

COLOMBO STREET SOUTH BUS PRIORITY PROJECT UPDATE January 2010

As part of the Council's Citywide Public Transport Priority Plan (August 2004), the Colombo Street South Bus Priority project was identified as one of the first three public transport priority projects to be developed.

The identified corridors in the Plan currently present significant delays and unreliability to the people who use public transport and these problems deter many more people from using "Metro" public transport. Evidence shows that removing these constraints, in association with the provision of high quality infrastructure and services, results in more people using public transport as their travel mode of choice. This also contributes to the Council's multi-modal transport objectives of reducing traffic growth and congestion, and improving road safety.

The Colombo Street South Bus Priority project runs along Cashmere Road from Princess Margaret Hospital to the Dyers Pass Road roundabout, then along Colombo Street to the intersection with Moorhouse Ave.

A scheme plan was put out for consultation in October – December 2007, and 136 submissions were received on this scheme plan. All submissions were considered and a report was presented to the Spreydon / Heathcote Community Board in mid-April 2008, and was approved by Council to progress to detailed design, tender and construction at its meeting held on 15 May 2008.

The detailed design has been completed, and the tender for the work has been advertised for a construction contractor. The preferred contractor has been appointed and it is anticipated that construction along the corridor between Brougham Street and Princess Margaret Hospital will commence in January 2010. The construction phase is expected to take approximately five months to be completed.

The bus priority measures to be implemented along the corridor include:

- Full-time and part-time bus lanes, with associated signage and road markings
- Bus signals shown as a white "B" light at intersections (i.e. Thorrrington School Crossing, Beaumont St, Moorhouse Ave)
- Pedestrian crossings with traffic lights (i.e. Battersea St, near Hastings St West, near Fisher Ave, and at Thorrrington School)
- Improved bus stop facilities
- Improved cycle lanes and pedestrian crossings
- Changes to parking arrangements
- Additional Give Way controls on side streets (i.e. Waverley St, Hutcheson St, Hastings St West, Walton St, Woodbridge St, Wherstead Road, Thorrrington Road, Nutfield Lane, Ernlea Tce, Aylmer St, Boon St, Devon St, Angus St, Fisher Ave, Southey St, Roxburgh St)

If you would like a copy of the design plans please contact the number below. A Start Work notice will be delivered to all properties along the corridor prior to any physical works commencing by the appointed contractor.

Should you have any queries in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact the Christchurch City Council Call Centre on (03) 941 8999 or check out the website www.buspriority.co.nz for further information.

cc: Spreydon / Heathcote Community Board