

5. 40KM/H SCHOOL SPEED ZONES

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of sites for 40km/h part-time speed zones outside schools.

The Council, in conjunction with Transit New Zealand, has been conducting a trial on 40km/h part-time speed zones at five schools in the city. The two-year trial was due to end in December 2001, but because of the very favourable evaluations undertaken by the LTSA and the Council, and the wish to see this trial approved and school speed zones formally adopted, the trial was extended to the end of June 2002, to enable final selection criteria to be established.

During the last two and a half years Council staff have been working closely with the LTSA to ensure that LTSA were satisfied with the road safety initiative and to ensure that the 40km/h school speed zones would receive final approval as a traffic management 'tool'.

The next sites for the 40km/h part-time school speed zones will be at schools in the following communities:

Marshland School	Prestons Road	Shirley/Papanui Community Board
Templeton School	Kirk Road	Riccarton/Wigram Community Board
Our Lady of Assumption and Hoon Hay Schools	Sparks Road	Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board

Funding has been made available over the next five years for school speed zones and the schools chosen for the 2002/03 financial year are from the priority list established before the trial was implemented. This initiative was a first for New Zealand and once final approval is given by the LTSA not only can Christchurch install more school speed zones, but other local authorities throughout New Zealand can do the same.

It is pleasing to note that this original priority list, compiled by the City Streets Unit, Police, LTSA and Transit New Zealand staff, has ensured that the school speed zones are installed where they will be most effective.

The City Streets Unit will be working towards a start date of the first school term of 2003. The schools concerned are aware and naturally very happy about the initiative. Reports to the respective Community Boards will be provided within the next two months to ensure that Board members are happy with the initiative.

Following Board approval, full consultation will take place with the Boards of Trustees, Parent/Teacher Associations and Principals of each of the schools.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Chairman's Recommendation: The schools have a long-standing need for a safety plan. However, the proposed expansion of the BP service station on the corner of Sparks/Hoon Hay Roads could potentially make this corner more dangerous and the planning of traffic lights needs to be considered in the traffic safety equation.