers Road/Northcote Road/Sawyers Arms Road intersection are on the Capital Works Program under Cycleways as the "Papanui High Bubble" in the 2003/04 financial years. This 'Safe Routes to School' project is to be done with minimal changes to the physical infrastructure, and can only address the immediate problems of school children. Hence, the objectives were developed to increase the safety of school children, cyclists and pedestrians without reducing traffic safety for anyone else.

Northcote Road and Greers Road are major arterial roads with an average traffic flow of 22,500 and 16,600 vehicles/day respectively. Sawyers Arms Road west of Greers Road is a minor arterial road carrying 11,100 vehicles/day.

The residents and property owners in the area have received a publicity pamphlet advising them of the proposed works. Following consideration of the feedback (see attachment for a summary of their feedback) it has been decided that a worthwhile improvement to the concept plan is to widen the footpath connecting Sawyers Arms Road to Greers Road. This will provide a shared cycleway/footpath reducing the number of cyclists travelling south through the Northcote/Greers intersection.

The amount of \$130,000 is budgeted for this project. Work is programmed to start in November 2003.

In the interests of the safety of school children (as cyclists and pedestrians) travelling to and from Casebrook Intermediate School and Papanui High School, the work should proceed as shown on the appended plan.

Staff

Recommendation: That the project be recommended for construction to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee as shown on Plans TP152801 and TP152802.

Chairperson's

- Recommendations:**
1. That the staff recommendation be adopted.
 2. That this Board continues its advocacy role with City Streets for the upgrade of Northcote Road and the signalisation of Sawyers Arms Road/Northcote Road/Greers Road intersection.