

Questions from the Nor'west Arc Meet the Contractors webinar – 7 September 2023

School construction

Q: Why is the section along Aorangi/Ilam Roads being conducted at the same time as access to Burnside Primary and Cobham Intermediate is already severely compromised by the closure of access from Memorial Ave during the old school buildings' demolition? This limits the only accessway to the schools as that opposite Jellie Park (where you will be operating). This seems madness when there are other sections of the cycleway project that also still require completing.

A: We have coordinated our programme with the schools who have been supportive of the proposed programme. By carrying out the work now we will have all work in front of the school and Jellie Park completed by Christmas, meaning all work will be completed and new infrastructure in place prior to the beginning of the new school year in 2024. Additionally, there is an interest in having the work completed in front of Jellie Park as soon as possible to ensure the disruption to the Jellie Park summer swimming season is reduced as much as possible.

Q: Has there been any liaison with Leighs, who I understand are the contractors involved in the demolition work at the school with regards to their access requirements/a potential solution for access of fencing off the path to the side of the driveway to the school from Memorial Ave to alleviate this congestion? To add further heavy traffic from your team will surely increase the risk for the children trying to get to school.

A: Yes. We have caught up with Leighs Construction and discussed their access requirements (4-5 trucks a day) into 294 Ilam Road, which is the vehicle crossing just north of the school's main pedestrian access. All site and work zones will be fully fenced off and pedestrian corridors maintained at all times. The temporary pedestrian crossing lights will also provide a safe crossing point until the permanent lights are installed. Traffic will also be down to one lane which will reduce the amount of traffic through this section for the duration of the Zone 1 works (Sep to Dec).

Q. Why is the school access at Memorial Ave entranceway closed?

A. This was a decision by Leighs Construction and relates to their need for adequate access and space for truck movements in relation to their demolition works of the old school campus.

Parking

Q: Where exactly do you think the school traffic should park to ensure our children can access school safely? Just giving out tickets is not a solution (please see The Press article yesterday), it is simply a moneymaking exercise for the Council in a neighbourhood that can poorly afford it

A: At least 2/3rds of the angled parking outside Jellie Park will be maintained at all times. There will be P5 signs installed that will limit parking to 5 minutes between 8.30-9.30am and 2.30-3.30pm. Pedestrians will then be able



to use the temporary pedestrian crossing lights to cross the road safely. Traffic will also be down to one lane which will reduce the amount of traffic through this section for the duration of the Zone 1 works (Sep to Dec).

Q: Also, I'm worried about street parking, as Ilam Road just had road works completed

A: Street parking will be reduced in the area where construction is taking place (up to 300-500m stretches at a time). However, the construction area will move as work progresses and therefore only a certain amount of street parking along Ilam Road will be impacted at any one time. There will still be plenty of parking outside of the construction area, on side streets, and in front of Jellie Park.

Q: What parking will be left on Ilam Road/ Will parking on Ilam Rd still be possible for people living on Ilam Rd?

A: The design includes 59 marked on-street car parks between Maidstone Road and Jellie Park.

Q: I work on the corner of Creyke Road and Ilam Road. Will there still be on street parking once the cycleway is completed?

A: Parking on Creyke Road and Maidstone Road won't be impacted. On Ilam Road there will be some changes, as we are putting a separated cycleway on both sides of the road. The design includes 59 marked on-street car parks between Maidstone Road and Jellie Park.

Access

Q: With the Ilam Road access issues to Cobham Intermediate / Burnside Primary - due to the closure of access from Memorial Avenue is already impossible to exit Chateau Drive how will the extra congestion be managed?

A: Access to this section of Ilam Road from Memorial Ave will be maintained for the duration of the project. However, during the Zone 1 works (Sep to Dec) road users will only be able to exit left out of Chateau Drive as Ilam will be one-way northbound.

Q: Access to 132 and 132A Ilam Road during this time.

A: There will be times when access is restricted during our working hours of 7am – 5pm, Mon-Fri. This will be communicated at least 48hrs prior via a letter drop to affected residents. Access will always be restored outside of these hours and on weekends. Emergency access will be provided at all times.

Q: What will be the level on disruption for entry/exit to properties and driveways on Ilam Road during construction?

A: We typically cross the vehicle crossings up to four times to construct the cycleway (excavation, infill, kerb pour, sealing etc). This will be communicated at least 48hrs out via a letter drop to affected residents. Access will always be restored outside of these hours and on weekends, with emergency access provided at all times.

Q: Will there be any time when we will not have vehicle and/or pedestrian access to our property? This is particularly important to me, as I work in a support role where, at times, I need to meet customer SLA in response to a site network issue, which means my access to that site is time critical.



A: Yes. There will be times where access to residential properties will be restricted between the hours of 7am – 5pm Monday to Friday. This will be communicated at least 48hrs out. Emergency access will be maintained at all times.

Traffic management

Q: With the north bound traffic, can I still bike south bound? I work at Creyke Road intersection and I'm trying to think of the safest way to get there from Papanui.

A: No. You will need to follow the traffic management and detours in place i.e Clyde Road to the east or Waimairi/Greens Road to the west.

Q: What will be the impact as the work progresses through the neighbourhood? Will Aorangi Road be closed? Will it be one way? Will it be open at night?

A: No Aorangi Road will not be closed at any time during construction. It will be used as a detour route with two-way traffic. It will be open at night.

Q: Don't you think that this will lead to traffic congestions like the ones in London for example, where travel time doubled after cycleways have been built?

A: We don't expect traffic congestion on Ilam Road to get worse. Congestion at peak times of the day may remain but one of the benefits of getting more people cycling is taking cars off the road. The cycleway provides a fairly direct route to the university so hopefully that leads to reduced congestion.

Emergency services

Q: What is the plan for the emergency services short-term (during construction) and long-term - e.g. fire trucks that use Ilam Rd regularly to get to emergencies?

A: Emergency providers will be notified of the traffic management restrictions and emergency access will be maintained at all times throughout construction. This will be managed by our traffic supervisors on site. Long term it is expect emergency services will continue to use the road as they currently do.

Q: Have emergency vehicles access to all affected properties been considered in the design, before and after the works, for all emergency vehicle sizes? Thank you

A: Emergency vehicles will still have access to all properties. While it will be more constrained, it will be no different to other streets around the city.

Timeframes

Q: What is the timeframe for the work being carried out in our part of the modifications (Aorangi Rd)?

A: Work along Aorangi Road is not being completed as part of this phase of construction. It is too early to confirm when work along Aorangi Road will begin, however this work is currently forecast to begin late 2024.



A Notice of Motion on the process to adopt a different design for the Aorangi Road between Ilam Road and Brookside Terrace section of the Nor'West Arc was approved by the Council on 6 September. It does not impact this section of the project.

Disruption

Q: What work are they actually going to be doing outside our property (Aorangi Rd) and what will the disruption at each of those stages be please? I have seen the proposal but I have yet to see sufficiently detailed final plans and no indication as to the order of works and what they will be doing to create the vision.

A: Work along Aorangi Rd is not being completed as part of this phase of construction. The staging of all construction is dependent on the contractor's programme. As this part of the cycleway has not been awarded to a contractor it is not possible to comment on the staging of works.

Q: Based on the information shared today, 4x during construction for a period of time (?) access to driveways will not be available. This would occur at the same time that on street parking in the area is also not available. What consideration has been given to businesses that operate along Stage 2 and have clients that need to access the business car parking during 8:30 - 5:00pm Monday to Friday? Noting that on street car parking is also disrupted at that time.

A: Businesses have an exception where we are not permitted to block access for businesses for their business hours. We will work with each business owner to ensure we can construct that section of the cycleway either before the business opens or after the business closes. That's when we may introduce weekend works or work outside of a business' working hours. That will be worked through with the businesses. Staff from Fulton Hogan will liaise with businesses to find the best time to do the work with the least disruption.

Council decisions

Q: Will the council vote from yesterday (September 6) affect the construction?

A: No it won't. The council vote on September 6 was related to a section on Aorangi Road, from Ilam Road to Brookside Terrace. That is adjacent to the end of where we will complete construction, but it will not impact this particular phase of construction.

Cycleway rationale and design

Q: Why aren't cycle lanes being constructed on either side of Ilam Road north of Memorial Avenue?

A: A separated cycleway is extending from where it's currently finished at the University, along Ilam Road, to a new signalised crossing outside Jellie Park, so there will be a separated cycleway between Memorial Ave and Jellie Park. The cycleway changes at the signalised crossing, where it turns into a shared path on the Jellie Park side of the road, which will extend up to Aorangi Road.

Q: Some of the green material laid on the surface of the cycle lanes on Ilam Road south of Creyke Road has already started deteriorating. What measures are being taken to ensure this doesn't happen in the new cycle lanes being built?



A: The green surfacing is not actually a paint, it's more of a texturised emulsion. There are standards in place to ensure it is of a particular quality, and that it will last on the road. We have our own quality assurance procedures, and the product that we use is tried and true with a lifespan of up to five years. After five years it may need to be remarked, and this would be done by the Council's maintenance team.

Q: I understand you try to encourage cycling. Have you thought about the older people, their needs, their emergencies, and so? What will happen when you need to transport stuff, even to do any substantially shopping, during cold, bad weather, families with little children, etc. Thanks

A: There will be a lot of people that do rely on cars and we're not trying to get every person on a bike. It's more about creating corridors and giving people different opportunities to cycle when they can. This area around the university does have a large catchment of students, so it is quite a key route for cycling.

Cycleways benefit the whole community – when we build cycleways, we also make improvements to make it easier to cross the road, safer to access local schools, and we upgrade underground pipes and landscaping at the same time.

Q: Do you know what is the percentage of cyclists to vehicles now, and what do you expect it to be after the cycleways are built - did you make a study in this regard, or is it just guessing at this stage? Thank you

A: The number of people jumping on their bikes in Christchurch is growing with data showing a 30% increase over the last seven years. The data comes from 28 counters around our cycle network with the first eight installed in 2016. While it's not tracking every single person riding a bike, it does show a great snapshot of the numbers around town. The average daily count of cyclists is 11,260, which has increased 6% between May 2022 and May 2023. We also know that a lot of people cycle in the area. This is evident if you go to the university and see how much cycle parking they've got.

Q: The gardens outside Ilam Park next to the cycle lane are a disgrace, is this going to be repeated along the whole cycle lane?

A: There aren't many garden spaces in this section of the cycleway. If you have some particular issues or problems with a garden you have seen, feel free to [provide that feedback to the council](#) and we can pass it on to the maintenance teams. You can also use the Snap Send Solve app on your smart phone.

Q: Will there be a risk to cyclists from parked cars opening doors along this section? If yes, what design solutions have been explored to alleviate the risk?

A: There is a wide separator on the side where there's parking to reduce this risk. There are minimum standards we need to meet, typically 600 – 800mm for the width of the separator between the parking and the cycleway, which allows space for car doors opening.

Q: You say that there are "many", how many people cycle really?

A: The number of people jumping on their bikes in Christchurch is growing with data showing a 30% increase over the last seven years. The data comes from 28 counters around our cycle network with the first eight installed in 2016. While it's not tracking every single person riding a bike, it does show a great snapshot of the numbers around town. The average daily count of cyclists is 11,260, which has increased 6% between May 2022 and May 2023.



Q: Will there be speed limit changes due to the cycleway?

A: Yes. Ilam Road will be reducing to 40km/h through the length of this particular site.

