

## 1. LINWOOD GLOUCESTER PROPOSED TRAFFIC SIGNALS

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Council of the outcome of the public consultation on the above and to seek approval to proceed with the installation of the traffic signals at the intersection of Linwood Avenue and Gloucester Street.

### BACKGROUND

This intersection forms a capacity restraint on a significant route east of the city. Linwood Avenue is a major arterial east west route between Avonside and Mt Pleasant. It currently carries around 10,500 vehicles a day east of the intersection. Gloucester Street is a minor arterial route providing access between north Linwood and Wainoni with the City Centre. Gloucester Street south of Linwood Avenue carries around 8,100 vehicles per day. The total traffic volume through the intersection is very high for a roundabout with the current lane configuration.

Installation of traffic signals appears to be the only viable option. The angles of the approach roads restricts changes to the approach geometry of the existing roundabout. Significant land purchase would be required to realign the roads and construct a suitable two lane roundabout. Such a change would also effect significant trees on Linwood Avenue west of the intersection.

The proposed signals will reduce delays at the intersection and are also likely to significantly improve safety. Cyclist and pedestrian facilities will be provided.

The Committee at its July 2002 meeting resolved:

*“That the project be approved for the purpose of consultation by way of written submissions and that if any submitter wishes to be heard, then such hearings be held by the Land Transport Subcommittee plus the Chairman of the Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board.”*

### DISCUSSION

A publicity leaflet was distributed to all residences in the area – Linwood Avenue from Buckleys Road to Brittan Street, Tancred Street from Hereford to Woodhouse Street, Gloucester Street from England Street to Woodhouse Street, Worcester Street from Tancred Street to Wyon Street, Hereford Street from Tancred to Linwood Avenue and Rochester Street.

A copy of the leaflet was posted to the three residents groups adjoining the project area - Englefield Neighbourhood Committee, Linwood Neighbourhood Committee, and Linwood North Residents Association. Enlarged copies with an A4 explanation were sent to the three churches in the area – St George’s Presbyterian Church, Linwood Baptist Church, Linwood Salvation Army Church - the Linwood Library and the Linwood Service Centre for display.

The responses to the publicity leaflet were one written submission, 15 comments on the space on the leaflet, and two phone calls. Twelve of the responses were in favour of the work proceeding for the installation of the traffic signals and two indicated that they were not. Several other comments were made:

- Three expressed concerns about the loss of trees and one asked could daffodils be planted in the median.
- A request was received asking that the relocated position of the inbound bus stop in Gloucester Street be reviewed and residents in the vicinity be consulted.
- One comment questioned the safety of pedestrians crossing the slip lane Linwood into Gloucester Street.

### CONCLUSION

The responses to the leaflet indicate that the majority of the public are in favour of the work proceeding. The request to look at the relocation position of the bus stop will be investigated further and the resident who was concerned about pedestrian safety has been contacted.

The Land Transport Subcommittee has heard the two submitters wishing to be heard in person and the recommendation of the Subcommittee is detailed following.

## REPORT OF THE LAND TRANSPORT SUBCOMMITTEE

The Committee also considered a supplementary report on the meetings of the Land Transport Subcommittee of 26 September 2002 and 4 October 2002.

At the 9 July 2002 meeting of the Committee approval had been given to this project for the purposes of consultation and it was agreed that any oral submissions be heard by the Land Transport Subcommittee plus the Chairman of the Hagley/Ferrymead Board.

The Land Transport Subcommittee met on two occasions, on 26 September 2002 and 4 October 2002, to hear and consider an oral submission from Mr and Mrs Britnell of 563 Worcester Street regarding the proposal.

In addition a petition tabled at the Council meeting of 26 September 2002 signed by 143 people seeking deferment of the decision on the placing of traffic lights at the Gloucester Street/Linwood Avenue intersection had also been referred to the Land Transport Subcommittee for consideration and was accordingly discussed at the meeting of 4 October 2002.

The recommendation of the Subcommittee was:

*'That the oral submission and petition be noted, but that it be recommended to the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee that the installation of traffic lights at the Linwood /Gloucester intersection proceed.'*

**Recommendation:** That the Council approve the installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Linwood Avenue and Gloucester Street.