

### 3. BUS STOPS – ROLLESTON AVENUE/CASHEL STREET/HEREFORD PERIPHERAL TERMINUS

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Council of the consultation findings for the proposal for three bus stops to be made available on the north side of Hereford Street between Rolleston Avenue and Montreal Street, to allow for the removal of temporary bus stops from Rolleston Avenue outside the YMCA. It also introduces the alternative option of relocating some bus services and stops from Rolleston Ave to a new peripheral terminal in the Latimer Square area.

#### BACKGROUND

At the Bus Stops and Shelters Subcommittee meeting of 5/7/2001 the following recommendations were made to Council:

1. That, subject to consultation, three bus stops be made available at the western end of Hereford Street, located between Rolleston Avenue and Montreal Street to allow for the relocation of bus routes nos 21, 23 and 24.
2. That Environment Canterbury continue investigations of all through routing options with the necessary "corridor management " and bus priority support from Christchurch City Council, and City Streets staff with a view to reducing the numbers of buses assessing any of the four peripheral termini.
3. That the Subcommittee support the provision of a dedicated parking warden for bus stop enforcement
4. That the Council publicise its intention to rigidly enforce the no parking provisions on bus stops.

Council adopted these at its 26/ 7/2001 meeting.

Currently there are three designated and three temporary bus stops on Rolleston Avenue, and two bus stops on Cashel Street.

#### CONSULTATION

In order to implement 'Recommendation 1' consultation is required to be undertaken. Property owners and tenants have approached the CCC regarding the current situation at the Rolleston Avenue/Cashel Street peripheral terminus. Additional property owners and tenants have been consulted where applicable in Hereford Street.

#### Rolleston Avenue/Cashel Street Peripheral Terminus- Current Situation

The consultation feedback has indicated that the current number of bus stops and the level of bus movements on Rolleston Avenue and Cashel Street are not considered acceptable and that there is strong opposition from property owners, tenants and interested parties. This opposition appears to have increased since the April 2001 bus route changes.

#### Hereford Street- Proposed Additional Peripheral Terminus Bus Stops

The Council received a number of letters and responses in opposition to the additional stops before consultation started. Because of this staff decided to consult all property owners and tenants in Hereford St between Rolleston Ave and Montreal Street. The two options that were introduced for consultation were at the western end outside the Arts Centres' Old Chemistry Building (as per the Council recommendation) and at the eastern end outside the Arts Centre car park, next to the Dux De Lux (as proposed by Councillor Crighton).

Consultation for the Hereford Street bus stop options has revealed strong opposition from property owners and tenants to any additional bus stops, in particular to any relocation of peripheral terminus stops to anywhere on Hereford Street. The strongest opposition has been received from The Arts Centre and its tenants and the Dux De Lux. Many respondents indicated that peripheral bus stops were not suitable anywhere in this block in Hereford Street. One respondent did not object as long as drivers turned their engines off.

If bus stops are to be added to Hereford Street then the Subcommittee will need to work through the formal approval process. The same would apply to formalising the current 'temporary' bus stops on Rolleston Avenue.

## ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Staff from the CCC and Ecan have continued to investigate alternative options for the peripheral terminal to ease the problems on Rolleston Ave. One possible alternative is to relocate some of the services currently using the Rolleston Avenue bus stops in the Latimer Square area. This would be a short term option until other changes can be introduced, such as two-way Lichfield Street, through-routing of additional services, route and timetable changes.

The major benefits of this proposal are:

- Reduction in bus movements in the Arts Centre precinct.
- Additional bus stops would not be required in Hereford Street.
- Reduction in the number of bus stops in Rolleston Avenue outside the YMCA.
- Reduction in the distance travelled by buses to and from peripheral terminus.
- Additional bus services and access to residents, workers and tourists east of the Square.
- Improved security in Latimer Square

The major negative aspects to this proposal are:

- Additional bus stops to be established in Gloucester Street and in the Latimer Square area.
- Infrastructure may need to be provided
- Reduction in frequency and access to the Hospital and Arts Centre precinct for some.
- Consultation process to be undertaken: Except for the Parks Unit, to date there has been no consultation with property owners, tenants and other stakeholders.

There are two possible scenarios identified for the Latimer Square proposal. The services chosen to be relocated all pass the hospital on their inbound and outbound trips so through routing to Latimer Square will not result in a loss of access to the hospital for these passengers. Both options may require additional bus stops to be provided in Gloucester Street.

It is envisaged that these options would result in less usage of bus stops outside Farmers and Louis Vuitton and an increased usage of the bus stops outside the Gloucester Arcade/Hilton On Gloucester (outbound), and outside the Coachman (inbound).

ECan has raised concerns as to capacity of the Gloucester Street/Colombo Street intersection to handle the number of right turning movements required. A study undertaken by City Solutions has stated that "the assessment gives no reason to believe that the proposed Latimer Square Peripheral Terminus will have adverse at the Colombo / Gloucester intersection, and it is recommended to proceed with the proposal".

The levels of stops required are those requested by ECan staff to allow the services to operate at peak times. They would prefer to monitor the situation and remove additional stops at a later date if appropriate. ECan do not believe at this stage that any of the options could operate if the three temporary bus stops on Rolleston Avenue were removed.

The Parks Unit is shortly to begin consultation regarding a proposal to redevelop Latimer Square. City Streets Unit staff are involved in this process and have indicated the option of peripheral bus terminus being established in the Latimer Square area for consideration.

### Scenario 1

The first would be to relocate the No 21/23/24/81/82/83/84 services to the Latimer Square area. This would reduce current bus movements on Rolleston Avenue & Cashel Street by 53%. It would leave the No 31/32/33/40/49/20 and Burnham services utilising the Rolleston Ave peripheral terminal. In comparison to bus levels on 30 November 2000 the additions that would remain would be the No 20 and Burnham services.

ECan staff have suggested this scenario would require:

- 6-7 bus stops to remain at the Rolleston Avenue / Cashel Street peripheral terminus (4-5 on Rolleston Avenue/2 on Cashel Street).
- 1 temporary bus stop to be removed
- 4-5 new bus stops to be established in the Latimer Square area.
- 1-2 new bus stops to be established in Gloucester Street
- No new bus stops in Hereford Street would be required.

## Scenario 2

The second scenario would be to relocate only the No 81/82/83/84 services to the Latimer Square area. This would require 3-4 stops to be established. This option would reduce the current bus movements on Rolleston Avenue/Cashel Street by 27%. It would leave the No 21/23/24/31/32/33/40/49/20 and Burnham services utilising the Rolleston Ave peripheral terminal. In comparison to bus levels on 30 November 2000 the additions that would remain would be the 20/Burnham/21/23/24 services.

ECan staff have suggested this scenario would require:

- 7 bus stops to remain at the Rolleston Avenue/Cashel Street peripheral terminus (5 on Rolleston Avenue/2 on Cashel Street).
- 1 temporary bus stop to be removed
- 3 new bus stops to be established in the Latimer Square area
- 1 new bus stops to be established in Gloucester St
- No new bus stops in Hereford Street would be required

ECan staff are supporting scenarios 1 and 2, providing that there are adequate bus stops provided at Gloucester Street and Latimer Square.

If there is to be a serious reduction in the number of bus movements in the Arts Centre precinct then scenario 1 should be pursued. It is feasible and the Colombo Street / Gloucester Street intersection can handle the change. The total number of bus stops being requested by ECan is considered to be excessive, and Council staff believe it should be possible to remove all the temporary bus stops outside the YMCA.

### Subcommittee

- Recommendation:**
1. That the three temporary shrouded bus stops in Rolleston Avenue be removed.
  2. That no additional bus stops be provided in Hereford Street.
  3. That five bus stops be provided in Latimer Square between Gloucester Street and Worcester Street.
  4. That one or two additional bus stops be provided on Gloucester Street between Colombo Street and Latimer Square as required.
  5. That as part of the Parks Unit consultation with local groups and residents concerning Latimer Square they be informed of the recommendations of the Subcommittee to the Council regarding a new peripheral terminal in Latimer Square.

(Note: Councillor Barry Corbett requested that his vote against recommendations 1 to 4 above be recorded.)