

10. WOOLSTON/BURWOOD EXPRESSWAY

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Corporate Plan Output: Capital Works Implementation 9.5.85	

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the progress of the Woolston/Burwood Expressway.

STAGE 1

After construction delays at the bridge, progress has been steady and the anticipated completion of this stage is the end of June. An official opening will be organised and invitations sent out early June. The Board will be consulted about the format of this event.

Residents have raised concerns over the lack of landscaping; that is, attention to weeds and dead trees. The roading contractor has been asked to give priority to rectifying such work.

STAGE 2

The publicity leaflet responses were reported to the Board in January this year. These responses have been considered and resulting amendments have been made (all having no effect on the expressway alignment and mainly related to side street treatments).

At a recent Bexley Residents' Association meeting, residents were invited to discuss any issues or concerns with staff from the City Streets Unit. The majority of concerns were related to access to the expressway because of side streets being stopped. Residents were raising the possibility of slip lanes onto the Expressway. However, this is not an option as an expressway is designed to maintain uninterrupted flows. Any reduction in these standards would have an adverse effect on the benefits of the project.

The process of stopping Birch Street, Brook Street and Bexley Road has begun. Public notification is expected to occur in May and care will be taken to ensure all forms of advertising are utilised; that is, local papers, expressway newsletter, and Residents' Association contact.

Property purchase is expected to continue in July once 2001/02 funding becomes available. Letters have been sent out to those who are affected but in some instances residents were unaware of how much land is required for the expressway. This has been rectified following the Bexley Residents' Association meeting where specific issues had been raised.

Design for the final stage has commenced and the contract for this work is to be let in September, with construction to commence in February 2002. Stage 2 is expected to be open to traffic in December 2002.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairperson's

- Recommendations:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That an invitation to the opening of the Woolston/Burwood Expressway bridge be extended to the Avondale Residents' Association, the Ascot/Freeville Residents' Group, the Kate Sheppard Lifecare Centre and Wainoni School.