

4. BLIGHS ROAD RAILWAY CROSSING - CYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Lee Kelly Roading Projects Consultation Leader, DDI 941-8355
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The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Fendalton/Waimairi and Shirley/Papanui Community Boards to extend the consultation process for the cycle and pedestrian signal crossing initiative at the Blighs Road Railway Crossing (see attached plan).

BACKGROUND

During the consultation process for the Railway Cycleway in 1997, one of the concerns raised by the community was for the safety of the pedestrians and cyclists who would need to cross four arterial roads along the length of the pathway.

The railway cycleway runs from Northcote Road to Matai Street and crosses Fendalton Road, Wroxton Terrace, Glandovey Road, Wairakei Road and Blighs Road.

Fendalton Road, Glandovey Road, Wairakei Road and Blighs Road are the arterial crossing points and Blighs Road is the only remaining arterial route to be signalised.

CONSULTATION

Initial consultation with those residents adjacent to the railway crossing at Blighs Road, four properties, 120,124,131 and 133 Blighs Road, was in the form of a telephone survey.

Residents spoken to are generally supportive of the proposal and pleased to hear of the proposed plan.

The aim of extending the consultation, now that residents most affected by the proposal have been advised, is to ensure that residents west and east of the railway crossing along Blighs Road, including the local school, are aware of the proposal and have an opportunity to make any comment.

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The proposed work meets the Council's requirements of providing environmental and social benefits to the community at reasonable cost by providing a safer route over Blighs Road for pedestrians and cyclists.

CONSTRUCTION COSTS

Blighs Road cycle and pedestrian signals:	Budget	\$98,000
	Pre design estimate	\$98,000

CONCLUSION

Once Board approval is received, the next stage is to distribute a publicity leaflet to the wider community to seek feedback.

It is anticipated that the initiative will be positively received by the wider community. If so, the next stage would be to finalise design drawings, in conjunction with Tranzrail, and tender the work. Construction is anticipated to be completed by late April 2003.

Staff

- Recommendations:**
1. That the Board support extending the consultation process for the cycle and pedestrian initiative for the Blighs Road railway crossing.
 2. That if no significant issues are raised in the wider consultation process, then the project proceed to finalising the design drawings, tender, and construction.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the foregoing recommendations be adopted.