

14. MAIN ROAD REDCLIFFS – PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Lorraine Wilmshurst, Area Engineer, DDI 372-2625
Corporate Plan Output: On Street Management	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of the outcomes of the proposal to install pedestrian facilities in the Main Road at Redcliffs.

BACKGROUND

It has been identified that pedestrians and in particular, school children require safe crossing points on Main Road and at Taupata Street.

The School approached the Council about the possibility of moving the existing pedestrian crossing at the school gate to the east to improve safety for the children. At present the children exit the school to the pedestrian crossing via the school drive. With the increases in the school roll over the last few years this now means that the children are waiting in the driveway to cross the road. There is a need to remedy this situation.

The ‘Safer Routes to School’ programme also identified a problem at Tuapata Street with children in particular having difficulty judging the vehicle spacing to cross the wide expanse of carriageway.

Several requests have also been received to provide a pedestrian facility at or near Celia Street to provide safe access to the bus stops near this intersection. Pedestrians have been stranded on the painted median with no protection.

PROPOSAL

The proposal is to provide a safe pedestrian environment on Main Road both at the school and at Tuapata Street.

The school pedestrian crossing will be relocated approximately 25 metres east of its present position. As part of this work the school will be widening their entranceway and providing new pedestrian paths within the school grounds. This work will remove pedestrians from the driveway entrance and eliminate any likelihood of conflict between pedestrians and vehicles.

The second part of this work is to provide a safe crossing point at Tuapata Street for pedestrians crossing either Taupata Street or Main Road. The narrowing of Tuapata Street will reduce the amount of road space pedestrians have to cross but still leave plenty of space for vehicles to enter or exit the street. The pedestrian refuge and build outs on Main Road will provide a safe refuge in the centre of the road for pedestrians and provide protection for vehicles waiting to turn right into either Tuapata or Celia Streets.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE

The response to the moving of the pedestrian crossing at the school has been favourable.

However there been a large number of queries about the need for a facility at Tuapata Street. Some of the concerns raised have been drainage at Tuapata / Main Road intersection, the volume of traffic exiting Taupata Street, removal of parking, access to property, the relocation of the bus stop outside number 2 Celia Street and need for another pedestrian facility.

RESPONSES TO COMMUNITY CONCERNS.

The proposal will not effect the drainage at the Tuapata Street intersection. As Tuapata Street has dish kerb and channel the proposed island will be a “stick on” island. The island will close down the intersection from it present 14 metres to 8 metres, leaving two 4 metre lanes for traffic in this local road. This is sufficient space for all vehicles to enter and exit the intersection.

A traffic count was carried out at the intersection from 8 – 9 am (peak hour traffic) on Friday 9 February – results

- 1301 used the intersection.
- 27 cyclist travelled along Main Road.
- 78 pedestrian crossed Tuapata Street
- 15 pedestrian crossed Main Road.
- 64 vehicles entered or exited Tuapata Street
- 19 vehicles entered or exited Celia Street.

During this period 46 vehicles exited Taupata Street but none were heavy vehicles and no delays causing vehicles traffic to build up was experienced.

There will be a loss of parking spaces on Main Road and in Taupata Street but there is not a lack of parking in this area. The work will mean some inconvenience for the adjoining residents and their visitors as they will need to park a short distance away.

Access to property will be retained and protection will be provided to those right turning into Tuapata Street and Celia Streets. The positioning of the bus stop will need to be re-looked at and further consultation is required on this issue.

The present pedestrian facilities are at Cave Terrace, Augusta Street at the supermarket, and outside the Service Station. The distances between them are 124 metres and 120 metres. From the Service Station to the present crossing is 405 metres. The new facilities will reduce these distances too :- Service Station to Tuapata Street 135 metres and Tuapata to the new school crossing 245 metres.

The spacing of these facilities will help provide safe crossing places for pedestrians and also reinforce the residential nature of the area.

Recommendation: That the Board support the Pedestrian Facilities on Main Road project as presented.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be adopted.