

2. CASHMERE ROAD/HENDERSONS ROAD - PROPOSED INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Brian Boddy, Project Consultation Leader, DDI 941-8013
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The purpose of this report is to request that the Council approve for construction the proposed safety improvements to Cashmere Road from Brookford Place to Hendersons Road and the construction of a footpath between Brookford Place and No 349 Cashmere Road as shown on the attached plan.

BACKGROUND

Cashmere Road has long been recognised as a main cycle training route and is a minor arterial, it is used by an average of:

- 9,000 vehicles per day east of Penruddock Rise.
- 1,500 vehicles per day west of Hendersons Road.
- 180 cycles per day west of Penruddock Rise.

There have been four vehicle accidents involving loss of control reported to the Land Transport Safety Authority in the last five years within sixty metres of the Cashmere Road/Hendersons Road intersection. The existing carriageway seal width averages eight metres and is controlled by a 70 km/h speed limit.

The existing footpaths finish at the eastern boundaries of Nos 299 and 349 Cashmere Road. Walkers between these two points have worn an informal path on the south side of the road in the grass.

PROPOSAL

The aim of this project is to:

- Reduce the existing accident rate by realigning the approaches and improving the intersection of Hendersons Road/Cashmere Road.
- Provide cycle facilities by widening the carriageway to allow room for cycles and vehicles together.
- Provide pedestrian facilities with the construction of a footpath connecting the two existing footpaths.

The proposed layout is shown on the publicity plan TP 158601 and will address all the above issues.

CONSULTATION

A total of 300 publicity pamphlets were distributed to the residents and property owners in Cashmere Road and it's adjoining roads. A summary of the 31 responses received is attached. Of these responses:

- 33% unreservedly support the proposal.
- 6% support the proposal with reservations (ie they support the concept but desire additions).
- 3% are against the proposal as it stands.
- 58% did not indicate support or otherwise for the project and made unrelated requests (eg to lower the existing speed limit from 70 kph to 50 kph).

The proposed layout as shown on the construction plan TP 158601 addresses all the aims of this project, which are to:

- Reduce the existing accident rate by realigning the approaches to the Hendersons Road/Cashmere Road intersection and improving the layout.
- Provide on-road cycle facilities by widening the carriageway to allow the installation of cycle lanes on the arterial road section. This will provide separate road space for cycles and vehicles.
- Improve pedestrian facilities with the construction of a footpath connecting the two existing footpaths.

As no outstanding relevant issues exist the project is ready for tendering. The estimated cost of the work is \$520,000. Although the estimated cost is over budget, the City Streets Unit will manage this. Work is planned to start in February 2004.

The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board at its meeting on 19 November 2003 supported the plan for construction.

Recommendation: That the proposal as shown on the attached plan TP 158601 be approved for construction.