

8. FERRY ROAD/HUMPHREYS DRIVE INTERSECTION AND THE FERRYMEAD BRIDGE PROJECTS

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Board on the progress of the Ferry Road/Humphreys Drive intersection and Ferrymead Bridge projects.

FERRY HUMPHREYS DRIVE INTERSECTION

This project is for the widening of the intersection and installation of traffic signals at the intersection. Property purchases are required for this project. Council officers are still negotiating with the last three property owners for the frontages of their properties. These negotiations have been complicated as most of the properties are owned by Body Corporates and more than one person has to agree to the compensation.

The current time line which is dependant on the property purchases is for the physical works to start mid March 2004.

FERRYMEAD BRIDGE

Earlier this year a site investigation was carried out to determine the viability of the proposed strengthening option for the Ferrymead Bridge. The drilling and penetration testing carried out determined that the site was underlain with much weaker material than was expected, a conclusion that was further strengthened by a visiting international expert in liquefaction who showed that the existing bridge piles could in fact be founded on liquefiable material. This resulted in a rethink of how to strengthen the bridge and engineers have come up with some new options. All of these options represent leading edge solutions and are taking time to develop. One or two may require some university research. There is a reluctance to delay the project to investigate these options, however the potential benefit of reducing the retrofit cost is too great to ignore. The recommendation is therefore to delay recommending an option for design and construction until at least the end of this year.

The current budget for the construction of this project is in the 2004/05 and 2005/06 financial years; the investigation work is likely to delay construction by one year.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson's

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