

14. ARTERIAL ROAD DEVELOPMENTS

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Corporate Plan Output: New Assets	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of proposals to improve the traffic management at two state highway intersections and create a new junction onto Mairehau Road near Burwood Hospital.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL: MAIN NORTH ROAD/RADCLIFFE ROAD INTERSECTION

Transit NZ have been working with the developers of two sites bordering the intersection of Main North Road near the intersection of Radcliffe Road. The former Applefields land on the west side of Main North Road is presently being redeveloped as the Northwood residential subdivision with the main access point being opposite the Radcliffe Road intersection. The land on the east side of Main North Road is being developed as a new “Supa Centa” – a retail (B4 zone) complex that will generate a lot of traffic from the city and the Belfast/Kaiapoi areas.

A new cross junction will be created at Radcliffe Road which will be controlled by traffic signals. A major junction, the intersection will feature pedestrian and cycle facilities as well as providing for an increasing volume of traffic along Main North Road. Radcliffe Road will be the main entry into the “Supa Centa” from the city. The Council has been working with the developers and Transit NZ to ensure that high standards of access and amenities have been provided for all road users and that the network implications of the newly created intersection will fit in with future transportation initiatives.

A plan indicating the extent of the work proposed at the new junction is attached. Features include the extension of the existing four lane median divided highway from Englefield Road through to Radcliffe Road. Left turns in and left turns out from the “Supa Centa” are to be catered for by the creation of an additional tee junction approximately 150 metres north of Radcliffe Road. Footpaths will be provided from the new subdivision opposite Radcliffe Road back along Main North Road to connect with existing facilities near Englefield Road.

Work is progressing on both the new residential subdivision and the “Supa Centa”. It is understood that the new intersection will be created and traffic signals installed before the end of the year.

HALSWELL ROAD/HALSWELL JUNCTION ROAD/KENNEDY’S BUSH ROAD/SPARKS ROAD INTERSECTION

Members of the Committee will be aware of the on-going concerns of residents in the Halswell and Kennedy’s Bush areas of a need to improve traffic management at this intersection. Last year, at a well attended public meeting, residents were asked to consider proposals for either a roundabout or traffic signals to control traffic. Because of pedestrian issues and technical considerations, the meeting decided that traffic signals was the best option for controlling traffic.

At a meeting held in St Mary's Church Hall on Tuesday 6 June 2000 residents confirmed their support for a proposal put forward by Transit NZ to install traffic signals at the intersection. A plan illustrating this proposal is attached to this report.

A leaflet outlining features of this project has been circulated to residents and businesses in the area with a view to ascertaining support for the plan by the end of June. Transit NZ are confident that, following acceptance by the community, funding would be provided by Transfund to enable the project to proceed next year.

Another proposal in the area which has a bearing on traffic management is the realignment of a bend in Sparks Road at the Milns Road/Sutherlands Road intersection. A residential subdivision in Milns Road has enabled the Council to obtain some road widening in the vicinity of the subdivision and land at the intersection to provide for the future realignment of Milns Road onto Sparks Road. The realignment of the Sparks Road bend has been included in the draft Capital Works programme for 2001/02. Every endeavour will be made to complete the traffic signals project and the work in Sparks Road next year.

NEW SUBDIVISION: MAIREHAU ROAD

Members of the Committee may be aware of the recent clearing of part of the Burwood Plantation opposite the Travis Wetland Nature Heritage Park. This land will shortly be subdivided and a new intersection created with Mairehau Road 100 metres west of the existing residential boundary of Parklands.

Illustrated on the plan attached to this report is a proposal to realign this section of Mairehau Road, create a right turn lane into the new road, provide road space for cyclists and connect a new pathway with Burwood Hospital to the west and Parklands to the east. The new 2.5 metre pathway will be suitable for pedestrians and cyclists, cross the new roadway through a traffic island and provide access to the Travis Wetland Nature Heritage Park at the entrance near the scout den and 357 Mairehau Road. Existing "rural threshold" islands will be removed and the road narrowed at the crossing point into the heritage park.

There is a need to relocate some power poles in the vicinity of the new intersection. Provision has also been made for improved lighting in this area.

It is understood that the company responsible for the subdivision is intending to commence work on this project within two months.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.