

14. ALEXANDRA STREET/PROPOSED KERB AND CHANNEL RENEWAL

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The purpose of this report is to request that the Board approve for construction the renewal of dish channels on both sides of Alexandra Street from Fitzgerald Avenue to Stanmore Road as shown on the attached plan.

Alexandra Street (a local road carrying an estimated 1000 vehicles per day) is on the capital works programme to have its kerb and dish channel renewed in the 2003/2004 (\$92,500) and 2004/2005 (\$402,737) financial years.

The project was approved by the Board for consultation in September 2003. Two hundred and fifty publicity pamphlets were distributed during October in Alexandra Street and the surrounding area. The Council received eight responses. The properties at Nos 52, 56, and 60 were sent personal letters and individually visited advising that at present they were occupying legal road that was required for roading purposes. The residents and owners of these properties are therefore aware they will need to set back their front fences approximately 2.13 metres. Following discussions these people have accepted the proposal is for the greater benefit of all residents in the street.

Feedback to the publicity pamphlets relating to the proposed works was as follows (*I have made some responses in italics*):

LANDSCAPING

- Suggested landscape planting be mini roses, blossom trees, tulips, lavender, etc.
- As owner of property on SW side of street, I would like to see a smaller deciduous tree so not to take the sun off the properties. I would think a larger variety should be planted on the north side of road. My suggestions for smaller trees would be a flowering cherry or apple blossom.
- Landscaped areas should contain native plants and grasses (*carex testacea*).
- Grassed berms with flowering cherry trees or claret ash would be good.
- Please put in more landscaping if possible like shown on the plan but don't add anymore parking bays.
- This looks great. Thanks. Especially if '+ ' are trees.
- I prefer native trees that are not deciduous, e.g. lacebarks, kowhai, oleria aborescens – tree daisy. Trees endemic to this area. Trees to provide homes and food for birds.
- Native plantings are preferred.

CARRIAGEWAY

- Overall we are happy with the proposal to narrow the carriageway, as this will reduce vehicle speeds in this residential area.
- Other recent proposals such as the Papanui Cluster have shown streets with meandering alignments; has this been considered as an option for Alexandra St? (*Yes, a meandering option was considered*).
- Other recent proposals such as the Papanui Cluster have shown paved intersections; has this been considered as an option for the intersections of Alexandra St and Perth St; and Alexandra St and Pavitt St? (*Yes, paved intersections were considered*).

Feedback from a public meeting held on the 3 February relating to the project is as follows:

GENERAL

- Enhanced lighting in the street. (*Maintenance budget can pay for lights on existing poles. Existing lamps are to be replaced, generating 12-15% more lighting*).

LANDSCAPING

- The grassed area at the corner of Perth Street and Alexandra Street should be made into a neighbourhood park. Include a seat. (*To be discussed with the Greenspace Unit*).

CARRIAGEWAY

- Increase number of parking bays (currently 13 bays with one to four parking spaces per bay). (*Parking surveys indicate the proposed parking bays will cope the existing parking demand but Council staff agreed that they would review the operation of parking sites after one year of operation*).

In response to this feedback a parking survey over all days of the week between the hours of 8.00am and 9.00pm was carried out which identified that the normal maximum parking demand for the street is spaces for 15 vehicles. There are 31 parking spaces provided by the proposed parking bays as shown on the attached plan.

The proposed plants for the landscaped areas are:

TREES

- Acer rubrum (Red Maple) – 20m high at maturity – 22 to be planted in wide berms.
- Magnolia kobus – 8m high at maturity – 6 to be planted at Fitzgerald Avenue and Stanmore Road intersections.

GROUND COVERS

- Rosa Flowering Carpet "Coral" – 130 to be planted at intersections.
- Carex testacea (Native Grass) – 600 to 800 mm high – 219 to be planted in berm areas.
- Coprosma "Karo Red" Deep red foliage – 800 to 1000 mm high – 52 to be planted against boundary fences.
- Hebe albicans "Red Edge" – 500 mm high – 46 to be planted in berm areas.

The objective for this proposal is to replace the existing kerb and dish channel (which is at the end of its economic lifespan) with kerb and flat channel while improving traffic safety and the streetscape. Having met these objectives the project is recommended to the Board for construction.

A total of \$526,000 is budgeted for this project. Work is planned to start in June 2004 depending on contractor availability.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board approve the work shown on the attached plan for construction.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the recommendation be adopted.