

11. NORTH HAGLEY PARK SHARED PATHWAY

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Corporate Plan Output: Information and Advice to Council	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the current status of the project to develop a shared pathway along the northern boundary of North Hagley Park, before further designing the pathway for implementation.

BACKGROUND

The proposal to develop the pathway received Committee approval last November and was subsequently released for public consultation. It was decided that the results of this consultation be reported back to the Committee for final approval of expenditure.

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 its associated cycle works are part of the identified improvements within the plan and are 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 other park users by providing an all weather pathway running parallel to Harper Avenue from the Fendalton Road corner to the Carlton Mill corner.

CONSULTATION

Over 200 pamphlets were distributed (copy tabled). They were handed out to park users within 50 metres of the proposed path, and displayed in the Botanical Gardens Visitors Centre. They were also sent to the YMCA and Christchurch Girls' High School along with the usual recipients such as Community Boards, Parks and Recreation Committee, and City Services Committee members, Council Service Centres and Libraries.

- We received **29 replies**, of which:
 - 24 were supportive
 - 2 were non-supportive
 - 3 were in regard to unrelated matters
- The two non-supportive responses related to the proximity of the proposed path to the golf course/straying golf balls.
- Within the supportive responses, further requests were made for:
 1. An improved level of general maintenance for paths and lighting within Hagley Park (5 responses)
 2. Lines, symbols or signs to warn/separate wheeled users and those on foot (4 responses)
 3. A 3m wide path, not 2.5m (1 response by SPOKES - local cycle advocate group)
 4. Lighting now, not at a later date (1 response)
 5. An alignment closer to road (1 response)
 6. An alignment kept away from road, due to car fumes (1 response)
 7. Distance markers along the path's length (1 response)

Overall the consultation responses have been extremely positive and we have endeavoured to meet those requests that met the objectives of the project.

The final shared use pathway is essentially the same as the original plan proposed and approved by the City Services Committee in November 2000. The pathway has still to gain the necessary resource consent.

Recommendation: That the proposed pathway along the northern boundary of North Hagley Park be approved for implementation.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.