



4. TRAVIS ROAD CYCLE PATH

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to proceed with the rural section of the Travis Road cycle/pedestrian path.

TRAVIS ROAD PATH HISTORY

There is currently an off-road, two-way pathway on the south side of QEII Drive, ending at the Burwood Road roundabout. When the Woolston-Burwood roadway is built, there will be an off-road pathway on its southern side, terminating at Corsers Stream on Travis Road. The fact that two off-road paths start/end at each end of Travis Road have driven a need to complete an off-road path link between them. If the link along Travis Road is completed, there will be a continuous off-road cycle and pedestrian path stretching for over 5km across the northern reaches of the city, and it will increase in length as the Woolston-Burwood pathway extends.

To assess the issues that need to be considered in the proposed pathway design, a technical evaluation of the area has been completed (looking at lighting, path heights etc). City Council units (Water Services and Parks) have also been consulted. A letter has also been sent to all residences fronting Travis Road, plus a number down side streets and to residents groups and local schools. The Burwood/Pegasus Community Board have also had input.

ACTIONS FROM THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

In general, a pathway was very well received by those who responded. From the responses received, it would seem a two-way pathway on the south side of Travis Road is appropriate – it will connect directly to the existing pathways and will therefore not require any additional road crossing for cyclists or pedestrians. The complications that may arise through crossing side streets will be considered later in this report.

The development of a path on the south side of Travis Road is dealt with in two sections – rural section; from 88 Travis Road, running east to the Woolston-Burwood roundabout, and a residential section; from 88 Travis Road, running west, to the Burwood Road roundabout.

Residential Section: To create a cycle facility on Travis Road, in front of residential properties creates a range of complications including dealing with on-street parking, turning movements at intersections and separation (or not) of cyclists and pedestrians.

At the moment, a set of path and traffic management proposals have been developed which have received a comfortable reception from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board and the Ascot/Freeville Residents Association. The intention is to fully inform a fairly large area of residential properties on Travis Road, plus produce some newspaper articles to advise of the possible treatments on Travis Road, and seek feedback.

This discussion and consultation process will be fairly protracted, and the outcomes will be reported to this committee in due course.

Rural Section: At the moment there are cycle lanes marked on both sides of Travis Road. These are narrower than normal, and are a poor standard of facility given the overall width of Travis Road and the average speed of vehicles. A very simple, two-way pathway is proposed from the Woolston-Burwood roundabout to the start of the residential section on Travis Road. The path will be 2.5m wide, separated from the road by at least 2m. It will provide a much improved facility for both cyclists, and the pedestrians who choose to walk in this area. It will receive light-spill from the normal road lighting.

It is intended to provide an up-graded bus-stop adjacent to Corsers Stream, with a crossing island to the Travis Wetland pathway (in fact this work has already been added to the Woolston-Burwood contract). A diagram of the pathway is attached.

REQUESTED ACTIONS FROM THIS MEETING

As the pathway in the rural extension is a simple concept, is on CCC owned land, and does not abut any residential properties, it is proposed to construct the pathway as soon as possible. It is a logical development to provide a continuous link between existing and proposed pathways.

The aim is to complete the pathway before or in conjunction with the Woolston-Burwood pathway. As the funding for the path is in the 1999/00, it would be ideal to have the path contract committed before 30 June. The Burwood-Pegasus Community Board have supported the development of the path.

The pathway will cost \$50,000 with an additional \$10,000 to provide several new lighting poles, and relocate existing poles. The rural section of pathway is approximately 500m long.

Recommendation: That the development of the rural section of the Travis Road pathway be approved.