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| Corporate Plan Output: Traffic Signs and Markings  |                              |

### **SPEED LIMIT CATHEDRAL SQUARE**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to impose a "temporary" speed limit of 30 km/h along the roadway around the Cathedral.

#### **Discussion**

Work on reconstructing the north-west quadrant of the Square (the bus terminal) has been completed. The reconstruction of the north-east and south-east quadrants is substantially complete with the narrowed roadway around the back of the Cathedral now in place.

Access to these sectors of the square will be opened up to all vehicles when the contractor ceases operations for the Christmas/New Year period in December 1998.

Last year, the former Central City Committee considered that a speed limit lower than the 50 km/h urban speed limit should be applied to the roads in Cathedral Square. It is now proposed that this permanent speed limit be part of the current speed limit review.

Bylaw changes are proposed for traffic in Cathedral Square. These will, however, not be in place until construction work has been completed in the north-east and south-west quadrants of the Square. There is some concern that, until the square is finished, control on traffic speed in an enhanced pedestrian environment may create a hazard.

To address this problem, it is proposed that a temporary speed limit of 30 km/h be imposed on the roads in Cathedral Square. This would operate for a period of 6 months commencing 1 December 1998. In June 1999 the Council should be in a position to put into place a permanent speed limit as part of bylaw changes from the current speed limit review.

The temporary speed limit would be applied to the roads leading into, and circulating within, Cathedral Square bounded by Gloucester Street, Manchester Street, Hereford Street and Oxford Terrace.

## **Give Way Sign**

The traffic signals in the southern sector of Cathedral Square were removed as part of the current redevelopment programme. Traffic signals have been installed in the northern sector to control a three-way intersection. At a similar three way intersection at the back of the Cathedral traffic will need to be controlled by a “Give Way” sign.

## **Conclusion**

With the reopening of Cathedral Square to circulating traffic with an enhanced pedestrian environment, it is desirable that motorists be required to moderate their speed. A temporary speed limit of 30 km/h should be imposed on traffic on roads leading into, and circulating within, Cathedral Square.

A “Give Way” needs to be erected against traffic turning from the roadway in the north-east quadrant of the Square into the south-east quadrant and into Worcester Street east.

- Recommendation:**
1. That a temporary speed limit of 30 km/h be imposed on the following roads leading into, and circulating around, Cathedral Square:
    - (i) Colombo Street between Gloucester Street and the northern sector of Cathedral Square.
    - (ii) Worcester Street between Manchester Street and the eastern sector of Cathedral Square.
    - (iii) Colombo Street between Hereford Street and the southern sector of Cathedral Square.
    - (iv) Worcester Street between Oxford Terrace and the western sector of Cathedral Square.
    - (v) Along the roadways circulating through the north-west, north-east and south-west quadrant of Cathedral Square.
  2. That a “Give Way” sign be erected against traffic turning from the roadway in the north-east quadrant of Cathedral Square into the south-east quadrant and into Worcester Street east.