

4. CIRCUIT STREET – STREET RENEWAL

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

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Fendalton/Waimairi Works, Traffic and Environment Committee's recommendation that the Board approve the Circuit Street renewal project, as shown in the **attached** plan (TP319701 – Issue 3).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. This project was initiated by the Transport and Greenspace Unit and involves the replacement of existing kerb, dish channel and the reconstruction of the carriageway over the full length of Circuit Street.
3. Circuit Street is 14 metres wide and approximately 194 metres long, it is located off Heaton Street and is classified as a local road serving residential dwellings. The street also serves as a drop off area for students to both St. Andrew's College and Heaton Normal Intermediate School.
4. Circuit Street is classified as a 'Special Amenity Area' and is governed by a SAM 11 in the Christchurch City Plan rules, which regulates the way this area can be developed. The area is considered to be very notable because of the quality of the buildings and their garden settings.
5. A concept plan was developed with the following key features:
 - (a) Replacing kerb and dish channel at a new 10 metre alignment;
 - (b) Full reconstruction of the carriageway;
 - (c) A speed hump at the intersection with Heaton Street;
 - (d) A turning circle at the end of the street;
 - (e) New 1.5 metre footpaths on either side of the street;
 - (f) Kerbside grass berms;
 - (g) Planting 22 Snowbell trees;
 - (h) Upgrading street lights to meet current street lighting standards;
 - (i) Upgrading stormwater pipes, sumps and drainage pipes where required;
 - (j) Installing tactile pavers
6. The concept plan was distributed to the affected community, the consultation received a good response rate of 21 most of which, but not all, were from local residents - only 3 residents on Circuit Street had not responded. The proposal has a good level of community support, with a number of submitters raising issues that they would like considered by the project team.
7. Several submitters indicated a strong desire to see the existing parking restrictions retained on Circuit Street – all residents were informed that the outcome of the parking restrictions would be dependent on the outcome of the Heaton Street Parking Plan which will be submitted to the Board at a later date, prior to the reconstruction of Circuit Street.
8. With the proposed turning circle and the inclusion of no parking lines in this area there will be approximately eight car parking spaces lost. Car parking/dropping off capacity at St. Andrew's College has recently been increased.

9. The recommended concept for the Circuit Street Renewal project is **attached** (TP319701 – Issue 3).
10. These works are scheduled for implementation in the 2011/12 financial year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11. The funding for the proposed kerb and channel renewal works on Circuit Street is recommended in the 2009-19 LTCCP Street Renewal Programme, page 245 as follows:

2009/10	\$20,000
2010/11	\$52,000
2011/12	\$429,000

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

12. Yes. Based on current estimates there is sufficient budget allocated in the 2009-2019 LTCCP to implement the project which is programmed for the 2011/12 financial year.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

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

13. There are no land ownership issues associated with this project. The project is within existing land boundaries.
14. A resource consent is likely to be required for works within 10 metres of a notable tree.
15. There are no parking restrictions being resolved as part of this project. The restrictions required will be considered resolved by the Community Board as part of the Heaton Street Parking Plan which will be completed prior to work commencing on Circuit Street.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

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

16. Funding for the project is provided in the 2009-2019 LTCCP Street Renewal Programme and is consistent with Activity 10.0: Road Network in the Streets and Transport Asset Management Plan.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

17. The recommendations in this report align with current Council strategies including the Parking Strategy 2003, the Road Strategy 2004, the Christchurch Public Passenger Transport Strategy 1998, the Cycling Strategy 1998 and 2004 and Pedestrian Strategy 2001; and are consistent with the requirements for arterial and local roads as defined within the City Plan.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

Consultation Process and Outcome

18. A seminar was held with the members of the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board on 26 April 2010. The publicity pamphlet which included the initial concept plan and a feedback form was distributed to residents including those on Heaton Street, Papanui Road, St. Andrew's Square and other stakeholders for consultation. The consultation period was open from 10 to 28 May 2010. Submissions received until 1 June 2010 were also accepted and were included in the consultation feedback document. The consultation feedback document has been circulated separately to Board members.

19. The consultation received 21 responses and community feedback was generally supportive of the proposal with some residents indicating they had mixed views.
- (a) seven submitters responded “YES – I support the proposed work in Circuit Street”;
 - (b) nine submitters responded “I support the concept plan with some suggestions/concerns”;
 - (c) three submitters responded “NO – I do not support the proposed work in Circuit Street”;
 - (d) two submitters did not have a preference as one was from the gas company providing staff with their plans of their gas lines and the other was a resident who received the leaflet in error.

Two of the three submitters that responded ‘No’ were residents of St. Andrews Square. The other submitter was a resident on Circuit Street, who is in support of the kerb and channel renewal and the turning circle but was opposing the narrowing of the street and preferred to have angle parking on one side of the street.

20. Submitters made the following comments:
- (a) Residential aspect of the street should be enhanced with the parking being given secondary importance;
 - (b) Inclusion of kerb build-outs midway on street to ‘break up’ the parking;
 - (c) Do not narrow the road width as it will not allow parents to double park and drop their children off to school and will not cater for people parking in the centre of the road when sporting events are on;
 - (d) Cycle Lane on street;
 - (e) Tactile pavers need to indicate direction to and from median islands;
 - (f) Do not want the raised platform at the intersection with Heaton Street;
 - (g) Would like evergreen trees – problem with blocked gutters;
 - (h) Consider angle parking on one side of the street to cater for traffic volumes;
 - (i) Move light poles back against the boundary fences, the lighting poles will be located along the grass berms;
 - (j) Opposed at the Council sealing off an alternative entrance to the School;
 - (k) Concerns on construction timeframe due to Elizabeth House being a wedding venue;
 - (l) Other concerns were raised about the median island outside St. George’s Hospital with only one handrail being provided and also about the disused vehicular kerb cut-down on Heaton Street not being safe for disabled people;
 - (m) Request for installing a bus stop and shelter near St. George’s Hospital.
21. Below are the project team’s responses to the above concerns and changes to the proposal:
- (a) The street has been enhanced by providing grass berms with 22 Snowbell trees and 1.5 metre footpaths on either side of the street;
 - (b) As there is a high demand for parking on the street it is considered desirable to retain as much as possible and therefore there is no proposal to include kerb build-outs midway on the street;

- (c) The standard Christchurch City Council road width for a residential street is 9 metres; we have proposed 10 metres to cater for the high demand and turnover on the street which allows us to create grass berms on which we can plant some trees. Narrowing the road width will reduce vehicle speeds and will discourage the double parking and also parking along the centre of the street during sport events, students could be dropped off in a safe manner at the turning circle – the Project Team also understand that St. Andrew's College have also provided for additional parking/drop off zones within the School grounds to alleviate some of the traffic issues;
 - (d) The street is classified as a local road and based on the traffic speed volumes the project team would expect that cyclists can safely bike on the road;
 - (e) The location of tactile pavers will be reviewed;
 - (f) The aim of the raised platform is to highlight the residential nature of the street and to ensure vehicles slow down – there is allowance for the vehicle to sit clear of the hump while waiting to exit the street;
 - (g) Deciduous trees were proposed to alleviate issues with sunlight to properties during the winter months; houses on this street are set back quite a distance from the front boundary;
 - (h) As Circuit Street is a residential street in a SAM area, angle parking would not help retain the residential amenity of the area;
 - (i) There is no technical reason to relocate the light poles;
 - (j) This proposal does not alter the current access arrangements for St. Andrew's College;
 - (k) The project team will try to ensure the construction timeframe commences after their event season;
 - (l) Concerns about disabled access along Heaton Street with regard to the median island and the disused cut-down kerbs are outside the scope of this project and have been referred to the Council's Network Operations Team for consideration. Only disused cut-down kerbs along Circuit Street will be removed;
 - (m) The bus stop and shelter near St. George's Hospital is being reviewed as part of the Heaton Street Parking Plan.
22. All respondents have been sent a final letter together with a copy of the final plan and the consultation document with the project team's response. Details of the Fendalton/Waimairi Works, Traffic and Environment Committee meeting (date, time and venue) were provided to residents wishing to make a deputation to the Board prior to a decision being made; a copy of this letter has been circulated separately to the Board members.
23. The final concept plan, which includes the above amendments, is **attached** (TP319701 – Issue 3) and is recommended for approval by the Board.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Fendalton/Waimairi Works, Traffic and Environment Committee recommend that the Board approve the Circuit Street renewal project, as shown in the attached plan (TP319701 – Issue 3).