



Report 10.480
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Committee Transport & Access Committee
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Leader

Jackson Street bus shelter

1. Purpose

To seek the Committee's approval to install a heritage themed bus shelter on Jackson Street Petone, and its acknowledgment that subsequently the Annual Plan target of new bus shelter installations will not be met for 2010/11.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report **do not** trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

Concerns have been raised by the New Zealand Police regarding the position of a bus stop that is located directly outside the Jackson Street Police station and historic Jackson Street jail.

Although this particular police station is not operational 24 hours, the officers stationed at this location are required to respond to emergency situations. This response often involves leaving the police station car park from the rear, accessed by a driveway between buildings onto Jackson Street.

Exiting the driveway in such an emergency has proved to be difficult on several occasions; buses often park across the driveway in order to set down and pick up passengers and in doing so prevent police vehicles exiting. (See **Attachment 1** - Location Map).

On each occasion of this occurring the bus has not been in a position to close its doors and move off from the driveway as passengers are either standing on or waiting to get on the bus and closing the doors to move forward could pose a safety risk to the waiting passengers' location include visibility of pedestrians approaching the pedestrian crossing or waiting to cross. Buses that have stopped at the stop can impair the visibility of drivers travelling west on Jackson Street who thus are unable to see approaching or waiting pedestrians.

Removing the stop completely would appear to be the answer in resolving the issue for the exiting Police vehicles and pedestrian visibility from the crossing. The current bus shelter is set back from the road edge on the west side of the police driveway, a number of trees and plants also impair the visibility of buses coming towards the stop.

Removal of the shelter, which is currently located outside the Police station, would mean a lack of weather protection during the winter months for bus passengers. Due to the distance from the shelter to the remaining bus stop and the lack of visibility of buses from the shelter passengers could end up missing buses or trip and fall in their haste to reach the bus.

Thus the provision of a shelter closer to the remaining bus stop is recommended. Reuse of the existing shelter is not possible due to the size of the shelter and the narrowness of the footpath at the bus stop.

4. Options

Several options have been tabled between Greater Wellington Officers Hutt City Council Officers, and Jackson Street Police officials, looking at what options are possible for the location of bus stops in this area of Jackson Street, see Attachment 2 for details.

Officers from all the parties involved agree that Option 4, closure of the bus stop outside of the police station and extension of the eastern bus stop length, is the preferred option. However in the interim the following adjustments have been made to the bus stops to resolve the immediate issues with access from the police station:

- The western bus stop has been extended forward towards the pedestrian crossing; and
- The eastern bus stop has been moved one metre back towards Elizabeth Street.

5. Bus passenger shelter

In order to provide shelters for the passengers at the stop east of the driveway it is proposed that a new shelter be installed outside and around the gardens of the historic building. Unfortunately it is not possible to reuse the existing shelter as there is insufficient footpath for the shelter and pedestrian movements around the garden and shelter.

Hutt City Council has requested that as this area is a heritage precinct a heritage themed shelter is installed. Due to the location and the plants in the gardens being protected a new shelter design would be required, which is an expensive option.

Normally four new bus shelters are installed in the Hutt City area on an annual basis. Hutt City Council has indicated it is happy to forgo the four new standard shelters in the financial year 2010/11 for the one heritage themed shelter.

Greater Wellington's infrastructure target for 2010/11, as stated in the Annual Plan, is to install 15 new bus shelters across the region. For this option to be acted upon it requires Committee approval to agree for the allocation of bus shelter funding to be used to design, purchase and install this one off heritage shelter, and thus acknowledge that the Annual Plan target will not be met this year.

6. Communication

Hutt City Council be informed of the Committee's decision, and to begin consultation with all relevant parties on a possible heritage bus shelter design.

7. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Approves the use of new bus shelter funding for the design build and installation of a new heritage themed bus shelter on Jackson Street, Petone.*
3. *Acknowledges that the Annual Plan target of installing 15 new bus shelters across the region for the financial year 2010/11 will not be met.*

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Attachment 1 – Location Map

Attachment 2 – Bus stop options