

JMP DISCRETIONARY BUDGET AND LOCAL WORKS PROGRAMME

Report of the Lead Assistant District Manager

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides information about local works programmes that are client managed by the Herts Highways Watford area team. This includes the Discretionary budget, approved section 106 funds for local schemes and the Super CAT2 maintenance budget.

2. DISCRETIONARY BUDGET PROGRAMME

Discretionary Programme 2010/11

- 2.1 A proposed discretionary programme for 2010/11 can be seen in Appendix A based on ideas put forward by officers and members. This year's available budget is £100,000.
- 2.2 Members agreed at the July panel to fund the Woodmere Avenue scheme which is now completed.
- 2.3 Scheme number 2 is for additional tree planting is now complete.
- 2.4 Scheme number 3 is the Environmental Deep Cleaning Project jointly undertaken with the Borough Council comprising of 21 roads is now completed.
- 2.5 In order to fully utilise the road closures the closure dates of the works have been be offered to the Public Utilities wishing to undertake any minor works.
- 2.6 Scheme number 4 is a proposed scheme to introduce 20mph zones.

Location 1 Alexandra Road, Essex Road, Malden Road, Denmark Street, Nascot Street

The feasibility study revealed 85thile Speeds in Alexandra Road (a known cut through) are 28-29mph ; in the other 4 roads in the range 19-22mph. Whilst these speeds meet the Speed Management Strategy (SMS) criteria for 20mph Zone in the case of Alexandra Road, and meet the criteria for 20mph limits in the case of the other four, there have been no injury accidents in the past 5 years, and as these streets are purely residential with no other major generators of pedestrian crossing movement nor vulnerable road users, there does not seem to be any problem which needs a solution.

Chair and vice-chair have agreed with the Design Team's recommendation to "Do Nothing" at this stage, but at the July panel it was agreed to seek S106 funding to progress the scheme at the earliest funding opportunity. At the Officer Steering Group on 11th March 2011, it was agreed the traffic calming of Alexandra Road would be taken forward as an IWP scheme to be prepared and consulted upon during the 2011/12 year, and if suitable funding can be found for an agreed scheme, delivered in the 2012/13 year. Once speeds have been reduced in Alexandra Road, all five streets could then become a 20mph Zone.

*Location 2 Granville Road, Smith Street, The Crescent, Cambridge Road
Location 3 Neal Street, Tucker Street, Elfrida Road, Robert Road*

The July JMP agreed to progress these schemes to informal and formal statutory consultation stages. No major concerns were expressed during the informal consultation. The formal statutory consultation period ended on 4th October – unresolved objection from resident in Roberts Road was overruled at Jan 2011 HJMP. Works completed, Traffic Regulation Order sealed and is to become effective on 21st March.

Location 4 Queens Avenue, Harwoods Road, Park Avenue

The feasibility study revealed 85thile speeds are in the range 21-25mph for Queen's Avenue and Harwoods Road, and in the range 27-29mph for Park Avenue.

Queens Avenue and Harwoods Road are already part of a 20mph Zone (installed in 2001) and speeds measured in 2002 were in the range 25-26mph, so speeds have come down over the intervening years. So no further measures are needed, other than refreshing the original signs which are fading.

Park Avenue meets the SMS criteria for a 20mph Zone, and there have been two "slight" injury accidents over the last 5 years, both involving cyclists. The Design Team's recommendation is to extend the existing 20mph Zone to include the section of Park Avenue between junctions with Whippendell Road and Mildred Avenue using traffic calming measures in the form of a series of road humps similar to the existing Zone treatment. The cost of these measures would be in excess of £30k. which chair and vice-chair have agreed would not be supported.

At the July panel it was agreed to seek S106 funding to progress the scheme at the earliest funding opportunity. At the Officer Steering Group on 11th March it was agreed the traffic calming of Park Avenue would be taken forward as an IWP scheme to be prepared and consulted upon during 2011/12 year, and if suitable funding can be found for an agreed scheme, delivered in the 2012/13 year. Once speeds have been reduced Park Avenue could then become part of the existing West Watford 20mph Zone.

- 2.7 Scheme number 5 is for street scene improvements in Buckingham Road phase one near the junction of St Albans Road is now complete. Phase two of this scheme block paving seating and planters are to be completed in 2011/2012

- 2.8 Scheme number 6 is a proposal for Street Scene Improvements in the Town Centre has been completed.
- 2.9 Scheme number 7 is a proposed scheme to improve the grass area outside 196–200 Leggatts Rise. Following a meeting in May with the County Member it has been proposed to upgrade the existing area of damaged verge with grass-crete blocks for vehicles and to install post and rail fencing to prevent vehicles overriding other areas of the verge. Members agreed to place the scheme on hold and reconsider the proposals in 2011-12.
- 2.10** At the January panel meeting a number of suggestions for schemes were made by members that have been initially reviewed by the local area highway office. Officers have provided some technical advice in respect of schemes 8 – 12 shown in Appendix B to assist members in confirming the programme at this point in time. Appendices E, F, G, H and I provide details of the following initiatives suggested by members:
- Appendix E (Scheme 8) - Dell Road and Elm Road - one ways
 - Appendix F (Scheme 9) - Francis Road and Percy Road - one ways
 - Appendix G (Scheme 10) - Cecil Street / Judge Street area - 20mph
 - Appendix H (Scheme 11) - Fairview Drive - point no entry
 - Appendix I (Scheme 12) - North Western Avenue - VA signs
- 2.11 Scheme Number post and rail fencing in Coates Way opposite Coates Dell JMI School is complete.
- 2.12 Scheme Number 14 post and rail fencing in Coningesby Drive is now complete.
- 2.13 Scheme Number 15 post and rail fencing in Greenbank Road is now complete.
- 2.14 Scheme number 16 relates to the design and supervision fees and un-accrued works costs which have occurred from the 2009-10 Discretionary fund to the Stratford Rd / Park Rd Junction improvement scheme, the Radlett Road / Orphanage Road Lighting scheme and the Vicarage Road Safety scheme.
- 2.15 The combined fees and un-accrued works costs for the three schemes are £6,000.
- 2.16 Scheme number 17 relates to the video survey at Courtlands Drive junction with Hempstead Road to support a petition for junction improvements. The survey was carried out on 9th March.

- 2.17 Scheme number 18 relates to the pedestrian count which was undertaken to support a petition for a new pedestrian crossing on Horseshoe Lane near northerly junction with Boundary Way. Survey was completed in Feb and is reported in Item 5 of the agenda.
- 2.18 Scheme 19 relates to the speed and volume count undertaken in Old North Western Avenue in Feb. The survey revealed speeds were high enough to be considered for traffic calming measures should suitable funds become available.
- 2.19 Scheme 20 relates to the drainage study for Orphanage Road to see if additional drainage capacity under the railway bridge is feasible. A drainage investigation is programmed for Sun 20th March.
- 2.20 Scheme 21 relates to repairing concrete posts for the noise barrier in Russell Crescent for which an estimate of £1700 has been obtained.
- 2.21 Scheme 22 relates to progressing Traffic Regulation Orders for Oxhey Village for requests made by residents and dealing with the knock on effect of removing tactile paving.
- 2.22 The estimated costs for all schemes is £100,584.
- 2.23 Members are asked to consider all the technical advice and reports provided and confirm a programme to the Lead Assistant District Manager.

Discretionary Programme 2011/12

- 2.24 The list of suggested works for 2011/2012 year is contained in Appendix B. The list contains new suggestions put forward by members, plus schemes continuing and progressing from the previous year.
- 2.25 The current estimate of fees and works costs totals £126,700.
- 2.26 Please note the number of schemes which can be delivered is subject to available budgets which to date are not known, though it is thought the budget is unlikely to exceed £100,000. Comments from members are welcome in developing the work programme whilst awaiting confirmation of budget.

3. SUPER CAT 2 WORK PROGRAMME – 2011/12

- 3.1 The Super CAT2 budget is an enhanced CAT2 budget used to support local highway maintenance initiatives and includes larger areas of work which fit in between the minor CAT 2 operational maintenance works and the larger scale IWP maintenance work programmes. Consideration has been given to maintenance issues in developing this work

programme and the need to accord with the overall asset management principles of Herts Highways but with a degree of local flexibility and judgement.

- 3.2 Appendix C outlines the suggested Super Cat2 programme for 2011-12. Officers have identified 13 schemes across the Borough. These comprise carriageway surfacing works in Stratford Road, Whippendell Road, Church Road, Franklin Road, Greenbank Road, Wimbourne Grove, Chapel Close, Holland Gardens, Spring Gardens, Butterwick, footway surfacing works in Telford Close, and Structural Maintenance works to structures in Coates Way and Chalk Hill.
- 3.3 Please note the number of schemes which can be delivered is subject to available budgets which to date are not known. Comments from members are welcome in developing the work programme whilst awaiting confirmation of budget.
- 3.4 The Lead Assistant District Manager will be able to answer any queries regarding the programme.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That members confirm the final Discretionary programme of works for 2010/11.
- 4.2 That members agree a Discretionary programme of works for 2011/12.
- 4.3 That members agree a Super CAT2 programme of works for 2011/12.

5. CONTACT OFFICERS

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