

Report No:	RESC11-10-06
File No:	RD1043 & S761
Date:	17 October 2011
Decision Required	

REPORT SUMMARY

Report to: Engineering Services Committee
Meeting Date: 27 October 2011
Report Author Jeff Cuthbertson, Utilities Asset Manager
Subject: **Swiftsure Street Improvements**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Access to Council's water supply reservoir in Collingwood is via Swiftsure Street. Swiftsure Street is steep and is currently a gravel surface which requires constant and costly maintenance. Council staff propose to lay a concrete surface on Swiftsure Street at a gradient of 1-in-5 which is outside Council's standard of 1-in-7.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report is received.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

THAT the Engineering Services Committee receives the Swiftsure Street Improvements report, RESC11-10-06; and

THAT the Engineering Services Committee approves the installation of a concrete pavement on the steep section of Swiftsure Street at an approximate gradient of 1-in-5, subject to resource consent being gained as noted in the report RESC11-10-06.

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to gain the Engineering Services Committee's support to place a concrete surface on Swiftsure Street, Collingwood at a gradient in excess of what is generally acceptable in Council's Engineering Standards. Council will need to gain resource consent to allow the work to proceed.

2. Background

- 2.1 Entry to Swiftsure Street in Collingwood is obtained off Gibbs Road. Part of the access to Swiftsure Street from Gibbs Road crosses private property and ownership of this property is being discussed with the landowner.
- 2.2 Swiftsure Street has a gravel surface that is relatively steep with an average gradient of 1-in-5.
- 2.3 Swiftsure Street generally provides access to Council's water reservoir. Maintenance of the steep gravel section of the road has been an issue for a number of years and the road surface can become very difficult to travel on after extensive rain.
- 2.4 The gradient of Swiftsure Street is outside the Engineering Standard of 1-in-7. Development of the road to obtain a gradient of 1-in-7 would require extensive excavation and removal of material at a considerable cost. As use of this road is limited in terms of number of vehicles that use it, it is proposed to construct a concrete surface to the existing 4-5 metre wide carriageway and to seek dispensation from the Engineering Services Committee to this road gradient.

3. Present Situation/Matters to be Considered

- 3.1 The proposal is to lay a concrete surface on the steep section of Swiftsure Street to provide an all-weather access and to reduce maintenance costs. The surface upgrade will also make it safer for motorists and enable water to be shed off into the adjacent open stormwater channels/ditches.
- 3.2 The existing gradient of Swiftsure Street is approximately 1-in-5. This gradient is outside Council's generally accepted standard for a road. Council will need to gain a resource consent to carry out this work.

4. Financial/Budgetary Considerations

- 4.1 Provision of a concrete surface on Swiftsure Street is part of the stormwater upgrade of this steep street and is included in the current year's budget.

5. Options

- 5.1 Council could decide to do nothing. This will result in higher costs for the maintenance of stormwater channels/ditches and the road surface. Doing nothing will also cause problems between Council and the private landowner whose property Swiftsure Street passes over.
- 5.2 Council could approve the gradient of 1-in-5 in this instance so that a good driving surface from Gibbs Road to the top of the steep section of Swiftsure Street is obtained. This will overcome a number of issues including the provision of safer access to Council's water reservoir.

6. Pros and Cons of Options

- 6.1 Council needs to provide access to the water reservoir in Collingwood. Alternative access sites have been investigated and are even steeper than the present access from Swiftsure Street.
- 6.2 Ongoing maintenance of the steep section of gravelled road in Swiftsure Street has been an issue for many years and the upgrade is required in conjunction with the stormwater improvements to provide a long-term solution.
- 6.3 Council is being asked to approve the proposal to lay a concrete surface on Swiftsure Street at a gradient that is outside of the generally acceptable standard of 1-in-7.

7. Evaluation of Options

- 7.1 The preferred option is 5.2 above to provide a concrete paved surface on the steep section of Swiftsure Street.

8. Significance

- 8.1 This is not a significant decision according to the Council's Significance Policy.

9. Recommendation/s

- 9.1 That the report be received.

10. Timeline/Next Steps

- 10.1 If the Committee approves the improvements to Swiftsure Street, Council staff will discuss options regarding ownership of the land the road passes over with the landowner.

11. Draft Resolution

- 11.1 THAT the Engineering Services Committee receives the Swiftsure Street Improvements report, RESC11-10-06; and**
- 11.2 THAT the Engineering Services Committee approves the installation of a concrete pavement on the steep section of Swiftsure Street at an approximate gradient of 1-in-5, subject to resource consent being gained as noted in the report RESC11-10-06.**

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Plan of proposed works, Swiftsure Street