

## 8. WORKS, TRAFFIC AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – REPORT OF 16 MARCH 2005

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The purpose of this report is to submit the following outcomes of the Committee's 16 March 2005 meeting.

**Report of a meeting of the Works, Traffic and Environment Committee  
held on Wednesday 16 March 2005 at 8.00 am  
in Meeting Room 1, CCC Fendalton.**

**PRESENT:** Cheryl Colley (Chairman), Sally Buck, Faimeh Burke, Val Carter, Pat Harrow, Mike Wall and Andrew Yoon.

Mike Wall retired at 8.40 am and was present for clauses 2.1 and 2.2.

### 1. APOLOGIES

An apology for early departure was received and accepted from Mike Wall.

### 2. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

#### 2.1 ECan Public Passenger Transport - Update

Mr Matthew Noon from ECan updated the Committee on the current status of ECan's passenger transport services in the Fendalton/Waimairi area.

Mr Noon highlighted the service review process, the June 2004 contract changes, the introduction of the MetroStar service, travel time variability and ticketing and fare changes.

At the conclusion of questions from members, the Committee Chairman thanked Mr Noon for his informative presentation.

#### 2.2 Heaton Street – Traffic Management

Mr Bill Hall of No 138 Heaton Street spoke in opposition to the chosen sites for the two bus stops and at other elements of the design introduced outside of what the residents had earlier understood to be the Council's offered co-ordinated traffic management plan.

Mr Hall indicated that on street parking in the specified area was all taken up presumably by hospital related parking, so there was no short term parking available for use by Heaton Intermediate School related traffic.

Mr Hall also commented on other aspects of the design including support for the proposed islands albeit they appeared to be too close together and he questioned why the pedestrian crossing should be removed.

Members asked questions of Mr Hall and the Committee Chairman thanked him for his submissions.

Mr David Lynch of No. 135 Heaton Street expressed his support for the submissions made by Mr Hall. He indicated that local residents had an expectation of full and meaningful consultation around a more formal process. They believed that this had not occurred.

Mr Lynch tabled a letter from the owner of No. 139 Heaton Street indicating opposition to the placement of a bus stop outside his property.

Mr Lynch asked that the intended positioning of the two bus stops be further to the south away from the current congestion and conflicts associated with the school and the new hospital entrance. The residents also sought a peer review of the traffic scheme and referred also to the strong branding of the bus stop signage which the residents would have preferred being included on existing structures. There was also a concern about the commercial intrusion of bus shelters with advertising if these were contemplated in the future.

Mr Lynch said that in principle the residents supported the efforts over safety improvements but in this instance the consultation process had not been adequate or meaningful. Also the residents acknowledged the school's support for elements of the scheme although the key question for residents was about what happens outside school hours.

The Committee chairman thanked Mr Lynch for his submission and the submitters then left the meeting table.

Clause 3 of this report records the outcomes of the Committee's considerations of the resident's submissions and the accompanying officer's report on this matter.

### **3. HEATON STREET – TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**

Further to clause 2.2 above, the Committee considered a report from Mr Michael Thompson of the Transport and City Streets Unit seeking endorsement from the Board of the traffic management plan for Heaton Street in the vicinity of Heaton Intermediate School and St George's Hospital, including associated traffic, parking and bus stop measures as part of the submitted plan.

Mr Thompson responded to the points raised by the submitters. On the matter of consultation he indicated that he visited all properties affected and had left business cards where required.

He explained that the proposed plan concentrated on a defined area of need beyond which there were many other issues that could not be resolved by this particular plan. The scheme sought to address a number of safety concerns highlighted by both Heaton Intermediate School and the Police.

Mr Thompson said the kea crossing proposal offered controlled safety within the school operating periods whereas outside school times, surveys revealed that only five pedestrians per hour used the existing pedestrian crossing.

Other features of the plan were explained including the rationale for the positioning of the two proposed refuge islands and the provision of a painted right turn bay into St George's Hospital.

Officers considered the positioning of the bus stop outside No. 138 Heaton Street to be the best position available in terms of meeting passenger demands.

Members asked unit staff in attendance various questions including options for the repositioning of the bus stops and the provision of time limit parking restrictions.

Overall, the Committee accepted the need for a number of the proposed safety measures contained in the submitted plan but felt that in response to the submissions presented, further work was needed to peer review the bus stop locations and assess also the option of time limit parking controls. A site visit as part of the further reporting back to the Committee was also agreed on.

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. (a) That the zebra pedestrian crossing be removed on Heaton Street at the Heaton Intermediate entrance.  
(b) That a kea crossing school patrol be established on Heaton Street located at a point more or less 104 metres south west of Circuit Street.
2. That the positioning of the intended bus stops and on street parking controls be the subject of a peer review for reporting back to the Committee.
3. That the remaining features of the plan as submitted, be approved.

(Note: Faimeh Burke asked that her vote be recorded against recommendation 1(a) above.)

### **4. ALLISTER AVENUE – STREET TREE**

The Parks and Waterways Area Advocate sought approval for the removal of a flowering cherry street tree outside No. 9 Allister Avenue.

The Committee was advised that consent to the removal of the dwelling and garage at No. 9 Allister Avenue had been granted by the Council in February 2005. The position however of the tree was in the middle of the property frontage thereby impeding site access to remove the house.

The Committee was advised that a decision was required at this meeting as removal of the house was to occur in the week of 21 March 2005.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the removal of the street tree outside No. 9 Allister Avenue be approved subject to the applicant meeting the cost of:
  - (a) a suitably sized replacement tree; and
  - (b) the maintenance costs during the initial establishment period of the replacement tree.
2. That the actioning of 1. above by staff following the Committee meeting, be confirmed.

**5. LOCAL PROJECTS - UPDATE**

The Community Engagement Adviser provided the Committee with a brief verbal update on the following projects:

- Nepal Reserve
- Millbrook Reserve
- Four Winds Reserve (Clyde/Memorial/Fendalton corner)
- Avic Hill Reserve
- Ilam Stream Restoration Project
- Community Garden Awards

The meeting concluded at 9.28 am.

**CHAIRMAN'S RECOMMENDATION**

That the report be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.