

11. PARKHOUSE ROAD AND BUCHANANS ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Brian Neill, Traffic Engineer DDI 3711 616
Corporate Plan Output: Traffic Signs and Roadmarkings	

The purpose of this report is to recommend to the Board that “give way” signs be placed against Jipco and Michelle Roads at their intersections with Parkhouse Road.

BACKGROUND

At a meeting of the City Services Committee on 28 November 2000 Mr Kotzikas from United Fisheries Ltd presented a petition to the Council seeking answers to delay problems that are occurring for right turning traffic in Parkhouse Road and at the traffic signals with State Highway 73 (Curletts Road).

At the meeting, there was a discussion on a fatal collision that occurred between two vehicles at the Buchanans Road/SH 73 West Coast Road intersection. Members of the Committee sought assurances that the junction would be made as safe as practicable.

PARKHOUSE ROAD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Mr Kotzikas from United Fisheries Ltd presented a petition to the Committee outlining his company’s views on problems with peak hour traffic along Parkhouse Road on the approach to the Curletts Road intersection. Mr Kotzikas outlined the problems associated with delays for right turning traffic out of Treffers Road out onto Parkhouse Road, from the entranceways to his company’s business and from Parkhouse Road onto State Highway 73 (Curletts Road).

The problems described in the submission are to be addressed:

- Since the November meeting the flush median along Parkhouse Road (between Hayton Road and Treffers Road) has been widened from 2 metres to 3 metres. Right turn lane facilities have been introduced at the Jipco Road and Shell Road intersections along with the entrance into the Western Transfer Station. These measures will assist traffic turning right out of the various roadways and entrances to business premises by providing a safe refuge for vehicles which can be driven onto the median whilst their drivers are waiting for a gap in approaching traffic.
- The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board will be asked to approve the installation of “Give Way” signs at both the Jipco Road and Michelle Road intersections to control turning movements and establish right of way.
- Transit NZ have commissioned a traffic study for the section of State Highway 73 (Curletts Road) between Blenheim Road and Lunns Road. The Authority is seeking to address crash problems at both the Parkhouse Road and Lunns Road intersections with Curletts Road and reduce delays for traffic turning at the Parkhouse Road intersection. It is anticipated that a scheme will be developed to install traffic signals at the Lunns Road junction linking back to improved facilities at the existing Parkhouse Road traffic signals which will be modified and linked with the signals at the Blenheim Road/Curletts Road intersection.
- The intersection of Parkhouse Road/Treffers Road is within 70 metres of the junction with the State Highway and will be included in a scheme plan for improving traffic flow in the area. The section of Parkhouse Road between Curletts Road and Treffers Road is critical to any improvements that may be made to the Curletts Road/Parkhouse Road traffic signals.
- Transit NZ expect that the results of the traffic study will be available late February and that work in the area can be programmed for 2001/02.

BUCHANANS ROAD/STATE HIGHWAY 73 WEST COAST ROAD INTERSECTION

During discussion on the Strategic Traffic Manager’s report to the Committee at its meeting on 28 November 2000, the City Streets Manager was asked to report on the safety of the Buchanans Road/SH 73 West Coast Road intersection. During September 2000 a crash between two motor vehicles at the intersection resulted in two people being killed. The Committee asked whether there were sufficient warning signs of the intersection posted both on the State Highway approach and from Buchanans Road.

The “stop” signs and roadmarkings on both Buchanans Road approaches to the intersection were upgraded by the Council two years ago. More recently signs indicating the right turn into Buchanans Road from the State Highway have been installed by Transit NZ. A right turn lane has been installed and a sign “Buchanans Road – Turn Right – Hei Hei 300 m” warns drivers of the approaching turn for those wishing to enter the city via Buchanans Road.

Although the Buchanans Road/West Coast Road intersection is within the city, fatal crash reports are supplied (in this case) directly to Transit NZ, the Road Controlling Authority for the major road (SH73). Immediately following the crash in September, Transit NZ reviewed the traffic controls at this junction, repositioned two of the “stop” signs and asked consultants to investigate the possibility of realigning the intersection to improve visibility and slow traffic on the Buchanans Road east approach to the junction.

This cross junction has a crash record. However, although improvements can be made to the alignment of Buchanans Road on the east approach to the junction the audit did not reveal any other problems that could confuse motorists on their approach to the intersection.

The City Streets Unit will continue to liaise with Transit NZ over matters concerning safety at this important junction.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That “Give Way” signs be erected in the following locations:
 - Against Jipco Road at its intersection with Parkhouse Road.
 - Against Michelle Road at its intersection with Parkhouse Road.

Chairman’s

- Recommendation:**
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