

### 13. CHRISTCHURCH HOSPITAL EXIT – OXFORD TERRACE

<b>Officer responsible</b> City Streets Manager	<b>Author</b> Peter Atkinson, Area Engineer Central, DDI 371 1611
Corporate Plan Output: On Street Management	

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval for works to be carried out at the Antigua Street and Oxford Terrace intersection associated with a new exit from the Hospital. The position of this entrance together with a further temporary entrance is also being considered as a separate resource consent application. However, as this entrance will involve works on the Road Reserve and the adjacent River Reserve separate Council approval these works is required. The approval for these works has been delegated to the Community Board.

#### PROPOSAL

The Canterbury District Health Board have been given approval for the development of the Christchurch Womens Hospital complex on the Riccarton Avenue site. During the construction of the new complex it will be necessary to provide a new temporary entrance and exit to and from the site. Both these new entrances are associated with the building activity of the new complex while the exit is planned as a longer-term facility and is designed to provide better linkages of Hospital facilities.

The temporary entrance to the site is to be located on Riccarton Avenue to the east of the Nurses Chapel. The existing entrance on Riccarton Avenue, which is controlled by traffic signals, will continue to operate as it is required to be used by construction vehicles, pedestrians and for vehicles to manoeuvre. The new building activities are to take place, between the old nurses home and the existing hospital complex, affecting access to the hospital from this existing entrance.

The proposed exit, for which approval of on street works is required, is located on Oxford Terrace opposite the intersection of Antigua Street. This entrance is proposed for exiting traffic only and is required both during the construction process and to provide a direct link between the Hospital and the parking areas in Antigua Street.

#### DISCUSSION

The location of the exit in close proximity to the Antigua Street intersection is controlled by on site topography restraints, the adjacent Reserve boundary and the operation of the traffic signals at the intersection. A consequence of this proposed exit location requires that it be included in the operation of the existing traffic signals. This will result in a number of physical changes to the intersection to minimise the impact of the new exit. These changes include;

- Relocating the pedestrian crossing facilities across Oxford Terrace from the west side of Antigua Street to the east side.
- Re modelling the right turn lane from Oxford Terrace into Antigua Street
- Re landscaping of the existing planting areas.
- Minor modifications to alignment of the path in the River Reserve to provide direct access from the bridge by the boat sheds to the eastern side of Antigua Street.

There are some advantages with the relocation of the pedestrian facilities to the east side of Antigua Street. They enable pedestrians to link directly to those pedestrian facilities, which are provided across Tuam Street. There are no pedestrian facilities across Tuam Street on the west side of Antigua Street. The adjustment to the existing path in the River Reserve can be readily accommodated without directly affecting the trees in the location.

The proposed changes at the intersection could impact on the works associated with the transfer of the one-way street from Oxford Terrace to Tuam Street. While the final out-come of these works has yet to be determined by Council, it is anticipated, that the changes to accommodate the new exit can be accommodated but at an additional cost. All the works associated with the new entrance will be at a cost to the Health Board while the Council will have to meet those of the any future changes.

The new entrance in Riccarton Avenue is only required for the duration of the construction of the new Womens Hospital complex. The exit in Oxford Terrace however, is required for the long-term to provide access to the parking facilities in Antigua Street. The new Womens Hospital complex will reduce the amount of parking presently provided on the hospital site and the benefits of the new exit is that it will provide a direct link to the parking building and other parking facilities in Antigua Street. These changes to the entrances to the Hospital site should not adversely impact on the current level of service on the one way system

The proposed Hospital exit can be included in the operation of the existing traffic signals. It is proposed that traffic will exit in parallel with the operation of the existing cycle and pedestrian phases at the traffic signals. This means the exit will not change the green light time available for the one-way system and will avoid any conflict or reduction in the level of service to cycles and pedestrians crossing Oxford Terrace. This will restrict the exit to both no left or right turns and will only permit the through movement to Antigua Street. The application from the Health Board recognises that there are limitations to this exiting traffic.

#### **COMMENTS**

The cost of the proposed changes will be met by Canterbury Health.

The proposed works will be required to meet the requirements set by the City Street Unit and Parks Unit if the resource consent application for the new exit is approved.

**Recommendation:** That the on street works and alterations to the cycle and pedestrian paths associated with the new exit from the hospital complex be approved in principal.

**Chairman's Recommendation:** Not seen by the Chairperson.