

7. GILBERTHORPES ROAD PEDESTRIAN ISLAND

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Paul Cottam, DDI 371-1299
Corporate Plan Output: Safe Routes to School	

The purpose of this report is to seek the Riccarton-Wigram Community Board's approval for the installation of a pedestrian island on Gilberthorpes Road at the Buchanans Road intersection. This intended to improve the safety of the Gilberthorpes Road-Buchanans Road intersection for pedestrians, particularly for school aged users, to slow vehicle speeds.

BACKGROUND

There are strong concerns from Gilberthorpe School about the speed of traffic along Buchanans Road, including turning speeds through the Gilberthorpes Road intersection. The school has a roll of 140 children and lies 100m south along Gilberthorpes Road from the intersection. A relatively high percentage of children walk to school, including a 'walking school bus' that travels past the intersection. The proposed work is a result of communications with Gilberthorpe School.

Gilberthorpes Road is a 14m collector road with a seven-day average ADT of 2723 vehicles near the intersection. Buchanans Road is a minor arterial, with a seven-day average ADT of 2946 vehicles near the intersection. The intersection also marks the change from a rural to urban speed setting on Buchanans Road, i.e. from 100km/h down to 50km/h.

PROPOSED WORK

To achieve slower vehicle speeds through the intersection and to improve overall pedestrian safety, the option of installing an 18 metre splitter island on Gilberthorpes Road at Buchanans Road was developed. The proposed work also allows for tightening the kerb side radius on the eastern corner of the intersection to slow vehicle speeds, along with some minor footpath realignment. A right turn bay will also be marked on Buchanans Road for vehicle movements on to Gilberthorpes Road.

The proposed work will require the banning of some roadside parking alongside the pedestrian island. Residents from adjacent properties to the intersection have no objections to the proposal. Consultation with residents in general has shown high recognition for the necessity of improving the safety of pedestrians at this intersection.

Funding is available for the works, from the Safe Routes to Schools item in the City Streets budget.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Board approve the installation of a pedestrian island and the realignment of footpaths on Gilberthorpes Road at the Buchanans Road intersection.
 2. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited (at any time) on both sides of Gilberthorpes Road commencing at its intersection with Buchanans Road and extending in a southerly direction for a distance of 20 metres.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the Officer's recommendations be adopted.