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Corporate Plan Output: Transport Policy Advice	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Council of progress on the North Christchurch Transport Study.

An officer working group has been formed with representation from the City Council, the Regional Council, Transit New Zealand and Waimakariri District Council. This group has looked at the means of undertaking a study of the north Christchurch roading network. Waimakariri District Council has an interest in being involved at this point of the process, given the impacts that major road network developments in each local authority area reflect on options and boundary issues in the other. A significant issue could be, for example, the development of alternative river crossings, or the timing of network development to accommodate future growth. Waimakariri District Council will not participate as a partner in the next stage of the study (the detailed assessment of options) excepting where it may have a significant input to the development of a particular option.

The officer working group has concluded that a two-stage study would be most appropriate – initially undertaking a Scoping Study to be followed by an in-depth study of a small number of identified strategic options.

The working group has developed a brief for a joint Scoping Study, which will be tendered in mid-August. It is anticipated that the study should be completed by the end of March 1999. The member authorities of the working group will jointly fund the study. The key objectives of the scoping study are:

- (i) Identification of a short list of preferred strategies (from a larger list derived from consultation, review of previous work and deficiency analyses) to meet the transport needs in the north of Christchurch over the next 25 years; and
- (ii) Preparation of a brief for detailed assessment of the short listed strategies in a further study. This further study will be tasked separately and is not included as part of this contract.

The scoping study will be focussed primarily upon the form and development of the regional and arterial roading system in north Christchurch. Work on promotion of and shifts to other modes will be covered by sensitivity testing in the scoping study, and for more detail will require a separate City and Regional Councils' study process.

With regard to stakeholder consultation, the City Council has been identified as a stakeholder. To facilitate this more smoothly for the consultant undertaking the work, it would be helpful if there was a single group or sub-committee to approach for City Council response and discussion. This could be achieved through the establishment of a sub-committee comprising members of the Land Transport Sub-Committee and members of the three affected Community Boards. This group could also be a forum for ongoing reporting back through the study, with reports to relevant Committees and Boards at appropriate stages.

- Recommendation:**
1. That a sub-committee of the City Services Committee comprising the Land Transport Sub-Committee and one member of each of the Fendalton/Waimairi, Shirley/Papanui and Burwood/Pegasus Community Boards be the Council's principal point of contact for stakeholder consultation by the study consultant.
 2. That the Community Board members be appointed by the Council after consultation with the Community Boards concerned.