

Submission on the Notice of Requirement for Designation of Harbourside Arterial Link and Access Road

Section 168A of the Resource Management Act 1991

To: Dunedin City Council

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Name of submitter:

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- This is a submission in **support** of the Notice of Requirement DIS-2013-1 for Designations D465 and D845 (Anzac Avenue with Ravensbourne Rd to Parry St West) and an Access Road to the site at 80 Anzac Avenue.

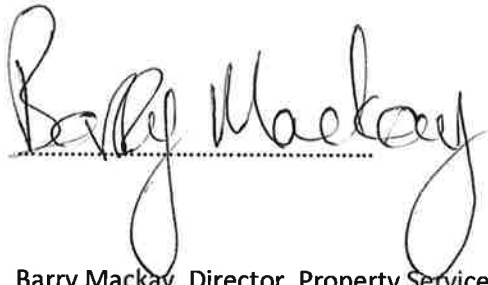
The University of Otago is pleased to offer its support for the Notice of Requirement to confirm the actual route of the State Highway 88 bypass/arterial. The bypass has been in operation since late 2011 but does not function effectively due to the lack of working traffic lights at the intersection with Frederick Street and Anzac Avenue, as a consequence of legal action by the owner of 80 Anzac Avenue.

It is hoped that the matter of the traffic lights will be swiftly resolved once the Notice of Requirement is confirmed.

1. The purpose of the State Highway 88 bypass project was to divert traffic away from the Forsyth Barr Stadium site as well as provide a more efficient route for heavy vehicles travelling between Port Chalmers and the city. The bypass was to result in Anzac Avenue reverting to a quiet local road, however to date there is no evidence of a decrease in Anzac Avenue traffic. It is likely traffic is still using the Avenue in preference to the Highway due to the current need to cross an uncontrolled intersection. In addition without any form of signal control, there are few lulls in the traffic flow and no reduction to the overall speed of traffic to allow pedestrians to safely cross the road.
2. Following the construction of the University Plaza Building at the Stadium site, the University has noted a significant increase in pedestrian activity in the area, largely consisting of students accessing the new Unipol gymnasium. Continued heavy traffic on Anzac Avenue is a threat to the safety of these pedestrians, and the University's installation of a pedestrian crossing in 2012 and the removal of car parks from the Water of Leith bridge have only partially addressed safety issues. Staff and students have reported regular 'near misses' on the crossing where traffic has either not slowed down enough to stop at the crossing or the crossing is ignored altogether.
3. The Hocken Library is located directly adjacent to the new route of the Highway. Library staff have reported no concerns about the bypass beyond their continued frustration with the lack of traffic lights and its impact on the safety of Library users. The Hocken Library staff and the University as a whole urge Council to confirm the Notice of Requirement without amendments. It is hoped that the inclusion of an access road to 80 Anzac Avenue within the designation is sufficient to satisfy the landowner and resolve their on-going dispute with the Council over the route of the Highway and that the traffic lights can be switched on as soon as reasonably practicable.

We do not wish to be heard in support of our submission.

Signature of submitter:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barry Mackay". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal dotted line.

Barry Mackay, Director, Property Services Division, University of Otago

31st August 2013

