

7. WHITELEIGH AVENUE/PROPOSED CYCLE LANES

Officer Responsible Asset Management Team Leader	Author Brian Boddy, Project Consultation Leader, DDI 941-8013.
--	--

The purpose of this report is to request that the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board approve for construction the proposed cycle lanes in Whiteleigh Avenue.

The objectives for this project are to improve cycle safety without reducing traffic safety for other road users and to address the following concerns of cyclists:

- It is difficult to travel straight through from Barrington Street across Lincoln Road to Whiteleigh Avenue, as cyclists often get pressed into the kerb by vehicles having difficulty merging from two lanes into one at the entry into Whiteleigh Avenue.
- Cyclists can be cut off when vehicles turn left into Jack Hinton Drive.
- There is inadequate room for bicycles between parked cars and straight through traffic at peak times.

Following the Community Board's approval to consult at its November 2003 meeting, the businesses, property owners and residents in the neighbourhood of this section of Whiteleigh Avenue received a publicity pamphlet at the end of January 2004. One hundred and fifty publicity pamphlets were distributed, with ten responses being received. Following consideration of this feedback (see appended summary), a construction plan has been drawn up.

Requested alterations to the concept plan were:

1. That on-street parking be provided for residents on the south side of Whiteleigh Avenue, with a request to construct parking bays if necessary.
2. That the proposed cycle lanes be removed from the road and off-road cycle paths provided for cyclists.
3. That cycle lanes/facilities be provided and coloured on all approaches to the Barrington Street/Lincoln Road/Whiteleigh Avenue intersection.
4. That the bus bay outside No. 16 be lengthened.
5. That a right turn bay be installed for right turners into Jack Hinton Drive.

The installation of a parking bay on the south side would involve the removal of one or more of the existing street oak trees, which would go against existing Council policies. Also, the estimated cost of a two vehicle bay is \$35,000 per bay, and the existing budget does not allow for this expenditure.

A shared footpath/cyclepath was considered, but because over 160 cyclists per day use this road it would be a reduction in cycle safety to try to divert this number of cyclists over the 44 vehicle entrances on this section of Whiteleigh Avenue. Such a proposal would also be valueless for the many cyclists who would continue to use the carriageway.

In response to the above requests it is proposed that:

1. Cycle lanes/facilities will be provided and coloured on all approaches to the Barrington Street/Lincoln Road/Whiteleigh Avenue intersection.
2. The bus bay outside No. 16 will be lengthened.

The estimated cost of this work as shown on the appended plan is \$158,000. It is hoped that work will start in July 2004. Having met all objectives the project is ready for the preparation of the construction plans.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the proposed work be approved for construction.
 2. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the south-west side of Whiteleigh Avenue commencing at its intersection with Jack Hinton Drive and extending in a south-easterly direction for a distance of ninety-two metres (92 metres).
 3. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the south-west side of Whiteleigh Avenue commencing at its intersection with Jack Hinton Drive and extending in a north-westerly direction for a distance of two hundred and eighteen metres (218 metres).

4. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the south-west side of Whiteleigh Avenue commencing at its intersection with Show Drive and extending in a south-easterly direction for a distance of fifty-nine metres (59 metres).
5. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the north-east side of Whiteleigh Avenue commencing at its intersection with the Main South Railway line and extending in a south-easterly direction for a distance of eighty-four metres (84 metres).
6. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited on the north-east side of Whiteleigh Avenue commencing at its intersection with Barrington Street and extending in a north-westerly direction for a distance of seventy-two metres (72 metres).

Chairman's

Recommendation:

That the staff recommendations be supported.