

3. CROYDON STREET/SOUTHAMPTON STREET AND MALCOLM AVENUE/COLOMBO STREET – NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

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The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Board for formal consultation for the two following neighbourhood improvement projects:

- Croydon Street and Southampton Street
- Malcolm Avenue and Colombo Street

BACKGROUND

Both projects are neighbourhood improvement projects involving the installation of a central raised median at the intersections of Croydon Street/Southampton Street and Malcolm Avenue/Colombo Street. The raised medians are planned to be located physically in Croydon Street and Malcolm Avenue.

Both projects are to address vehicles cutting the corner and, in the case of Croydon Street/Southampton Street, drivers doing “donuts” at the intersection.

The projects have come about through complaints from adjoining or nearby landowners or occupiers and relate to safety.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of these projects is to enhance public safety and transport through improving the layout of the intersections.

Secondary objectives include the installation of pedestrian facilities within the raised median to enhance pedestrian safety and visibility.

CONSULTATION PLAN

Consultation plans have been prepared which outline the intended strategy to consult with affected and interested parties. In summary, these include:

- Informal discussions and letters to gauge interest and ideas from the owner and occupiers of adjacent properties.
- Formal consultation, using a scheme plan, with the owners and occupiers of the adjacent properties.
- Subject to support of the scheme plan for the Colombo Street/Malcolm Avenue project from adjacent property owners, consultation with Thorrington School will be carried out.

The two rounds of consultation will be achieved through personal visits to the owners and/or occupiers. The personal visits will include explanation of the improvements and the reasons for undertaking the work.

The second, more formal consultation, will involve another personal visit and/or correspondence with a scheme plan (yet to be developed).

EVALUATION

The proposed improvements will physically prevent drivers cutting the corner at the two intersections. In the case of Southampton Street/Croydon Street, the raised median should also deter drivers doing “donuts” at the head of the intersection within Southampton Street.

The raised median will also provide pedestrian facilities in the form of a security barrier and cut-out to ease and enable safe pedestrian facilities. This will be beneficial to pedestrians crossing Croydon Street and Malcolm Avenue respectively, including Thorrington School children in the case of Malcolm Avenue.

The main impact of the physical works is the potential to limit or prevent access into and from adjacent residential properties of the subject streets. The location of the accessways has already been considered in relation to the work and, while the Croydon Street raised median presents few problems, the Malcolm Avenue work will require a particular design that enables access into 28 Colombo Street.

From consultation it is planned to prepare a favourable design that is acceptable to the adjacent properties and meets the objectives of this project.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board give approval for consultation to proceed on the Croydon Street/Southampton Street and Colombo Street/Malcolm Avenue intersection improvements.