

23. AVONDALE BRIDGE CLIP-ON

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Brent Ferigo, DDI 371-1925
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The purpose of this report is to inform the City Services Committee of the progress made on the Avondale Bridge clip-on project and to gain approval for it to proceed to tender.

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Avondale clip-on project was scheduled within the City Streets Cycleway 2001/02 programme in response to work undertaken in co-ordination with local schools as part of City Streets 'Safe Routes to Schools'. This identified several safety issues for young cyclists in the vicinity of the Avondale bridge.

During peak morning and afternoon periods the immediate intersection roundabout is very busy catering to a collector road – Avondale, and a minor arterial road – New Brighton, with 8,000 and 15,000 vehicles per day respectively.

The roundabout and surrounding approaches are also heavily used by cyclists and at peak periods up to 90% are school children. The current facilities are not encouraging for cyclist to use and many choose to wheel or ride their bikes along the footpaths especially near the roundabout.

This project proposes to widen the existing one and a half metre wide footpath on the western side of the bridge to create a two and a half metre wide shared path. Coupled to this an shared off road pathway will be formed between the bridge and the pedestrian island outside Burwood Primary School. This will be achieved by widening the one and a half metre wide footpath on the south (river) side of New Brighton Road to a 2.2m wide shared pathway for a length of 150m which connects to the start of the pedestrian island crossing, opposite the school. Effectively this widening will simply cater more conveniently for movements that are already being undertaken by cyclists and increase their and pedestrian safety.

The pre-project cost estimate is within the budget of \$153,000.

CONSULTATION

In addition to the Safe Routes to Schools work that was developed in conjunction with the local schools several years ago the proposal has been door knocked to all immediate properties and all responses have been positive and encouraging of the Council to proceed.

The local residents group has actively encouraged the project's continuation and have even made a submission to the Annual Plan process to support this.

A publicity leaflet (attached) has been distributed with responses being requested by 14 September. Responses will be reported to the meeting. However at the time of writing no negative feedback has been received. If any significant issues arise these could be reported to the Council's 27 September meeting.

Recommendation: That the information be received and the Avondale Bridge clip-on project, as described, be allowed to proceed to the tendering process.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.