

## **Halswell Junction Road Extension – Proposed Link**

### **Consultation summary**

Consultation on the proposed plans was undertaken from 1 to 25 September 2017.

Of the 81 submissions received 58 respondents generally supported the proposed plans, with 12 saying they wanted the plans implemented as soon as possible. Twenty three submitters expressed concerns about a range of issues including facilities for cyclists, access, parking availability and landscaping.

Those who supported the proposed plans said benefits included:

- Replacement of the existing sub standard railway crossing;
- Improved road safety by providing a more direct route for road users, especially large trucks;
- Capacity for future growth in Waterloo Business Park, without congestion;
- The new link will take local traffic off the State Highway by providing a major connection to the surrounding area and community.
- The proposal will enable good access to Waterloo Business Park, a key part of the area's business district.

### **Cycling facilities**

Six submitters expressed concern about facilities for cyclists from Waterloo Road to Foremans Road, and the road layout on the approach to Main South Road.

Feedback that southbound cyclists would need to cross the road from the shared path to access the southbound cycle lane was considered and the scheme revised so that crossing the road is not required. The revised scheme now includes shared paths on both sides of the new link road between Waterloo Road and Foremans Road. The paths will be 2.5m wide which is sufficient given the likely low volume of pedestrians and very few driveways in this section of new road.

Feedback that the type of cycle facilities in the two sections of Halswell Junction Road varies (shared path in new link and cycle lanes in existing southern section) was also considered. The two sections of road have different characteristics in terms of corridor width, adjacent activity and accesses, and the design reflects this. Providing a consistent facility would only be feasible if cycle lanes were added to the new link. However, the northbound cycle lane would need to go off road prior to the rail level crossing due to need for a right turn lane. Shared paths in the new link are therefore considered to offer cyclists an appropriate facility and provide good connections to the shared path north of Waterloo Road and the potential major cycleway on Waterloo Road east.

The transitions between on-road cycles and the shared paths will be clarified to cyclists. In particular, northbound cyclists have two options to join the shared path depending on whether a bus is at the bus stop. If there is no bus they use the cut down just north of the stop. When a bus is in the stop they have the option of using the widened cutdown prior to the bus stop that allows them to use the shared path behind the bus shelter.

The southbound bus shelter has been moved slightly south to allow the new shared path to be located behind the shelter, removing any conflict with bus passengers.

The proposed plan between Foremans Road and Main South Road includes the existing layout for cyclists. Additional cycle facilities in this section are outside the scope of this project and a revised road layout requires reserve land. This is currently being investigated by the Council's Asset Planning (Transport) section.

### **Parking**

Several submitters were concerned about the loss of parking near the intersection of Halswell Junction Road and Foremans Road. The Council has been advised that the proposed plans for approval would result in the loss of 10 car parking spaces on Halswell Junction Road. However, 15 parking spaces would be available on Foremans Road where about eight cars can now park informally. This results in an overall loss of three spaces.

If all day car parking along the proposed cul de sac section of Halswell Junction Road becomes a problem for residents and businesses, the Council will introduce parking restrictions.

The Fulton Hogan weighbridge is to be removed. This has allowed the right angle customer parking outside the Fulton Hogan office on the corner of Halswell Junction Road and Foremans Road to be replaced with customer parking in the area that is currently accommodating the weighbridge. An indented mobility space will be located outside the office.

### **Access**

The proposal to close the existing railway crossing to pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles concerned eight submitters. KiwiRail has advised that it opposes any crossing facility remaining at this location.

A company's query about the proposed entrance to its site north of the proposed new level crossing has been addressed by altering the kerb alignment to provide extra space on the road for the painted median and traffic lane.

### **Vegetation**

Orion New Zealand Limited raised a number of issues about the location of trees in relation to existing cables and overhead power lines. The company has been advised that it will be consulted prior to the detailed design phase of the project. Any new plantings will need to be 2.5 metres clear of the 33kv cable and meet City Council guidelines. Exact locations will be adjusted during detailed design.