

Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Malcolm Taylor, Area Engineer
Corporate Plan Output: Planning 9.5 Text 5	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of the outcome of investigations arising from a letter received from Mr Peter Hays requesting speed humps in Merrington Crescent, Aranui. Mr Hays' letter was presented to the Board at its May 1999 meeting.

Mr Hays, a resident of Merrington Crescent, expressed concern at speeding traffic in the crescent where there is a kohanga reo, a playcentre and two right-angled bends. He considers that local people are causing some of the speeding traffic concerns and that the crescent is also being used as a racetrack.

A traffic volume and speed survey was carried out in Merrington Crescent over a period of 7 days from 2 to 8 June 1999. The average daily traffic count was 150 vehicles, with an average vehicle speed of 37 km/h. The 85th percentile speed was 47 km/h, with peak speeds being recorded between 80 and 90 km/h.

This volume of vehicles indicates that there is little through traffic and that the majority of vehicles have destinations or origins in the street.

The average speed of vehicles travelling at 37 km/h is low and is typical of what can be expected in a street with traffic calming. The fact that 85% of all vehicles are travelling at, or less than 47 km/h is also very good. The low speeds recorded in the street reflect the impact of the two sharp right angle bends, which effectively act as horizontal speed restraints.

The installation of traffic calming measures would not eliminate this problem, and only a few vehicles travelled at excessive speeds. This is an enforcement matter. The New Brighton Police have been made aware of the Mr Hays' concerns and a copy of the speed surveys has been forwarded to them.

If the problems of vehicle speeds were greater, it would be appropriate to install three speed humps (*see attached map, page 37*). However the humps themselves create their own problems and there would need to be a strong local support for such controls to be installed.

The South Aranui Area is not yet covered by a Local Area Traffic Management Scheme (LATMS). When a LATMS has been completed for the area the Board will have a more accurate assessment of traffic management priorities for the area including Merrington Crescent. However the ranking process for Neighbourhood Improvement Work using the information gathered, puts a project such as this some years out. The estimated cost for this work is \$11,000.

After discussing traffic and general maintenance concerns with one resident who lives by the play centre, it was considered appropriate to extend the 'centre line' at this location to help improve the visibility of the road at the bend. This work has now been implemented.

In conclusion, I do not believe that this street warrants any special speed control devices, in terms of the current Council priorities.

Recommendation: That Mr Hays be informed of the results of the Council's investigations into the problem of speeding traffic in Merrington Crescent and that the matter of excess speed has been forward to the New Brighton Police.

Chairperson's Recommendation: That the aforementioned recommendation be adopted.