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MEDIA RELEASE

MOMENTUM PICKS UP ON DONCASTER HILL

Activity on Doncaster Hill is moving forward after the commencement of construction at Westfield.

“Work is now underway on the Doncaster Hill Public Art Fence and boulevard, and the pedestrian underpass is also set to undergo a facelift,” Manningham Mayor, Cr Ron Kitchingman announced today.

“These projects are part of Council’s efforts to improve pedestrian accessibility on Doncaster Hill and create appealing public open spaces.

Work has started on the Doncaster Hill Public Art Fence and boulevard, on the Doncaster Road frontage of Doncaster Primary School and the Old Shire Hall, with the fence set to be erected, and the existing brown brick wall to be removed, in coming weeks.

“The Doncaster Hill boulevard treatment works and associated pedestrian lighting, signage, drainage and landscape works will then follow, utilising Water Sensitive Urban Design techniques and drought-tolerant planting,” Cr Kitchingman said.

“Boulevard treatment between the existing wall and the underpass is already finished, giving a taste of the improved walkways that will be a feature of the Hill.

“This project has been jointly funded by the State Government, through a \$235,000 Creating Better Places grant, and Manningham City Council.

“Plans to improve to the pedestrian underpass between Doncaster Primary School and 682 Doncaster Road have also received funding from the State Government, under its Local Area Access Program (LAAP). Work on the underpass will provide continuity to the completed boulevard treatment and create a brighter, safer and more attractive space that will encourage greater usage.”

The \$15,000 grant offered by the State Government will be matched by Council to fund Stage 1 of the Doncaster Hill Boulevard Pedestrian Underpass project, which will involve:

- appointing a Steering Committee;
- engaging in preliminary consultation with key stakeholders;
- developing a detailed project brief for endorsement by Steering Committee;

- calling for expressions of interest for design work of the underpass;
- appointing an artist/designer to develop the concept; and
- preparing conceptual designs for the underpass wall treatment lighting, canopy, signage and communication panels.

Stage 1 forms part of a wider application for funding which will allow completion of underpass works by mid-2008, with costs split between Council and the Department of Infrastructure through LAAP.

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