

## 12. NORTHERN ROADING OPTIONS SCOPING STUDY – STUDY RELEASE AND DECISION PROCESS

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The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Committee the imminent receipt of the consultant's completed report on the Northern Roding Options Scoping Study, and to propose a mechanism for dealing with the report.

The Northern Roding Options Scoping Study is currently progressing on two fronts, with no current public interaction. Work currently underway is the review of the 1600+ public submissions which were received during the consultation period (28 October 2001 - 25 February 2002) and further analysis, primarily extra modelling work, on variations of the preferred strategy. These tests essentially ask the 'what-if' scenarios, where projects are progressively and alternatively removed from the preferred strategy to see what the effects would be (at least from a traffic network perspective).

The analysis of public submissions is largely complete. The analysis will provide an overview of the submissions as well as assessments by specific project within the overall strategy, of the issues raised and the level of support/opposition by issue.

In the coming month or so, the consultant will be completing the study from their perspective. This then raises the matter of how we, the study partners, will deal with it. Of the study partners, the key parties that need to co-operate in releasing the reports and settling the outcomes are the Council and Transit.

Transit has expressed their wish to report the study to their board prior to reporting to the Council. They have indicated that as Transit is interested in relatively few of the projects and they tend to be needed some time into the future, that the reporting to the Transit Board would seek decisions to determine the principles for response related to these projects, rather than anything too specific. This is probably helpful in the process of seeking to find an agreed strategy for the future between the Council and Transit by allowing the opportunity for ongoing discussion.

The timing of the work/consultant's programme indicate that the completed consultant's study report will be available about the end of October. With the November Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee meeting set for 5 November 2002, it will be a challenge to get NROSS reported to that November meeting. This would indicate reporting to the 26 November 2002 meeting.

The author has had informal discussions with the Land Transport Subcommittee, the Corporate Team and the Consultation and Communication Special Committee regarding how the Council could receive and deal with the consultant's completed study report. The process outlined below is a summary of those discussions:

### **Proposed Release And Decision Process:**

Early November 2002 Transit Board meeting receives the NROSS completed study report and makes decisions in principle only on Transit-related projects.

Early November 2002 Seminar One (Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and members of Community Boards – Burwood/Pegasus, Fendalton/Waimairi and Shirley/Papanui) - a briefing on the consultant's completed report. This could also provide an opportunity for Transit's position to be outlined if its Board had previously received the report.

26 November 2002 Report to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee, to table the completed consultant's report.

Mid February 2003 Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and Board members hold a seminar meeting with local Action Groups.

Early March 2003 Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and Board members meet with members of the community who wish to express views on the completed consultant's report. It would seem wise to include Transit in these meetings somehow, and maybe have a meeting between Transit and Councillors between Seminar Two and the decision-making round of Council meetings.

March 2003 Seminar Two. Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee and Board members to consider responses to community views and the completed consultant's report.

April 2003  
the NROSS proposals.

Reports to Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee for decisions on

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the Committee endorses the above procedure for receiving and dealing with the consultant's completed report for the NROSS study.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted.