

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Richard Falloon, Paving and Sealing Engineer
Corporate Plan Output: 1999/2000 Footpath Resurfacing	

The purpose of this report is to consider a petition received from residents on the south side of Campbell Street, Sumner, between Heberden Avenue and Whitfield Street, objecting to the installation of grassed berms along their frontages in conjunction with the footpath resurfacing work presently underway.

The footpaths are being resurfaced in terms of the Council's "Footpath Berms" policy passed in September 1990 which states that footpaths exceeding 2.5 m width in residential areas shall be laid out with grass berms.

- “1. *Footpaths exceeding 2.5 m in width in residential areas shall be laid out with grass berms.*
2. *Footpaths of width 2.5 m or less in residential areas shall be sealed full width.*
3. *In all commercial and industrial usage areas footpaths 3 m or less in width shall be fully sealed.*
4. *Where high pedestrian traffic usage makes it very difficult to maintain a grassed berm, additional sealing shall be done by the Council.*
5. *In minor berm areas of 2 m² or less, situated between adjacent vehicle entrances or similar where it would be impracticable to form and maintain a grass berm the area shall be sealed provided that where the work is not part of full reconstruction or complete block resurfacing the costs shall be met by the resident.*
6. *Individual requests for removal of grit or sealed berm and replacement with grass be undertaken at Council's cost.*
7. *That this policy except item 6 be implemented in the following circumstances:*
 - (i) *When full reconstruction of a footpath is being undertaken.*
 - (ii) *Where hotmix resurfacing of a path along an entire street block is being undertaken.”*

The footpath in this section of Campbell Street is 3.0 m wide and currently sealed full width with chipseal. The existing surface is over 30 years old.

The essence of the objection by residents is that they feel they cannot look after the berms themselves and believe that the Council would not look after them to a satisfactory standard.

Once installed, the contractor must maintain the grassed berms for three months, or until the Engineer has approved them, whichever is longer. After that time, City Streets is prepared to place them under landscape maintenance for 12 months during which time regular mowing would take place. At that time, they would then be moved onto the berm mowing list which would involve less frequent mowing.

There are eight properties objecting to the installation of grassed berms. Further along Campbell Street the issue has not been raised, nor has there been a reaction in Denman Street where grassed berms have been installed as part of this contract. In one block of Wiggins Street which is being resurfaced, and the footpath is only 2.5 m wide, residents have requested the installation of grassed berms.

The contractor has been instructed not to proceed with work in this block of Campbell Street until the issue is resolved. Liaison has occurred between residents, Councillor Erin Baker and Paving and Sealing Engineer Richard Falloon.

This report seeks either confirmation of the existing policy for this street or a review of it.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the petition be received.
 2. That the Committee consider whether it wishes to make any changes to the “Footpath Berms” policy.

Chairman’s

Recommendation: That the current footpath berms policy be maintained.