Consultation Plan
Avonside Drive/Fitzgerald Avenue/Kilmore Street Intersection Improvements

Aim of Project:
The primary aim of the project is to reduce crashes, improve the level of service for cyclists and to build in traffic capacity for the future.

Objectives of consultation:
To provide interested and affected groups in the community with information about the project and to provide them with the opportunity to give feedback.

To gain community acceptance and support for the project by clearly outlining the necessary safety improvements of the project and the importance of the intersection in terms of the overall roading network to the wider community.

To gain Community Board support and STU approval to proceed with the project.

Project Givens:
To improve safety for right turning vehicle movements off Fitzgerald Avenue
To improve safety for cyclists by installing cycle lanes on arterial roads, in accordance with the Council’s cycle strategy and supporting policies.
To maintain safety for pedestrians by retaining signalised pedestrian crossings on all four legs on the intersection.
To allow for future traffic growth.
To improve bridge safety through earthquake strengthening

What can the community influence and/or change about the project:
Very little as this project is required to reduce crashes and improve safety while maintaining capacity on an arterial route in conjunction with the strengthening of the twin bridges.

Identification of Stakeholders:
External
Residents and or property owners and business operators adjacent to the intersection.
Local residents groups
Local schools
Local sports clubs and/or groups
NZ Police
NZ fire Service
St Johns
Public Transport Operators
Taxi Association
The wider community
Spokes
Internal:
City Streets
Traffic Planners
Network Operations – including signals
Asset Managers
Maintenance Team
Greenspace
City Solutions

Consultation Approach:
An inform consultation is proposed, primarily through the standard publicity leaflet which contains a concept plan, location diagram and an explanation of the proposed work along with contact details so that the community has a contact in Council.
Council web site with contact details
Local print media with contact details

Initial consultation:
On site visits to affected business owners/operators on Kilmore Street followed by the delivery of the draft concept plan to the businesses owners/operators and all residents/property owners, schools and the central fire station.

Timeframe for Consultation:
Inform consultation will start once Community Board support for the project has been received and the Sustainable, Transport and Utilities Committee (STU) have approved the plan for an inform consultation.
It is intended to inform the Board at the Traffic sub-committee meeting on 17 August and to submit the report to the STU Committee for the September 2004 meeting.

Print media advertising could be published in The Press, The Christchurch Star and the local newspaper.

Potential Concerns:
The Residents’ Association is concerned that Avonside Drive will continue to be a minor arterial road with this proposal.
Businesses along the south west side of Fitzgerald Avenue as the footpath adjacent to their businesses may be narrowed to accommodate the extra width required for the cycle lane.
Businesses along the south west side of Kilmore Street because they will lose on street parking directly outside their premises.
Members of the community who may object if any established trees within the median island on Fitzgerald Avenue are removed to accommodate aspects of this project.

Strategies for addressing the communities concerns:
To be clear and direct and to ensure that the community is aware that the proposed changes are necessary to reduce a crash problem, to improve safety generally and to maintain capacity of the arterial and minor arterial routes.

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