

9. CHRISTCHURCH CITY PROPOSED NEW SPEED LIMITS

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Transport and Greenspace Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's support to recommend Council to relocate the 50/80 km/h speed limit change on Burwood Road/Prestons Road and to post a speed limit of 30 km/h on the New Brighton Mall (**see attachments**).

BACKGROUND

2. Board members may recall that at the Council seminar on 1 August 2006 they were briefed on proposals to change certain speed limits on roads within the city.
3. The Council is responsible for setting speed limits on those roads within its district in respect of which it is the road controlling authority. The authority for the Council to do this is contained in the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2003, Rule 5004 ("the Rule") and the Christchurch City Speed Limit Bylaw 2005 ("the Bylaw").
4. In setting speed limits the Council must comply with the requirements of the Rule. It requires the Council to apply "Speed Limits New Zealand" for the setting of speed limits. "Speed Limits New Zealand" contains guidelines for setting speed limits and procedures for calculating speed limits. They are set out in Schedule 1 of the Rule. The Rule also prescribes the consultation that is required to be carried out for any proposed speed limit change.
5. The Council may set a speed limit that differs from the calculated speed limit under "Speed Limits New Zealand". However, in this case there is provision in the Rule that must be complied with.

"A speed limit different from the calculated speed limit is the safe and appropriate speed limit for a road with regard to the function, nature and use of the road, its environment, land use patterns and whether the road is an urban traffic area or a rural area."

6. Once the provisions of the Rule have been complied with in relation to determining an appropriate speed and undertaking the necessary consultation the Council may set that speed limit by passing a resolution under Clause 5 of the Bylaw. The new speed limit will then be recorded in the Council's Speed Limit Register.
7. At the Council meeting on 21 September 2006 consent was given to carry out the consultation process as required by the Rule.
8. This report forms part of the consultation process which will be reported back to Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Burwood Road/Prestons Road

9. It is proposed to reduce the speed limit from 80 km/h to 50 km/h in the section of Prestons Road from a point measured 200 metres west generally of Burwood Road and the section of Burwood Road from a point measured 180 metres south generally from Waitikiri Drive (which includes the bend).
10. Reasons for change:
 - To extend the existing 50 km/h speed limit on Burwood Road/Prestons Road to accommodate the recent residential developments in this area.
 - The advisory speed on the bend is 45 km/h in one direction and 55 km/h in the other direction.
 - The number of cyclists using the intersection of Waitikiri Drive to access Bottle Lake Plantation.
 - The many requests from residents of Waitikiri Drive to reduce the speed limit because of their concern for safety when negotiating this intersection.

New Brighton Mall

11. It is proposed that the section of Seaview Road from Union Street, east generally, to Oram Avenue and Oram Avenue from Seaview Road south generally, to Beresford Street (New Brighton Mall) be posted as a 30 km/h speed limit.
12. Reasons for change:
 - The new road has been designed and constructed to have a slow road environment.
 - The design guidelines in Austroads 2005 part 10, were used to determine an appropriate speed limit for such a commercial/pedestrian environment.
 - The recommended speed limit was 30 km/h.
13. The proposed speed limits for these two changes have been evaluated as prescribed by Speed Limits New Zealand by a consultant, namely Antoni Facey of Facey Consultants.
14. No additional roads are to be considered in this round of consultation. Additional roads can be considered in subsequent reviews once they have been evaluated against the Speed Limits New Zealand guidelines. It is intended that speed limits be reviewed on a biennial cycle.
15. The proposed time table for the process is:
 - 1 August 2006 - Council Seminar
 - 21 September 2006 - Report to Council seeking consent to consult
 - October 2006 - Report to Community Boards seeking support for proposed changes
 - October 2006 - Consultation with:
 - The required parties
 - Directly affected properties owners
 - Residents' Groups
 - News media
 - 27 October 2006 - Closing date for consultation responses
 - 30 November 2006 - Report to Council on consultation feedback and request that the new speed limits be set
 - December 2006 - Arrange for sign changes and to update Speed Limit Register, Map and Council website

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

16. The cost of new signs and the relocation of existing speed limit signs is within existing budgets.
17. That the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2003, Rule 5004 requires the Council to apply the guidelines of Speed Limits New Zealand for the setting of speed limits and the procedures for calculating speed limits.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Board recommend to Council to support the following speed limit changes:

1. That the speed limit on Prestons Road easterly, generally, along Prestons Road from a point measured 500 metres east from Grimseys Road to a point measured 200 metres west, generally, from Burwood Road, remain at 80 km/h.
2. That the speed limit of 80 km/h on Prestons Road and Burwood Road measured along Prestons Road from a point 200 metres westerly, generally, from Burwood Road, and along Burwood Road, to a point measured 180 metres south generally, from Waitikiri Drive, be uplifted.
3. That the speed limit on Seaview Road from Union Street east generally, to Oram Avenue (New Brighton Mall) be set at 30 km/h.
4. That the speed limit on Oram Avenue from Seaview Road south generally, to Beresford Street (New Brighton Mall) be set at 30 km/h.