

**CITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**FRIDAY 17 DECEMBER 1999
AT 12 NOON**

3. BUS INTERCHANGE AND RELATED PROJECTS

RR 11123

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Corporate Plan Output: Advice to Council	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of a report and recommendation concerning the bus interchange and related matters, presented to the Canterbury Regional Council at its meeting yesterday (December 16, 1999).

The report, prepared by Mark Bachels, Strategic Analyst was as follows:

“The Crossing” Bus Interchange Update

With the “The Crossing” Bus Interchange under construction the Regional and City Councils will be significantly improving public transport in Christchurch. Along with the interchange itself the CRC and CCC will be making a number of improvements to public transport including bus routing, ticketing and real-time information. These improvements are part of meeting the goals established in the joint council public transport strategy “Our Future Our Choice”

A joint staff team working on “The Crossing” Bus Interchange have developed a potentially win-win package of improvements for bus routes, traffic management, central city route coverage, and through-routing in general. To achieve these “win-win” outcomes will require a concerted effort and an ongoing commitment by both councils.

The guiding principle of this “win-win” package is “what’s good for public transport will be good for our Central City and vice versa.”

The “win-win” benefits will include improving coverage and reducing bus movements in central city by through-routing some bus routes. Through-routing has the potential to achieve lower ratepayer costs for public transport routes, reductions in bus movements in central city, improved central city traffic flow, and improved coverage for public transport users from suburb to suburb. To achieve through-routing, traffic management measures will be required to reduce bus travel time variability.

Staff are envisioning a staged use of introduction of routes to the interchange, where about 30-50% of routes would use the interchange upon its planned opening in November 2000 with the remainder introduced the following April. This staged introduction would enable a smoother transition for bus users, bus operators, and traffic management, as well as introduction of new ticketing and real-time information systems.

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This report recommends that both councils adopt this “win-win” package approach in principle. Achieving this package would be a milestone decision for both councils. The joint staff team will present the proposed package of system improvements (and benefits) to both councils in the new year.

Recommendation: That the Regional Council adopt in principle the inclusion of the following in the package to improved outcomes for the central city and “The Crossing” Bus Interchange:

- *bus through-routing where possible;*
- *city-wide targeted traffic management measures which support bus through-routing;*
- *improved outcomes for central city access and traffic flow; and*
- *staging of use for “The Crossing” Bus Interchange from November 2000.*

That the City Council be informed of the Regional Council’s adoption in principle of this package.”

The above recommendation was adopted by the Canterbury Regional Council.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the proposal for a “win-win” package to be agreed between the two Councils be accepted in principle
 3. That the implications of the package as proposed by the Regional Council be investigated and reported to the February round of meetings.

Chairman’s

Recommendation: Not seen by Chairman.