

27. BUCHANANS ROAD PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN ISLAND

Officer responsible
City Streets Manager

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The purpose of this report is to request that the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee approve construction of a proposed pedestrian island in Buchanans Road adjacent to its intersection with Hei Hei Road.

BACKGROUND

The Riccarton/Wigram Community Board, at its meeting on Wednesday 20 November 2002 recommended to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee, the construction of a proposed cycle and pedestrian island in Buchanans Road just east of its intersection with Hei Hei Road. Buchanans Road is a minor arterial road carrying an average of 3,000 vehicles per day, Hei Hei Road is a local road carrying an average of 1,900 vehicles per day. Several requests have been received through the Councils 'Safe Cycling to School' project identifying a need to provide a crossing facility to help school children, as pedestrians and cyclists, (mainly from Hornby High School and Hornby Primary School) cross Buchanans Road.

Following the Boards approval of the concept plan for consultation in July 2002, seventy-five publicity pamphlets were distributed in the area around the intersection of Buchanans Road and Hei Hei Road. Three written responses have been received. The feedback from the three respondents, and from an on site meeting, relevant to the proposed pedestrian island were.

- It is a great idea.
- There is no need for a pedestrian island, a pedestrian crossing would be better.
- The driveway to No. 152 needs to be altered to allow the residents to do a right turn out of it into Buchanans Road.
- No stopping lines outside No. 173 should be extended.

In response to this feedback the following comments and action are recommended:

- The local primary and high school pupils identified their need to the Safe Routes to Schools Coordinator and the Cycling Advocate for a pedestrian and cyclist crossing facility at this intersection. Other sites were also identified and two other islands are recommended for the area. A normal pedestrian zebra crossing was considered for this site but rejected as unsafe because historical evidence shows that there have been pedestrians killed on pedestrian crossings installed in similar situations. The reason is that there would not be regular pedestrian traffic using it during the day. Therefore drivers who often use this stretch of the road get used to not seeing a pedestrian on it and can actually miss seeing someone on it when it is used.
- The driveway/vehicle entrance to No. 152 Buchanans Road will be altered to allow exiting vehicles to right turn (to the west) onto Buchanans Road.
- The no stopping lines shown on the publicity plan outside No. 173 will be extended as requested.

To improve overall safety for school cyclists and pedestrians crossing Buchanans Road at this location, it is recommended that a pedestrian island be installed as shown on the plan attached.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the proposed pedestrian island in Buchanans Road be approved for construction.
 2. That the stopping of vehicles be prohibited at any time on the south side of Buchanans Road commencing at its intersection with Hei Hei Road and extending in an easterly direction for a distance of twenty-three metres.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.