

## 12. FIFIELD TERRACE: PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO TRAFFIC SAFETY

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The purpose of this report is to request the Board's approval for consultation to commence on the proposed works to improve traffic safety in Fifield Terrace (between Ensors Road and Beckford Road) as shown on the appended concept plan.

### BACKGROUND

In the past, the Council received complaints from residents in the area requesting that something be done about the speed of vehicles using this portion of Fifield Terrace. This request was prioritised as a Neighbourhood Improvement Work and four speed-related accidents as recorded on the New Zealand Land Transport Safety Authority's (L.T.S.A.) accident database between 1996 and 2001 helped it achieve a place in the Capital Works Programme for the 2003/2004 financial year. Complaints had also been received about the number of close calls and accidents on the Ford Road/Fifield Terrace intersection that was programmed as a separate project in the same financial year. At least two separate accidents have occurred on this intersection in the last five years. As these two projects are on the same piece of road, the two projects have been combined for reasons of economy and efficiency.

While this section of Fifield Terrace forms part of the route for parents dropping their children off at St Marks, Opawa, and Rudolf Steiner Schools, it is not an obvious shortcut for through-traffic. The present statistics for Fifield Terrace are:

Traffic volume - 600 vehicles per day (as recorded outside No. 247 in 2002).  
Vehicle speed - The average speed is 37 kph.  
85% of vehicles travel at less than 44 kph.  
A maximum speed of 72 kph was recorded over the week of the survey.

The L.T.S.A. records show that it has been advised of seven accidents occurring between 1998 and 2002 in this section of Fifield Terrace. Two accidents involved excessive speed turning right out of Ford Road, and two involved alcohol.

Residents along this section of Fifield Terrace were surveyed in November 2002 to determine their concerns. The feedback identified that vehicle speeds are still a major concern of residents. The appended letter to the respondees details their feedback.

### PROPOSAL

The objectives of the project are to:

- Slow through-traffic in Fifield Terrace.
- Improve intersection safety at the Ford Road intersection.
- Reduce the number of accidents in this section of Fifield Terrace.

The residents and property owners of Fifield Terrace have been surveyed to check the issues they would like addressed with this work. Following consideration of the residents' feedback (see appended letter for a summary of their feedback), different options have been considered and the appended concept plan drawn up.

The estimated cost of this project is \$143,400 comprising:

- Three chicanes at \$13,200 each (total \$39,600).
- Fifield/Ensors intersection improvements \$13,330.
- Fifield/Ford intersection improvements \$52,000.
- Fifield/Beckford intersection improvements \$38,080.

It is proposed to consult with all residents, property owners and interested parties (eg, local schools) in this section of Fifield Terrace together with those properties on side streets within five sections of Fifield Terrace. Ford Road residents and property owners between Fifield Terrace and Hawford Road will also be consulted.

The concept plan addresses the residents' concerns regarding speed and (if constructed) will have a positive effect in reducing the number of accidents in the section of Fifield Terrace between Ensors Road and Beckford Street.

**Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the concept plan be approved for consultation.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** Board members may have some suggestions, particularly to assist with the consultation.