7. MARSHLAND ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT -QEII DRIVE TO BRIGGS ROAD/LAKE TERRACE ROAD

Officer responsible	Author
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Corporate Plan Output: Capital Works Programme	

The purpose of this report is to consider feedback that was received by the Council following the distribution of a leaflet describing a proposal to replace the existing roundabout control at the Briggs Road/Marshland Road/Lake Terrace Road intersection with traffic signals. This report is also being considered by the Shirley/Papanui Community Board and the City Services Committee.

BACKGROUND

A leaflet describing a proposal to install traffic signals at the Briggs Road/Marshland Road/Lake Terrace Road intersection was circulated to residents and businesses in the area during May 1999. A report on this proposal was also considered by the City Services Committee prior to the leaflet being circulated. A copy of the original report is attached (*see page 41*) for the information of Board members.

Twenty people responded to the Council's communication. Some questioned the need for replacing the roundabout with traffic signals, others were concerned about changes to traffic flow and the effect the works may have on their properties. Businesses having frontages to Marshland Road were concerned about the facilities for turning traffic and the ability to turn into and out of driveways servicing the properties.

Generally, people were receptive to the proposal to improve traffic management at this important arterial road junction. However, the concerns of the businesses north of the intersection resulted in alterations being made to the plan to accommodate turning movements in and out of these properties.

Recent discussions with the property developers for the land fronting the east side of Marshland Road (between QEII Drive and the proposed traffic signals) has resulted in a proposal to extend the work and improve traffic management in the area by providing two traffic lanes along the east side of the roadway, installing a flush (painted) median and cycle lanes. A leaflet describing these works has been circulated to businesses and residents in the area for their information and further comment. The new kerbs and channels along the east side of the roadway fronting the land now under redevelopment is likely to commence in November or December 1999 prior to the traffic signals being installed in February or March 2000.

SCHEME PLAN

A copy of the original plan for the traffic signals at the Briggs Road/Marshland Road/Lake Terrace Road intersection and the revised plan for the extension of the work along Marshland Road to QEII Drive are attached (*see page 43*) to this report. Discussions with residents and businesses have confirmed the need to make certain that the proposals will improve traffic flow, assist all road users and provide a safer road environment particularly for cyclists, motor cyclists and pedestrians.

Intersection capacity will be improved with separate facilities being provided for right turning traffic on the high volume laned approaches to the new intersection. The additional traffic lane along Marshland Road between QEII Drive and the Briggs Road/Lake Terrace Road intersection will overcome many of the congestion problems that occur in this area at the present time. Future plans for this section of Marshland Road includes enhancements to the waterway (existing drain on the plan), the development of a planted reserve along the east side of the roadway and the introduction of off road as well as on road cycle facilities.

PROCESS

The Burwood/Pegasus and Shirley/Papanui Community Boards may wish to comment on the extension of the project to install traffic signals at the Briggs Road/Marshland Road/Lake Terrace Road intersection to QEII Drive and make appropriate recommendations to the City Services Committee. The City Services Committee will consider formal resolutions that will need to be adopted by the Council to enable the project to proceed.

CONCLUSION

The installation of traffic signals at the Briggs Road/Marshland Road/Lake Terrace Road intersection along with the additional traffic lane and flush median in Marshland Road between the intersection and QEII Drive will improve traffic management in the area and provide additional safety.

During the seeking community views process concerns were expressed by a number of the businesses in Marshland Road north of the intersection about the loss of a turning facility (provided by the existing roundabout) that would be lost when the signals are installed. Changes to the roadway north of the intersection will provide room for the painting of a flush median which will enable drivers to pull out of the traffic lane and wait in the centre of the roadway without interfering with through traffic.

There is a great deal of support for the installation of traffic signals at this junction; the extension of this work north of the intersection will further improve traffic management in the area.

Recommendations: 1. That the information be received.

2. That the Board support the installation of traffic signals at the Briggs Road/Marshland Road/Lake Terrace Road intersection and the introduction of an additional traffic lane, a cycle lane and flush median along a widened section of Marshland Road between the proposed traffic signals at the roundabout at QEII Drive.

Chairperson's Recommendation: For discussion.