

13. FENDALTON ROAD - UPDATE

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Corporate Plan Output: Road Network Planning	

The purpose of this report is to inform the new Board of the current status of the resource consent application for the proposed widening of Fendalton Road and associated proposed changes at the northern end of Tui Street.

FENDALTON ROAD RESOURCE CONSENT

A hearing was held before an independent Commissioner at the Council offices between 30 July and 3 August 2001 to determine the Council's application for resource consent to widen Fendalton Road. The Commissioner released an Interim Decision on 7th September and adjourned the process, to give the Council and other relevant parties the time to address several matters before he would issue a final determination. The Council has been advised that the hearing is likely to be reconvened on 18 and 19 December 2001.

The matters the Commissioner has sought to have further addressed are:

1. the design of the cycle facilities in proximity to bus stops;
2. the potential for a median gap opposite Waiwetū Street; and
3. the issue of parking in the vicinity of St Barnabas Church related to Church activities.

BUS STOPS

In respect of issue 1, at the reconvened hearing the Council intends to present more detail of pedestrian and cycle facilities in proximity to bus stops that represent minor modifications of the layouts proposed in the consent application.

WAIWETU STREET

In respect of issue 2, the City Streets Unit has very carefully considered the potential of a number of options for a median gap directly opposite Waiwetū Street and our proposed position will be to support the layout previously endorsed by the Council and included in the consent application. This provides for U-turn gaps either side of Waiwetū Street but no direct right turns into or out of the street. This is for a number of reasons. Notwithstanding our belief that the proposed layout provides a reasonable ability for vehicles wishing to turn right into or out of Waiwetū Street to do so via the proposed protected U-turn facilities either side of the intersection, the reasons for not wishing to modify the application layout also include:

- the relatively adverse implications on safety and efficiency of the options that do provide for a gap (particularly for pedestrians crossing Fendalton Road in this vicinity);
- the opposition expressed to the Council by a majority of residents of Waiwetū Street to the use of that street by vehicles dropping-off pupils to the School;
- technical advice that the proposed provision of traffic signals at the Fendalton Road/Glandovey Road intersection will facilitate reassignment of some traffic from Clyde Road and therefore improve the level of service for drop-off facilities at the School's main gate.

PARKING FOR ST BARNABAS CHURCH

Related to the third issue, the last Council reached an agreement with the Trustees of St Barnabas Church to acquire the land required for the proposed road widening. This agreement was approved at the Board meeting on 4 September for recommending to the Council. The transfer of this land to the Council has now occurred, although it has not yet been formally gazetted as legal road.

The Board is reminded that the agreement also provides for the Council to pay for the construction of an off-street car park on Church land on the south-western corner of the Fendalton Road/Tui Street intersection. This car park would provide a further 17 off-street spaces for the use of visitors to the Church and associated facilities with a substantial amount of associated landscaping to screen the car park from adjacent residences.

A resource consent is required for construction of the proposed car park and will be lodged by the Church Property Trustees within the next week. Given the Council's association with the car park (and the assistance it has rendered to the Church Property Trustees in preparation of the resource consent application), if a hearing is required this would be held before an independent Commissioner.

At this point in time we are not in a position to advise on how this consent might be processed and the commensurate time-scales. Whilst both the Church Property Trustees and the Council are hopeful of an expeditious approval, if the consent is notified and a hearing is required, it is possible that a decision may not be obtained until early - mid March 2002, and the appeal period will not close until late March/early April 2002.

Both the Church Property Trustees and the Council however recognise the mutual potential benefits of obtaining construction of this car park and are using their best endeavours to ensure its early completion. It should be noted that the proposal for the car park also provides for minor alterations to the kerb at the northern portion of Tui Street, as shown on the **attached** plan. These proposed alterations will maintain the current road width (and threshold), but shift some of the existing landscaping from the west side to the east side. The landscaping proposed here will incorporate several trees as well as camellias, magnolias and rhododendrons, the purpose of which is to offer consistency with the existing planting on St Barnabas Church and adjacent sections of Fendalton Road whilst also mitigating any potential impact of the car-park driveway.

Recommendation: That the information be received.