

8. SOUTH HAGLEY PARK – NORTHERN BOUNDARY SHARED PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Board on the progress of a proposal to develop a shared pathway along the northern boundary of South Hagley Park and to gain approval for the consultation and publicity to proceed.

Hagley Park serves as one of the two primary cycling focal points within the city's cycle network. The cycle network plan identifies the need for improved cycle facilities in and around Hagley Park. The proposed pathway development and associated cycle works described below are part of the identified improvements within the plan and scheduled for implementation within the 2000/01 financial year.

The primary objective of this project is to improve the safety, access and flow of cyclists and all other path users by providing an all weather park pathway running from the Riccarton Avenue/Hagley Avenue park corner to the Riccarton Road/Deans Avenue park corner. At its termination it will be linked into the safety works being undertaken on the Riccarton Road/Riccarton Avenue roundabout.

The cycleway also aims to enhance the experience of cycling through Hagley Park.

In detail, the existing grit and dirt pathway running from the Riccarton Road/Deans Avenue park corner to the Horticultural Centre entranceway will be sealed with a 2.2m wide asphalt path. A bridge crossing will be developed over Riccarton Main Drain. The bridge will be complementary to possible future enhancements undertaken in the drain area by Water Services. This may include a financial contribution from Water Services to the current development. Some minor leveling works will need to be undertaken to ensure a gentler gradient heading to and from the bridge, and may require a resource consent.

The existing sealed path running from the Horticultural Centre entranceway to the Riccarton Avenue/Hagley Avenue park corner will be widened to 2.2m. Access points around South Hagley Park's boundary will be improved to encourage use of the park.

The pathway's intersections with the three vehicle entrance/exit ways will be designed to ensure path users' awareness to give way to vehicles. After completion of the pathway, a study is planned to ensure the most appropriate priorities are given at these path intersections. Any subsequent proposed modifications to the existing prioritisation will be reported to the Board for consideration.

The new pathway will initially be laid with no lighting added. This work will be undertaken in the future (subject to the annual plan processes) by the Parks Unit and will double as an enhancement treatment with feature lighting of trees.

CONSULTATION

It is proposed that the attached pamphlet is handed out to current path and surroundings users, posted at the YMCA and sent to all leased property tenants along Riccarton Avenue, as well as the hospital and Hagley High School, along with the usual circulation recipients, such as the Community Board, service centres and libraries.

Consultation results and consequent changes to the proposal will be reported back to the Community Board.

This shared pathway will significantly improve the network of sealed pathways around Hagley Park and recognises the demands placed on the park to cater for increasing numbers and types of users.

This is a City Streets Cycling proposal. However, in recognising the path's potential wider benefits, a contribution to the project has been made from the Unit's pedestrian budget, with both the Parks Unit and Water Services considering contributing as well.

It is anticipated that the development will be implemented in December or January 2001.

Recommendation: That the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board endorse the project for public consultation.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendations be adopted.