

5. TIRANGI STREET : PROPOSED TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Brian Boddy (Area Engineer), DDI 941-8013
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The purpose of this report is to request that the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board approve for consultation the proposed works to improve traffic safety in Tirangi Street as shown on the attached concept plan.

BACKGROUND

In the past Council received complaints from residents in the area requesting that something be done about the speed and number of vehicles using Tirangi Street.

A Local Area Traffic Management Scheme has been developed for the area that recommends moderate traffic restraints at both of the Ariki Crescent intersections. These restraints were prioritised as a Neighbourhood Improvement Work and placed in the Capital Works Programme for the 2003/2004 financial year.

Tirangi Street does not form an obvious shortcut for through traffic at present. However Transit NZ plans to replace the roundabout at Carmen/Buchanans with traffic signals, which could change this. The installation of the signals is programmed to start in October 2003.

The present statistics for Tirangi Street are: -

Traffic volume - eastbound

171 vehicles per day; Westbound – 285 vehicles per day which suggests there are some vehicles short cutting from Carmen Road to Hei Hei Road though not enough to be a problem at this stage.

Vehicle speeds

The average speed is 46 kph.

85% of vehicles travel at a speed of less than 57 kph.

A maximum speed of 90 kph was recorded over the week of the survey.

Road width

The existing carriageway is eight metres wide.

Accident record

The Land Transport Safety Authority records show no reported accidents in Tirangi Street in the last five years from 1998 to 2003.

PROPOSAL

The objectives of the project are to: -

- Slow through traffic in Tirangi Street.
- Discourage vehicles from shortcutting through Tirangi Street.

To achieve the above objectives specially designed traffic islands are proposed at both Ariki/Tirangi intersections that will encourage through traffic around Ariki Crescent while also permitting the slow movement of through traffic along Tirangi Street. The estimated cost of this project is \$41,000.

All residents, and property owners, in Tirangi Street and Ariki Crescent with interested parties (e.g. local schools) will receive a copy of the concept plan as part of a publicity pamphlet.

The concept plan (if constructed) addresses the residents' concerns regarding speed and short cutting.

Staff

Recommendation: That the concept plan be approved for consultation.

Chairman's

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