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Corporate Plan Output: Advanced Transport Planning	

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on progress towards assisting pedestrians crossing the Main North Road in Belfast.

BACKGROUND

When considering a report on the methodology and subsequent issues raised during the 1998 review of speed limits the Committee decided to seek a report on how pedestrians can be assisted in crossing Main North Road through Belfast and the four lane sections of Linwood Avenue south of Chelsea Street.

DISCUSSION

Transit NZ is the road controlling authority for the Main North Road through Belfast. The Regional Office of TNZ fully supports making the sections of State Highways 1 and 74 through Belfast safer for pedestrians. During a site inspection in March, City Streets Unit and Transit NZ Officers identified 30 possible traffic management improvements that could be made to assist pedestrians along the route of the proposed 60 km/h speed limit between the motorway at Dickey's Road and the McFaddens Road intersection on Cranford Street. A schedule of the works identified is attached to this report.

PROGRAMME

The following work will be carried out before the 60 km/h speed limit is posted on the section of state highways 1 and 74 through Belfast. For details refer to the schedule attached to this report:

1. - Work will be commenced shortly on alterations to the pedestrian refuge island and associated footpaths on Cranford Street (SH 74) at McFaddens Road. The island will be enlarged with an improved waiting area for pedestrians. The footpaths will be realigned to guide pedestrians to the crossing point.

15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 23, 23, 24 and 26 - Transit NZ has agreed to complete as many of these improvements as practicable before the new speed limit is posted.

Other works, such as the provision of traffic signals at the Johns Road junction are being considered by Transit NZ in association with the Council. The Shirley/Papanui Community Board and the Committee will be kept informed of developments as the various possible works identified during the site inspection are examined in more detail.

CONCLUSION

Progress is being made on the provision of improved pedestrian crossing point facilities along the Main North Road through Belfast.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.