



Belconnen Trunk Walking and Cycling Projects

Recommendations

- That priority be given to the \$30,000 Giralang Link (200m section of sealed path linking existing path sections, William Slim Dr/Baldwin Dr to Ginninderra Creek footbridge), which is considerably more cost-effective than either the Chandler St on road lanes or the Belconnen Accessible Street project.
- That the high priority/low cost components of the Lathlain St Accessible Street project be implemented.
- That for safety reasons the Chandler St median be retained, unless the speed limit on Chandler St is reduced to 40 km/h or less.

General comments

Based on the information in the Cardno report, the cost-effectiveness ranking of the proposed Belconnen projects is:

1. Giralang Link - off road path (\$30,000, ranked 5th of 200 projects)
2. Ginninderra Drive off-road path, UoC to Lake Ginninderra (\$65,000, 18th)
3. Coulter Drive to Florey link - off road path (\$80,000, 24th)
4. Eastern Valley Way path upgrade - off road path (\$60,000, 25th)
5. Brindabella Business Park off-road path (\$100,000, 27th)
6. Kippax South Feeder Route - off road path (\$50,000, 30th)
- 7. Chandler Street - on road lanes (\$35,000 [new estimate \$400,000], 32nd [])**
- ...
- 15. Accessible Street - Belconnen (\$138,000 [new estimate \$550,000], 56th)**

Chandler Street - on road lanes

Minister Simon Corbell's October 2010 media release describes this project as, "*Chandler Street - Benjamin Way to College Street, Belconnen: on-road cycle lanes.*"

The Cardno report says, "*Chandler Street is a key distributor route through Belconnen town centre. The identified project involves the provision of cycle lanes, however a reduction of the speed limit to 40km/h or less with appropriate traffic calming devices and cyclists operating in mixed traffic would also provide an acceptable outcome.*"

The Pedestrian Forum's main concern is the proposal to remove the median for most of the length of Chandler St, due to limited road width to



accommodate the cycle lanes. We understand that the current speed limit along Chandler St is 50 or 60 km/h. The median provides a refuge for pedestrians crossing the street, especially where visibility is limited near the north-east corner of Chandler St. Removal of the median would increase the danger of mid-block crossings. This danger could be reduced by limiting traffic speed to 40 km/h through signage and street design.

Accessible Street – Belconnen

Simon Corbell's October 2010 media release describes this project as, “*Accessible street project on Lathlain Street to Westfield and then to Chandler Street, Belconnen.*”

The Cardno report says: “*This project will involve a detailed audit of the entire route, including provision of new road crossings, a review of access options at the courtyard and a CPTED [Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design] audit and implementation along the designated accessible path through the town centre, to enable increased accessibility for those with mobility impairments.*”

The accessibility audit has identified many issues, including narrow footpaths, footpath gradients, obstructions and cross-falls, orientation to direction of travel and lack of tactile indicators.

We believe that this project is worthwhile. However, due to priority and funding issues it would be appropriate to defer those parts of the project that are low priority and/or high cost.

Leon Arundell
Convenor
12 July 2011