



9. QUEENSPARK BUS PRIORITY PROJECT – NEW SIGNALISED CROSSING

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8608
Officer responsible:	Transport and Greenspace Unit Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the recommendation of the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board to the Council to install a new signalised pedestrian crossing and associated parking restrictions on New Brighton Road outside Burwood School, as part of the Queenspark Bus Priority Project, as shown in the plan for Council approval at **attachment 1**.
2. This report also seeks the recommendation of the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board to the Council to revoke a short section of special vehicle lane, namely a “bus lane” from New Brighton Road, as part of the Queenspark Bus Priority Project, as shown in the plan for Council approval at **attachment 2**.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. The Queenspark Bus Priority project was approved to proceed to detailed design, tender and construction by the Council at its meeting on 12 June 2008. During the detailed design phase, the project team noted that the existing kea crossing outside Burwood School would be unsafe during the operation of the outbound bus lane between Lake Terrace Road and Bassett Street.
4. Burwood School fronts on to both Lake Terrace Road and New Brighton Road. A school speed zone currently operates in the morning and afternoon peak when traffic must slow to 40 kilometres per hour, as well as a kea crossing.
5. A recent study of school drop off/pick up parking facilities has concluded that a P3 (maximum parking for three minutes) at school arrival and departure times, is the most successful time restriction to discourage parents/caregivers from leaving their car parked outside the school for long periods. Turn over of vehicles optimises the drop off/pick up activity which benefits all parents/caregivers, as well as reducing parking congestion right at the school gate. The School Principal agrees with the change from a P5 loading zone to a P3.
6. The project team investigated the installation of a signalised pedestrian crossing as a safe alternative to the kea crossing and discussed this option with Burwood School. The School Principal was very supportive of the signalised crossing option and agreed with the removal of the school speed zone with the installation of the signalised crossing. The Principal has advised the School Board of Trustees, who are supportive of the proposal.
7. The reasons for the removal of the 40 kilometres per hour school zone are as follows:
 - (a) The retention of a school zone with the installation of a signalised crossing is not considered appropriate because:
 - Motorists stopped at the signalised crossing may not realise that when they are leaving the signalised crossing they are still subject to a maximum speed of 40 kilometres per hour.
 - Any person/child on the roadway may believe that traffic will only be doing 40 kilometres per hour, when they may actually be going faster.
 - Slower speeds generally reduce the gaps in the traffic, which potentially affects the efficient operation of the signals (i.e. the signals may remain green longer than necessary for the traffic, which unnecessarily delays the pedestrians).
 - The signals will provide a far greater degree of safety for the school children, as traffic will be required to stop for them rather than just slowing down.

8. The revocation of the section of bus lane commencing at the intersection of Golf Links Road and continuing for 38 metres along New Brighton Road is required for safety reasons. Golf Links Road has a free left turn movement at any time onto New Brighton Road. A bus travelling straight through the intersection along New Brighton Road on a green light could potentially collide with a vehicle turning left using the free left turn from Golf Links Road onto New Brighton Road.
9. Therefore the project team considers that for safety reasons the bus lane on the downstream side of the intersection should be removed, and the bus can merge into the traffic lane from the bus stops outside The Palms on New Brighton Road. This will have a negligible effect on the reliability and travel time of the bus services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Funding for the signalised crossing and associated parking sign changes is provided within the Queenspark Bus Priority project, which is programmed for construction in the 2009/2010 financial year. The estimated cost of the new signalised crossing is \$153,000 and will be constructed in this financial year.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

11. Based on the estimated cost of the signalised crossing, there is sufficient budget within the Queenspark Bus Priority project to carry out the work, which is programmed for implementation in the 2009/2010 financial year.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

12. There are no property issues associated with the new signalised crossing. There are no notable or heritage trees, or heritage or historic buildings, places or objects shown in the City Plan, which are affected by the new signalised crossing. No resource consents are required for the work proposed.

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

13. The removal of the existing 40km/h variable speed limit (school zone) outside Burwood School on Lake Terrace Road and New Brighton Road requires a change to the Christchurch City Speed Limits Bylaw 2005 – Register of Speed Limits, 40km/h Variable Speed Limits (School Zones) – Clause Ten. This requires Council approval.
14. Community Board resolutions are required to approve the associated traffic and parking restrictions for the signalised crossing. These restrictions are subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act 1974 and 2002, as well as the Land Transport Rule 54002, Traffic Control Devices, which provide for the installation of parking restrictions. Part 1, Clause 5 of the Christchurch City Council Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2008 provides the Council with the authority to install parking restrictions by resolution. The Community Board has delegated authority from the Council to exercise the delegations as set out in the Register of Delegations (April 2008) in relation to the resolution of parking restrictions and traffic control devices.
15. The Council needs to approve the installation of the signalised pedestrian crossing and the revocation of the section of the bus lane along New Brighton Road.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

16. The recommendations align with Streets and Transport safety programme activities by contributing to the Council's Community Outcomes – Safety and Community.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

17. As above.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

18. The recommendations align with Council strategies and policies including the Parking Strategy 2003, Pedestrian Strategy 2001 and Road Safety Strategy 2004.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

19. As above.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

20. The Burwood Primary School Board of Trustees and School Principal have been consulted and have no objection to the proposal.
21. The Police Education Officer has been consulted and agrees that a signalised pedestrian crossing will improve the safety and convenience for all road users at this location. The reasons for the signalised pedestrian crossing have been discussed above. In addition, the signalised pedestrian crossing will have the added benefit of reducing the queuing effect through the adjacent Avondale/Bassett roundabout that occurs currently due to the inefficiencies of the school patrol created by the difficult gap selection requirements that are currently experienced by the school patrollers.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board recommend to the Council the following resolutions for approval:

Remove special vehicle lane:

- (a) That a special vehicle lane, specifically a "bus lane", which restricts the lane for use by buses, bicycles and motorcycles on the north side of New Brighton Road operating at any time, commencing at its intersection with Golf Links Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 38.5 metres be removed.

Revoke existing parking restrictions:

- (b) That the stopping of vehicles at any time on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 119.5 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 14.5 metres, be revoked.
- (c) That the stopping of vehicles from 4pm to 6pm Monday to Friday on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 134 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 104.5 metres, be revoked.
- (d) That the stopping of vehicles at any time on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 238.5 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction to its intersection with Bassett Street, be revoked.

Install new parking restrictions:

- (e) That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited from 4pm to 6pm Monday to Friday on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 69.5 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 11 metres.
- (f) That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited from 4pm to 6pm Monday to Friday on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 87 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 23 metres.

- (g) That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited at any time on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 110 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 35 metres.
- (h) That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited from 4pm to 6pm Monday to Friday on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 149 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 77 metres.
- (i) That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited at any time on the north side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 226 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction to its intersection with Bassett Street.

Revoke existing loading zone restrictions:

- (j) That the loading zone (goods vehicles only) time limit five minutes from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday on the northern side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 69.5 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 10 metres, be revoked.
- (k) That the loading zone (goods vehicles only) time limit five minutes from 8am to 4pm Monday to Friday on the northern side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 86 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 33.5 metres, be revoked.

Install new loading zone restrictions:

- (l) That the parking of vehicles be restricted to a maximum period of three minutes on the northern side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 69.5 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 11 metres. This restriction is to apply from 8.30am to 9.30am and from 2.30pm to 4.00pm Monday to Friday on school days.
- (m) That the parking of vehicles be restricted to a maximum period of three minutes on the northern side of New Brighton Road commencing at a point 87 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of 23 metres. This restriction is to apply from 8.30am to 9.30am and from 2.30pm to 4.00pm Monday to Friday on school days.

Remove existing kea crossing:

- (n) That the kea crossing located on New Brighton Road located at a point 125 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road be removed.

Remove school speed zones:

- (o) That the 40 kilometres per hour variable speed limit located on Lake Terrace Road, servicing Burwood School be removed.
- (p) That the 40 kilometres per hour variable speed limit located on New Brighton Road, servicing Burwood School be removed.

Install new signalised pedestrian crossing:

- (q) That a pedestrian crossing, controlled by traffic signals, be installed on New Brighton Road located at a point 125 metres east of its intersection with Lake Terrace Road.