

25. DYERS ROAD/LINWOOD AVENUE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

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Corporate Plan Output: Capital Works Programme	

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the proposal to replace the existing roundabout at the Dyers Road/Linwood Avenue intersection with traffic signals.

This report will also be referred to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee.

BACKGROUND

In October 2000, a proposal to replace the roundabout with traffic signals was reported to both the Community Board and the City Services Committee. At that time we were only commencing to plan for the changes and were unsure of the scope of the project which had only just been brought forward in the five year capital works programme. An economic assessment was carried out by Becca Carter Hollings and Ferner Ltd with scheme plan design input from City Streets and City Solutions.

At the time we had not anticipated that the total cost of the project would rise to \$1.2 m. However, with a benefit/cost ratio of 11.9 and a first year return of 22% the Council continued to support the project.

Transfund NZ suggested that, as this section of Dyers Road would eventually become part of a State Highway, funding could be directed through Transit NZ rather than the City Council. The Transit NZ Board subsequently approved this transfer of responsibility and planning is now underway to commence construction next financial year. The Council retains some responsibility for footpath connections along both Linwood Avenue and Dyers Road and right turn facilities at the Ti Rakau Drive intersection with Dyers Road. The change in status from a city arterial to State Highway is likely to occur after 2003 following completion of the stage 2 works for the Woolston/Burwood Expressway.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Ferrymead/Brookhaven Residents Association has shown a considerable amount of interest in the project. The Association had its inaugural meeting on 19 September 2000 and the City Streets Unit first became associated with the people of Brookhaven at a meeting of the Association on 21 November 2000 which was held in the Board room at the Linwood Service Centre.

A large number of interested residents attended the meeting which had on its agenda the "Council's future plans for Dyers Road Major Arterial Development". The opportunity was taken to explain the proposal to replace the existing roundabout with traffic signals and improve traffic management at the Dyers Road entrance to the Brookhaven subdivision (Ti Rakau Drive). A limited number of preliminary plans were made available to residents interested in the proposals; many took the opportunity to comment and ask questions about how the upgraded intersection would affect them.

Since the meeting quite a bit of correspondence has been generated between the Association and the Council concerning subdivisional standards for residential areas located close to major arterial roads. Clearly a lot of people living in Brookhaven would prefer that they weren't living so close to a major arterial. However, the current road designation has been there for many years with arterial road status being given to the route in the 1968 City of Christchurch District Planning Scheme. The importance of the route has been realised with the staged connections along the ring road - Woolston/Burwood Expressway.

No doubt the Council will hear more from residents living in the area once the scheme plan has been circulated for comment.

TIMEFRAME

Transit NZ, through consultants Opus International, will shortly be publishing a discussion document on the intersection proposals. Investigations are all but complete and some preliminary design work undertaken. The Council, through the City Streets Unit, will be supporting the project and will, in partnership with Transit NZ, continue to liaise with the community.

The construction of the new intersection is scheduled to be undertaken next financial year (2002/03) and could be completed around the time of the opening of stage 2 of the Woolston/Burwood Expressway. A copy of the preliminary scheme plan for the new traffic signals is attached to this report.

CONCLUSION

Planning for this project is well underway with further community consultation documents due to be circulated this month. Transit NZ are looking to complete all preliminary processes by early next year in order to have design work completed with a view to completing the project in 2002.

Recommendation: That the information be received.