

6. HALSWELL ROAD – SHARED PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE PATH



General Manager responsible:	General Manager, City Environment, DDI 941 8608
Officer responsible:	Transport and Greenspace Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the recommendation of the Committee to the Board to recommend to the Council for approval of a shared pedestrian and cycle path adjacent to Halswell Road, and the installation of a pedestrian refuge on Halswell Road near the Templetons Road intersection, as shown in **Attachment 1** (TG103902 – Sheet 2) and **Attachment 2** (501328 – R01).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. This project was initiated by the Transport and Greenspace Unit in 2009/10 as there is a need to improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists by providing a shared path along Halswell Road between Dunbars Road to Templetons Road.
3. The objective for the project was set as follows:
 - (a) Improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists by providing a shared pathway along the frontage of Aidenfield subdivision where none exists at present.
4. Concept plans for the proposed shared path are shown in **Attachment 1** (TG103902 – Sheet 2) and **Attachment 2** (501328 – R01) details are as follows:
 - (a) The shared pathway will run along the western side of Halswell Road from Dunbars Road to Templetons Road, linking with the existing footpaths at Aidenfield Drive.
 - (b) A pedestrian refuge is proposed near Templetons Road to provide a safe crossing point for pedestrians and cyclists using the path.
 - (c) The shared pathway will then continue on the eastern side of Halswell Road to Hendersons Road.
 - (d) Lighting along the shared path is proposed as part of this project. Existing signage will be re-positioned and new signage will be provided as required.
5. Halswell Road is a State Highway and is classified as a major arterial road from Curletts Road through to Templetons Road and is then classified as a minor arterial road the rest of the way through to Tai Tapu. New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) is the asset owners of this road.
6. NZTA intends widening Halswell Road to four lanes in future. Every effort has been made to ensure the path location will be compatible with future plans however, this cannot be guaranteed. NZTA have given preliminary approval of the alignment of the shared path, and final design plans will be submitted prior to tendering.
7. These works are scheduled for implementation in the 2010/11 financial year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

8. Funding for the proposed works are provided for in the 2009-19 LTCCP, New Footpaths Programme, page 243 as follows:

2009/2010	\$237,500
2010/2011	\$246,193

Based on current estimates there is sufficient budget allocated in the 2009-2019 LTCCP to implement the project.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. Cycleways are established by the authority of the Council under section 332 of the Local Government Act 1974. Under Section 332 a cycle track is also a cycle path, defined as:
 - (a) means part of the road that is physically separated from the roadway that is intended for the use of cyclists, but which may be used also by pedestrians; and
 - (b) Includes a cycle track formed under section 332 of the Local Government Act 1974.
10. Signage will be provided as required in the Traffic Control Devices Rule under Schedule 1.
11. The project is on land under the control of NZTA but Council have their approval to proceed with the final plan.
12. A resource consent may be required.
13. No other legal issues have been identified.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

14. This project aligns with the Transport and Greenspace Unit's Activity Management Plan. The funding for the proposed works in Halswell Road is provided in the 2009-19 LTCCP as New Footpaths Programme, page 243.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

15. The recommendations in this report align with current Council strategies including the Parking Strategy 2003, the Road Strategy 2004, the Christchurch Public Passenger Transport Strategy 1998, the Cycling Strategy 1998 and 2004 and Pedestrian Strategy 2001; and are consistent with the requirements for arterial and local roads as defined within the City Plan.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

16. Staff have been working in collaboration with the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) as the road is their asset. NZTA have approved the **attached** concept plan which is expected to tie in with their future four laning project on Halswell Road. NZTA has no objection for Council to approve this proposal.
17. A memo to the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board was sent through the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Adviser on 2 June 2010 informing the Board of the proposed consultation plan.
18. On 2 June 2010 information on this project together with a copy of the plan was sent to the Halswell Residents' Association including 80 residents along the vicinity of Templetons Road and Hendersons Roads. A communications plan is currently being put in place and subject to this project being approved by the Council further external communications will be done.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee recommend to the Board to recommend to the Council for the Halswell Road Shared Path to proceed to final design, tender, and construction as shown in **Attachment 1** (TG103902 – Sheet 2), and **Attachment 2** (TG103902 – Sheet 2).

BACKGROUND (THE ISSUES)

19. A safety audit on the initial concept plan was carried out on 23 March 2010, changes were made to the initial plan based on the report's recommendations, the amended plans are attached to this report.
20. A lighting assessment was carried out by an independent contractor in February 2010 who have recommended suitable lighting along the full length of the shared path; this will be included in the detailed design phase of this project.
21. A traffic count undertaken in November 2008 shows Halswell Road carries on average 21,027 vehicles per day. This count was taken near the intersection of Halswell Road and Aidenfield Drive.
22. There are no land ownership issues associated with this project.