Item 6

14th April 2023

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership
North East Area Partnership

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

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Westerhouse Road at Lochend Road

Purpose of Report:

To advise the Committee of the results of a recent site survey on Westerhouse Road at Lochend Road.

Recommendations:

The Area Partnership is asked to consider match funding of £65,000 to improve the pedestrian facilities on Westerhouse Road at Lochend Road, Easterhouse.

Introduction

1. This report is to provide background on a recent request to review the pedestrian crossing facilities on Westerhouse Road at Lochend Road, Easterhouse.

Background

2. The Council receives a high number of requests annually to review pedestrian crossing facilities on roads within the city and does this by a combination of surveys which include site observations, traffic/ pedestrian counts, speed analysis, analysis of reported road injury accidents and the proximity of local attractors (e.g. schools/ shops/ sports centres etc).

   This data is reviewed and if required a full vehicle/ pedestrian survey can be undertaken to establish the degree of conflict between traffic and pedestrians wishing to cross the road – this survey is call 'PV^2' and forms the basis of whether or not a request meets the requirements of current Council Policy.

   When the request is at a junction, the delay and demand of side road vehicles is also considered.

   The use of objective data ensures that a consistent approach is undertaken throughout the whole Council area and there is an equitability of review and response to each individual case.

   When a request meets Council Policy to provide improved crossing facilities then a bid for Capital funding is required to undertake the works.

Site Characteristics – Westerhouse Road/ Lochend Road

3. The Neighbourhood, Regeneration and Sustainability (NRS) Road Safety Team undertook observations at Westerhouse Road and Lochend Road.

   Our initial investigation looked to investigate and improve pedestrian facilities by way of a Pedestrian (PUFFIN) crossing on Westerhouse Road but there is difficulty in locating this due to the bus stop and entrances to Glasgow Kelvin College and the Police Station.

   A better alternative would be to signalise the junction of Westerhouse/ Lochend Roads to provide a fully compliant crossing facility for both roads.

   This would allow the removal of the existing ZEBRA crossing on Lochend Road which can be problematic for vulnerable pedestrians.

   The observations concluded: -

   - That the number of pedestrians crossing and the gaps between vehicles would mean that Council Policy and PV^2 would not be met to justify a PUFFIN crossing.

- The delay and number of vehicles exiting from Lochend Road would not justify the installation of a full signal controlled junction.

- Some of our more vulnerable pedestrians have difficulty in crossing Westerhouse Road given the layout and number of entrance/ exits to the off-road facilities.

- Westerhouse Road, at this location, is a busy bus route and has a number of key destinations for pedestrians including Glasgow Kelvin College, St Benedict's Church, the Lochs Shopping Centre and the local swimming pool.

- There would be a difficulty in siting a Pedestrian (PUFFIN) crossing on Westerhouse Road due to the bus stop and entrances to Glasgow Kelvin College and the Police Station.

We also analysed data sets available to the Council and noted: -

- There have been no reported injury accidents at or within 50m of the junction in the most recent 5 year period up to 31 December 2022.

- A wider geographical search that includes Bogbain Road notes that there have been 6 casualties within the same time period including 2 pedestrians.

- The all day average vehicle speed on Westerhouse road is 24mph, however the all day 85%tile speed is higher at 33mph.

Anecdotally we are also aware that route is often used by the local primary schools on trips to and from the swimming pool.

The outcome of our investigations are we would be keen to improve the pedestrian facilities at this location, despite the fact that the PV^2 analysis is low.

Road Safety Plan 2020-2030 and Priorities

4. Our road system needs to be designed and managed in order to protect our most vulnerable road users and reduce the risk of a collision and the severity outcome of any collision. Improved crossing facilities at key locations, combined with segregation and prioritisation for vulnerable road users is another key priority for our vision zero which is the tenet of the Council's Road Safety Plan 2020-2030.

Funding

5. There is limited Council Capital funding available in 2023/24 and priority is being given to sites within the city centre which currently do not meet DDA requirements due to a lack of tactile paving and tactile cones.

Applications are open for a separate Capital funding bid to Transport Scotland for 2023/ 24. This 'Road Safety' fund is being rolled out to help vulnerable users (particularly pedestrians) in areas with a high SIMD.

However, there is considerable pressure on this budget city wide and to guarantee this, I would ask that it is match funded from the Area Partnership Infrastructure Fund (APIF).

The estimated cost for all works to provide a fully compliant signal controlled junction on Westerhouse Road at Lochend Road is £130,000, so a match funded amount of £65,000 would be required from the APIF.

Recommendations

6. The Area Partnership is asked to consider match funding of £65,000 to improve the pedestrian facilities on Westerhouse Road at Lochend Road, Easterhouse.