

13. HALSWELL JUNCTION ROAD/WATERLOO ROAD INTERSECTION

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The purpose of this report is to update the Board on progress towards the intersection upgrade at Halswell Junction Road and Waterloo Road.

BACKGROUND

The Board will be aware that the intersection upgrade for Halswell Junction/Waterloo Road and the traffic calming work for Foremans Road, in conjunction with a by-law prohibiting the through routing of heavy commercial vehicles through a number of residential areas in the Hei Hei is and Islington areas, have been instigated after submissions from the representatives of the Riccarton Park, Islington and Hei Hei Residents Associations.

A report to the Board on 1 May 2002 (attached) outlined a proposal to install traffic signals at the intersection of Halswell Junction Road and Waterloo Road.

During the consultation process 40 responses were received from the Islington residential community and industrial area. Some were supportive of the signal proposal however many residents objected to the signals on the basis that signals would increase traffic noise and possibly decrease their property values.

The residents most affected by the traffic signal proposal, three families in four properties opposite the railway line on Waterloo Road between Wilson Street and Mortlake Street, at an on-site meeting on 18 March 2002, objected strongly to the proposal citing the banning of parking adjacent to their properties, trucks queuing outside their properties at the intersection and the requirement for them to enter and exit their properties through the middle of a signal controlled intersection.

By this stage it had also become apparent that the cost of installing signals and linking the signals with the railway barrier arms in compliance with Tranzrail regulations would over-run the budget and this projected budget over-run combined with community resistance to the signal proposal it was deemed prudent to research other options.

Following on from this the recommendation of the Transport and Roading Committee of the Riccarton/Wigram Board was *'In view of the unresolved issues, the Committee seeks to have the various options (previously identified) for this intersection upgrade to be reassessed'*. This recommendation was received without amendments by the full Council on Thursday 23 May 2002.

The City Streets Unit decided to abandon the idea of installing traffic signals and staff then investigated other options for the intersection. On the 15 July 2002 another on-site meeting was held with residents to present a proposal to upgrade the intersection by changing the roading priority from Waterloo Road to Halswell Junction Road into Waterloo Road east and vice versa.

This would be achieved by installing two traffic island and installing a Give-Way control.

This proposal was endorsed by the residents at the meeting.

HALSWELL JUNCTION ROAD/WATERLOO ROAD – CHANGE OF ROAD PRIORITY

The proposed plan (attached) is to change the road priority from vehicles travelling along Waterloo Road, to vehicles travelling from Halswell Junction Road into Waterloo Road east.

This will be achieved by installing two traffic islands to provide deflection for motorists travelling along Waterloo Road. The deflection combined with two Give Way controls will reinforce the marked centre continuity line through the intersection from Halswell Junction Road into Waterloo Road east.

Yellow 'cross hatched' road markings will be installed to prevent larger vehicles stopping in an area where the rear of the vehicle encroaches onto the railway lines.

The pedestrian path on the east side of the intersection will be extended and combined with a kerb 'cut down' will enable pedestrians to cross Waterloo Road through the gap in the island.

On the north side of the intersection outside property Nos. 342 & 344 an extended kerb build out is to be installed with appropriate berms and landscaping as agreed to with the residents at the site meeting on the 15 July 2002.

PROCESS

The process required to ensure that this initiative is achieved within the 2002/2003 financial year is for the Board to support the proposal and to recommend to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee that a full consultation plan now be implemented for the Halswell Junction/Waterloo Road intersection and for the related Foremans Road traffic calming works.

It is important that now that the concerns of those residents most affected by the proposed changes have been addressed that the wider consultation process allows the residents groups who made the original submission to Council be given the opportunity to make their view known on the new proposal.

The Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and Council will need to consider adopting the proposal to abandon the installation of traffic signals in favour of the new intersection right-of-way controls.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board support the proposed changed intersection control at Halswell Junction Road and Waterloo Road and that the Board approve this project and the Foremans Road traffic calming work for the purposes of implementing a wider consultation plan.

Chairman's

Recommendation: Not seen by Chairman.