

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Brian Neill
Corporate Plan Output: Traffic Signs and Markings	

The purpose of this report is to receive a petition (tabled) from residents of Mairehau who are concerned about the left turn from Queen Elizabeth II Drive into both Philpotts Road and Hills Road. 33 people from Philpotts Road, Chilton Drive, Greenfield Place and Fortune Street are concerned about the lack of road space for drivers turning left at these intersections.

BACKGROUND

The following letter accompanied the petition which was received by the Mayor and referred to the City Services Committee:

"May we draw your attention to the dangerous turn into Philpotts Road from the motorway when travelling west. There needs to be a separate lane entirely, at least 22 metres. The bulge of the footpath would need to be reduced. One cycle only, crossing this intersection at a time. There needs to be the sign, Philpotts Road some distance to the east. See diagram.

Further along the motorway, now travelling east, that turn off is far too sharp. It also requires a separate lane as shown in the diagram.

The persons names signed on the following sheets, chosen from different streets, agree with these suggestions. They thought the speed of 80 km/h too great between the inlet and outlet roads for crossing the motorway.

We trust the Christchurch City Council will give some thought to these necessary alterations to this road."

DISCUSSION

Most traffic travels along Queen Elizabeth II Drive at speeds approaching the legal limit of 80 km/h. Motorists slowing to turn left into either Philpotts Road or Hills Road must be mindful of following traffic and make allowances for positioning their vehicle as far as practicable to the left before executing the turn. The left turn into nearby Winters Road also needs to be accorded similar respect by motorists. The narrow sealed shoulders on the left hand side of the roadway on the approaches to these intersections may contribute to the unease that many drivers experience when turning left off the expressway.

At the other (main) junction on Queen Elizabeth II Drive - at Grimseys Road, a separate left turn lane has been marked for traffic turning into this collector road. Hills Road north of Queen Elizabeth II Drive, Philpotts Road and Winters Road are all local roads. The volume of traffic left turning at Winters, Philpotts and Hills Roads is insufficient to justify the provision of a separate left turn lanes.

However, it is practicable to carry out some work on the road shoulders in these locations to provide a more generous width of seal that would allow drivers to pull

further out of the traffic stream to make a left turn manoeuvre into Philpotts Road and Hills Road at their intersections with Queen Elizabeth II Drive.

Although there are existing street name signs positioned in advance of the turns into Philpotts Road and Hills Road they can be upgraded to provide motorists with a greater opportunity to identify the junction in advance of the intersection.

CONCLUSION

Improvements can be made to the amount of sealed road space available for motorists turning left from QEII Drive into either Philpotts Road or Hills Road. However, developing separate left turning facilities at both of these junctions and at nearby Winters Road is not recommended. The existing advance street name signs can be replaced and repositioned to provide clearer warning to drivers of the turn ahead.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the petition be received.
 2. That the petitioners be informed of the proposals to provide more roadspace for left turns into both Philpotts Road and Hills Road.

Chairman's Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.