

Harewood Road Cycle Lane Hearings Panel

Notes of a meeting held at 9.30am, 2 November 2009
in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, 163 Tuam Street.

Present: Councillors Ngaire Button (Chairperson), Mike Wall, and Community Board member Faimah Burke.

Staff presentation

9.30-10am

Staff provided the Panel with an overview of the existing stretch of Harewood Road and the proposed change.

Hearing of Submissions

10am – George Daly (HR021)

- Alarm at narrowing the road.
- Concern over pedestrians – footpath is the most dangerous part of the road – too narrow already.

10.05 – Michael Orchard (HR037)

- Support first stage traffic light
- Cycling lane not justified because of school – falling numbers in cyclists.
- The Bishopdale roundabout is very unsuitable for cycling.
- Trees taking up valuable road space.

10.20 – Robin Delamore (SPOKES) (HR045)

- Welcome proposal.
- Underutilised as a dual carriage way – should be single carriageway.
- Suggest a trial – replacing median to one between cycle and vehicle lanes.
- Formalise the crossing outside of Highstead Road to avoid going around the roundabout and changing lanes which is quite dangerous.
- Discussed cycle behaviour - cycle education would be strongly supported.

Break 10.40am -10.55

10.55 – Brian Le Fevre (HR036)

- Object given very low use.
- Better options possible – reduce speed limit.
- Cost analysis provided - \$200K is not good value for money.
- Speed limit reduction is out of scope – suggested that he take his concerns to the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board.

11.10am – Georgina Hodges (HR043)

- Opposed to current proposal – expansion of airport will need more traffic capacity.
- Prefer option 2 – traffic signals.
- Status quo with cyclists should remain.
- Give Way sign at Leecroft Street.

Consideration

11.15am

Issues in the submissions:

- George Daly – Cycling on footpaths prohibited – change would encourage cyclists to use proper lane. Enforcement issue.
- Traffic modelling indicates that delays are not expected, and in fact suggest that delays would be slightly less than present.
- Greater consultation should ensure talks with airport and CBs. Staff did not advocate further consultation with the airport and CBs - this was a request by the Panel. Staff noted that consultation has been undertaken per SCP and notices were placed in newspapers as per requirements. CIAL and NZTA did not submit any feedback.
- Michael Orchard – traffic flow will be held up – not the case. Bishopdale roundabout unsafe for cyclists (and Robin Delamore) – outside of scope. Dual carriageway and cycle lane would be preferable – berms would need to be wide enough – problem would be cost as it is curb and channel – not simply line marking. Breens Road/Gardiners Road should be treated separately – treated concerns. Probably needs splitting out as there are a lot of points here. Regarding the berms we are not sure if they are wide enough to accommodate parking bays and due to the amount of Kerb & Channel required would push up the cost. Also need to note that there were only 2 submissions concerned about parking and staff propose to resolve one of these.
- Robin Delamore – separation – open to the idea as are NZTA. Signposted crossing at Highstead Road – to note but outside of scope – investigate further.
- Brian Le Fevre – safety concerns and cost – should be vests. Status quo works now – current proposal put on hold. Compulsory vests would be a national initiative.
- Georgina Hodges – status quo – prefer traffic signals.

The Panel decided:

- Faimeh Burke – does not support proposal – safety issue.
- Mike Wall – unsure that it will benefit many at a considerable financial cost.
- Ngairie Button – wants to hear from airport, NZTA and Community Boards.
- The Panel decided to ask staff to ask the above about the proposal.
- The Panel will then reconvene.

The meeting closed at 12.26pm.