

Caversham Valley Safety Improvements Overview

Introducing the Planned Improvements

Overview

The Caversham Valley Safety Improvements is the second stage of the wider Caversham Highway Improvements project to improve the route efficiency and safety of State Highway 1 between Andersons Bay Rd and Lookout Point.

This stage of the project focuses on the highway route through Caversham Valley, between Barnes Drive and Lookout Point. As there are already four highway traffic lanes, the key objectives of the changes proposed are to improve the safety of the route, and in particular that at Lookout Point.

Purpose

To improve the safety on this section of State Highway 1 where there is currently:

- No central median to separate traffic,
- Very little roadside parking,
- Residential driveways, some of which have a very poor view of approaching traffic, and with little room to safely turn off the highway,
- A busy pair of intersections at Lookout Point, where motorists must contend with high traffic flows on the state highway and limited visibility.



Traffic, Cycle and Pedestrian Movements

Features

The changes proposed include several key features to improve the safety and amenity of the highway corridor:

- The road alignment will be eased,
- The highway will be widened to include a kerbed central median,
- The roadside shoulders will be widened to 1.5m 1.8m (without parking), and 2.1m or more (with parking),
- While many houses will be removed, there are also many houses that will remain. Those remaining, will have improved access and parking via either a separated service lane or widening of the road shoulder,
- Improved intersection layout at Lookout Point, refer Lookout Point Options Plan,
- A shared path on the downhill side of the highway for pedestrians and cyclists (uphill). The road shoulders on the highway will be widened for those cyclists who would prefer to travel on the highway over this section although it is not intended to promote this through the marking of the shoulders as a cycle lane. The existing cycle route via South Road will continue to be available,
- At Barnes Drive, the current traffic signals will remain and be improved with the addition of separate lanes for left turning traffic,
- At Burnett Street, only left turns onto the highway will be able to be made.
 To access Burnett Street motorists will need to approach from South Road (by turning off the highway at the Barnes Drive traffic signals),
- At Aberfeldy Street, while the intersection will be modified, essentially there will be no change to the access currently available,
- The speed limit on the state highway will be increased from 50km/h to 60km/h.

http://www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/caversham-highway/