

5. HARAKEKE STREET – TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Officer responsible Community Advocate, Martin Maguire	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary, DDI 941-6502
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The purpose of this report is to advise the outcomes of the 16th April meeting of this Board's Transport and Roading Committee meeting with the Fendalton/Waimairi Works, Traffic and Environment Committee.

BACKGROUND

As Harakeke Street sits within the Riccarton and Fendalton Wards, a joint approach by both Committees in receiving the City Streets Unit report was considered essential.

Local residents have held discussions with members from both Community Boards over recent months on various traffic safety and speed issues as well as the narrow bridge over the stream.

On behalf of the City Streets Manager, Jeff Owen was in attendance to present his report.

The Avon River bridge on Harakeke Street forms the boundary between the Fendalton and Waimairi wards. A video presentation was used to provide a visual perspective of the affected areas and members expressed their appreciation for the use of this technology.

HARAKEKE STREET – PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

A proposal was submitted aimed at addressing concerns raised last year by local residents about the lack of a footpath facility across the narrow Harakeke Street road bridge in the vicinity of the Christchurch Boys' High Adams House Boarding Hostel. Potential confusion as to vehicle rights of way at the bridge was also an issue identified.

The low cost improvement proposed was to create a footpath on the west side of the bridge using kerb blocks to separate vehicles and pedestrians under this scheme, the current 6.5 metre width would be reduced to 4 metres and require the installation of a give way control in one direction.

Members were supportive of the changes proposed as a basis for consultation with the local community.

HARAKEKE STREET/ROCHDALE STREET – TRAFFIC CONCERNS

In September 2003, representatives from both Boards met on site with local residents over traffic concerns in the immediate area.

Submitted for the joint Committee's consideration in response to that meeting, was a technical report covering traffic volumes, traffic composition, traffic speed and vehicle crashes. Surveys and a video analysis undertaken had revealed some vehicle short cutting but this was not excessive. Speed and traffic volumes were also low for such residential streets.

With both streets programmed to be reconstructed in the next 5 years, members acknowledged that the issues raised, with the exception of the bridge treatment for pedestrians, be further addressed at that time.

A proposal to impose a heavy traffic ban on the affected streets was not supported by the majority of members present.

Members were supportive of any works being undertaken with the road reconstruction which is planned within the next five years.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the proposed project to improve pedestrian safety and convenience at the Harakeke Street Avon River bridge, be endorsed by the Board for consultation with the local community.
 2. That the residents' various concerns be further addressed at the time of the reconstruction of Rochdale Street (2006/07) and Harakeke Street (2008/09).
 3. That the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board explore the option of Harakeke Street (Rochdale to Kilmarnock) being advanced in the programme from the 2008/09 year.

Chairperson's Recommendation: That the Officer's recommendations be adopted.