

5. HINDESS STREET – SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL KERB BUILD OUT

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Lorraine Wilmshurst, Consultation Leader, DDI 941-8662
--	---

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of the result of consultation and seek approval to proceed with design and construction.

BACKGROUND

Oaklands School identified a safety issue for their pupils crossing Hindess Street, as part of the "Safer Routes to School" programme. The school pupils travel up Jarrow Street, cross Hindess street and continue west along the sealed path through the reserve.

The proposal attached indicates kerb build outs at the reserve entrance and outside the properties opposite. The road will be narrowed but will still allow two lane traffic. Parking will be removed from both sides of the road at the build outs.

The proposed work will reduce the crossing distance and increase visibility for pedestrians.

A publicity leaflet was distributed to residents in the area after residents adjacent to the proposed work had been spoken too.

DISCUSSION

Nine replies were received to the publicity plan, including three phone calls. Residents are split as to whether it should be installed or not. Those in favour do not live in the immediate vicinity but see it as being a safe crossing point for school children and pedestrians using the reserve. The replies against are from the residents on the east side who will lose or have parking outside their property reduced. They do not feel there is a need for this work to occur.

CONCLUSION

The concerns raised about parking can not be addressed with this work. There is parking available either side of the property and the area is parked out at the beginning and end of the school day. However this is occurring, even now, without the crossing point. To encourage children to walk to school there is a need for safe crossing points.

Though the parking issues can not be addressed with this work and safe crossing points are required, Council Officers seek approval to proceed with the final design plans and construction.

COMMUNITY ADVOCATE COMMENT

At the 2 October 2002 meeting of the Community Board it was decided to support this proposal and that it then be circulated for community consultation. It is now for the Board to sign off on the work so that it can proceed.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Hindess Street safer routes to school project proceed to design and construction.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the Officer's recommendation be adopted.