

## 5. EDWARD AVENUE – KERB AND CHANNEL RENEWAL (BARBADOES STREET TO HILLS ROAD)

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The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Shirley/Papanui Community Board to publicise the concept plan for the Edward Avenue kerb and channel renewal project.

### BACKGROUND

The Council is proposing to replace the old dish guttering in Edward Avenue from Barbadoes Street to Hills Road in the 2004/2005 financial year.

In conjunction with the road reconstruction work, there is an opportunity to 'open' up Bings Drain. This drain runs from Barbadoes Street to Cleveland Street and is currently piped and within the boundary of private properties. However, it would be possible to 'open' up the drain onto the street and create a water feature combined with walkways, landscaping and a narrowed roadway.

The Bings Drain changes course at Cleveland Street and heads north away from Edward Avenue. Therefore, the next section of Edward Avenue, from Cleveland Street to Hills Road, will not have a water feature component. However, the aim is to narrow this section of Edward Avenue also and landscape it to complement the western end so that when driving along Edward Avenue the motorist is presented with a consistent road treatment.

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To replace the existing old dish guttering with kerb and flat channel
- To improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists
- To incorporate Urbane Design's aims and objectives re the St Alban's Neighbourhood Plan
- To 'open' up Bings Drain (Parks Waterways and Wetlands component and funding)
- Successful consultation with key stakeholders and residents
- Completing the project within budget and programme

### RECOMMENDED OPTION

Between Barbadoes Street and Cleveland Street the proposal consists of an open waterway (Bings Drain) along the north side of Edward Avenue and a gently winding 7.5m wide carriageway with a provision for on street parking. Extensive landscaping adjacent to the waterway along with walkways will be provided.

Between Cleveland Street and Hills Road the carriageway will also be reconstructed to 7.5m wide and follow a similar alignment as the western end of Edward Avenue. On street parking is also available.

The proposed work allows for the increased separation of pedestrians and motor vehicles along Edward Avenue. This has been achieved by narrowing the carriageway width and allowing for an additional area of landscape planting and/or grass berm between the footpath and the carriageway.

By narrowing the carriageway and creating a gently winding alignment will encourage slower speeds along the length of Edward Avenue and also act as a deterrent to unnecessary through traffic.

### BUDGET

The road reconstruction budget is in the region of \$552,000. This includes a contingency of 15%. Additional to this budget is the Parks & Waterways Unit contribution of \$295,000 for the opening up of the Bings Drain.

### CONSTRUCTION

This project was originally within the 2003/2004 financial year for construction. However, the cost of opening up Bings Drain was more than originally anticipated and the project was carried forward to the 2004/2005 financial year.

There is a desire on both the residents behalf and the City Streets Unit for the Edward Avenue reconstruction to happen sooner rather than later. Every effort is being made to facilitate this project and bring forward the reconstruction date so that it is closer to the original reconstruction date. The final date, however, will depend on obtaining the necessary approval of the residents and the Shirley/Papanui Community Board.

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the Shirley/Papanui Community Board approve the Edward Avenue (Barbadoes Street to Hills Road) kerb and channel renewal project for public consultation.

**Chairperson's**

**Recommendation:** That the staff recommendation be adopted.