

1. SPRINGS ROAD - PROPOSED TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

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The purpose of this report is to request that the Council approve for construction the proposed safety improvements for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles in Springs Road from Amyes Road to Awatea Road.

BACKGROUND

This project is budgeted in the cycleways budget in the 2003/04 year as part of the Branston Intermediate School "bubble" project. Branston Intermediate School pupils have been surveyed to determine locations on their routes to and from school that they had concerns with. One of their major concerns was the difficulty in crossing Springs Road between Amyes Road and Awatea Road and it is proposed to address this issue with this work. Following consideration of the pupil's feedback different options have been considered and the following factors have been incorporated in the design:

1. Crashes recorded in the Land Transport Safety Authority crash database have been analysed for the last five years. There have been twelve crashes, one fatal, one serious injury and two minor injury.
2. Springs Road is a minor arterial road carrying 14,000 vehicles per day.
3. Amyes Road and Awatea Road are collector roads carrying 5,500 and 3,900 respectively per day.
4. A significant part of the catchment for Branston Intermediate lies south of Springs Road and is a developing area.

The speed of vehicles approaching the intersections is on average 54 kph, while 15% approach the intersections at over 59 kph.

CONSULTATION

A total of 650 publicity pamphlets were distributed to residents, businesses and property owners in Springs Road, adjoining roads and Branston Intermediate School. Three notice boards displaying the project were erected at the south end of the dairy and outside Nos 134 and 127 Springs Road. A summary of the 24 responses received is appended. Of these responses:

- 42% unreservedly support the proposal.
- 29% support the proposal with reservations (ie they desire alterations).
- 4% made no comment either for or against the proposal.
- 25% are against the proposal as it stands.

Most of those against the proposal objected because of:

- The reduction in on-street parking.
- They would prefer traffic lights.
- The blockage to through traffic when left turning traffic from Springs Road to Amyes Road has to wait for right turners at the proposed pedestrian island at this intersection.

In answer to these valid concerns:

1. It has been noted that there is a need for on-street parking close to the dairy on the corner of Springs and Amyes Roads. The proposal shifts the nearest parking outside the dairy ten metres to the south. This 'no stopping' restriction is essential to provide adequate sight lines for drivers waiting to enter Springs Road off Amyes Road. On the opposite side of Springs Road the proposed 'no stopping' restriction will shift the nearest on-street parking 40 metres to the south. This 'no stopping' restriction is needed to provide adequate lane width for cyclists and vehicles past the proposed pedestrian island. There will still be adequate parking in this section of Springs Road to meet the normal dairy and residential parking demand.

2. Traffic lights were investigated but are not considered the best option for this situation. It could also involve substantial increases in the length of the proposed 'no stopping' restrictions.

The objective for this proposal is to improve traffic safety for all users of Springs Road, but principally to provide for safer pedestrian crossability and cycle access along the road for the Intermediate School pupils. The estimated cost of this work as shown on the appended plan is \$56,850. It is hoped that work will start in March 2004. Having met all significant issues raised by the feedback the project is ready for the preparation of the construction plans.

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

- Recommendation:**
1. That the proposal as shown on attached plan TP 154001 be approved for construction.
 2. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the south-east side of Springs Road commencing at the Awatea Road intersection and extending in a north easterly direction for a distance of 37 metres.
 3. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the south-east side of Springs Road commencing at the Awatea Road intersection and extending in a south westerly direction for a distance of 163 metres.
 4. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the north-west side of Springs Road commencing at the Amyes Road intersection and extending in a south westerly direction for a distance of 16 metres.
 5. That two P10 parking spaces be provided in Springs Road adjacent to the dairy.
 6. That staff re-examine the adequacy of the road width of 4.5 metres between the pedestrian island and curb build out on Springs Road near its intersection with Amyes Road.