

11. HEYDERS ROAD AND LOWER STYX ROAD DRAINAGE PROBLEMS

RR 10334

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Lindsay Eagle, Area Engineer
Corporate Plan Output: Roading System Maintenance 9.5.19	

The purpose of this report is to provide information for the Board concerning progress with roadside drainage and enhancement works in the Brooklands/Spencerville area.

Residents in this area have experienced persistent localised surface flooding problems adjacent to the roadways in this area. The subsurface material and ground structure through Brooklands/Spencerville is very porous. However, where vehicles have compacted the surface soil on the grass berms the water is unable to soak through, particularly adjacent to the vehicle entranceways. During heavy rains water does temporarily build up on the surface.

The river and high tide water level is generally only a metre below the road surface, so that it is impractical to use normal municipal stormwater drainage systems.

Over the past 5 – 6 years the Water Services and City Streets Units have progressively installed a system of swale soakage drains, new vehicle crossings and footpaths along Harbour Road and the northern end of Lower Styx Road, to as far south as the Styx River. The drains in the berms work in two ways. The primary function is to disperse run-off from the road directly into the subsoil, but there is also a perforated longitudinal pipe of limited capacity, which will distribute any ponded water.

The work that has been done has greatly improved the roadside drainage and the appearance of the district. It will be further enhanced with the planting of different coloured Ake Ake trees in the berms later this season. The trees should assist with deterring motorists from driving over the grassed areas.

Heyders Road, Spencerville, also has localised surface flooding problems arising from compaction of the surface of the grass berms. The residents would like berm reconstruction to a similar standard as Brooklands. They have also requested that work be done to enhance the roadside plantings adjacent to the road humps and to tidy the fenceline in the forested section. The very sandy soil makes it difficult to keep grass through the summer drought. However, where the grass is well established and cared for it is in reasonable condition. The Water Services Unit has not been aware of the drainage problems in Spencerville

Heyders Road carriageway is so narrow that residents and visitors do not feel comfortable parking on the edge of the seal. Widening the carriageway would allow vehicles to be parked more safely on the edge of the seal, but this is not a preferred solution as it would encourage higher vehicle speeds. Widening the carriageway would also reduce the berm area available for soakage of stormwater.

A swale/drain system could be constructed along Heyders Road similar to that in Brooklands. This would be very costly and surface flooding could continue to be a problem if vehicles were driven over the grassed areas as has occurred in places in Brooklands. A strong case would need to be made to both Water Services and the City Streets Units to justify the expense. An alternative may be more achievable such as regrading of the berm surface, with formation of some parking areas and planting to help prevent drivers from parking on the grass. Vehicle crossings could be widened sufficiently to allow a parking space beside each entrance with shrub planting at the edge to encourage vehicles to stay on the seal.

Over the next 6 months the road maintenance contractors should complete the following work along Heyders Road:

- Clean up the untidy appearance of the fenceline through the forest, topdress this berm area and spread seed when necessary.
- Replant areas adjacent to the road humps, in the same style as the planting last year at Heyders/Lower Styx intersection.
- Repair carriageway seal edge breaks

The beach end of Heyders Road was formed and sealed earlier this year.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the Water Services and City Streets Units be requested to include roadside drainage works in this section of Heyders Road, within their prioritised works budgets.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be adopted.