


7. QUESTIONS

Paul de Spa submitted the following questions pursuant to Standing Orders 4.1.1 to 4.1.5:

- 
- (a) Has the Lyttelton Street (Sparks Road to Wychbury Street) kerb and channel renewal project been put out for tender, given that in its current form (approved by the Board 20 September 2005) it contains cycle lanes?
 - (b) If not, what is the timeframe for calling for tenders and will the plans be redrawn to exclude the cycle lanes?
 - (c) If it is planned to delete the cycle lanes, will the Board and the residents of Lyttelton Street be consulted about this change to the approved scheme?

In reply, Richard Bailey (Maintenance Team Leader, Transport and City Streets Unit) advised:

- (a) Not yet. The project is due to go out to tender on 5 November 2005. The project will be tendered without the cycle lane markings. All kerb positions etc. will be the same, only the cycle lane markings will be omitted. This essentially means the vehicle lanes will be wider than usual.
- (b) Effectively yes, the plans will be redrawn to exclude cycle lanes.
- (c) It was not intended to conduct further consultation on this matter prior to tender. The decision by the Council is clear. Given this, it is either a matter of keep the cycle lanes on the plans and hold up the entire project until the freeze is lifted; or proceed without the cycle lane markings. As this is effectively a \$1M project, to delay construction would have very significant implications for the overall capital programme. Further, the markings are the very last action to occur on the road – with a six month construction timeframe, there will be a number of opportunities to either inform the Board and residents of the removal of cycle lanes (if the freeze remains or becomes permanent) or add them back into the project when (if) the freeze is lifted.

The Board **decided** to express, as a matter of urgency, its concern regarding the responses given to the questions raised. The Board had signed off on a project, which had also been through the Council – it was not clear by whose authority the project was now being altered, and whether a safety audit had been undertaken.

It was **decided** that the Chairperson seek speaking rights regarding Lyttelton Street at the next Council meeting.